

To: CAO for the Regional and Corporate Services Committee

Date: 2019-03-12

From: Lance Lilley, Environmental Planner

File No: 4050-01

Subject: Ford Mountain Correctional Centre to Provide Temporary Foster Care for FVRD Dogs

INTENT

This report is intended to advise the Committee of information pertaining to the Ford Mountain Correctional Centre providing temporary foster care for select dogs under FVRD care. Staff is not looking for a recommendation and has forwarded this information should members want more clarification to discuss the item further.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

BACKGROUND

The Ford Mountain Correctional Centre (FMCC), a medium security provincial correctional facility located in Electoral Area "E", is interested in providing temporary foster care for select dogs housed at the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)'s Community Animal Response and Education (CARE) Centre. FVRD staff are currently preparing a Memorandum of Understanding to outline the roles and responsibilities of both the FVRD and the FMCC to initiate this program on a pilot basis.

DISCUSSION

The Ford Mountain Correctional Centre will provide housing, training, and general care for dogs as part of a therapy and rehabilitation program for participating inmates. All activities will be under the direct supervision of correctional officers, and the FMCC will assume all responsibility for the proper care, record-keeping, and well-being of the dogs.

The FVRD will retain ownership of the dogs, will be responsible for identifying suitable dogs for the program, and will provide the necessary food, toys, bedding, medication, training schedules, and transport of the dogs. The partnership with FMCC will benefit the FVRD by reducing labour costs associated with providing animal care and will be particularly valuable for those dogs that have longer stays in our facility.

The program will likely start with only 1 or 2 dogs, but may increase depending on initial success and kennel capacity created at the correctional centre. FMCC will be providing temporary foster care only, and the dogs may be removed if permanent adoption homes are identified for them.

COST

n/a

CONCLUSION

The FVRD and the Ford Mountain Correctional Centre are looking to work together on a pilot program for the correctional centre to provide temporary foster care of select dogs currently under FVRD care. The FVRD benefits by having a partner institution providing all necessary grooming, training, and feeding the dogs require, and the correctional centre benefits with the responsibility and therapy the dogs can offer chosen inmates.

COMMENTS BY:

Barclay Pitkethly, Director of Regional Programs

Reviewed and supported.

Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

No further financial comments.

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Not available for comment.