

Urban Deer Advisory Committee Meeting
to be held via Zoom and in person in Room A
Wednesday, November 26, 2025
at 9:30 a.m.

1. **Call Committee Meeting to Order**
We acknowledge that Penticton, where we live and work, is on the traditional lands of the Syilx People in the Okanagan Nation.
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **New Business**
 - 3.1 Welcome and Introductions
 - Anderson 3.2 Committee Orientation Presentation 1-18
 - Laven 3.3 Urban Deer Advisory Committee Objective Overview 19-21
 - Anderson 3.4 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair
Recommendation:
THAT the Public Safety Advisory Committee appoint _____ as the Committee Chair and _____ as Vice-Chair.
 - Anderson 3.5 2025-2026 Meeting Schedule 22
Staff Recommendation:
THAT the Committee set the 2026 meeting schedule and time as follows; January 21, February 25, March 25, April 15, May 27, June 24, and July 29 at 9:30 a.m.
4. **Next Meeting**
5. **Adjournment**



Welcome

Urban Deer Advisory Committee Members

November 26, 2025

Hayley Anderson, Legislative Assistant



Select Committees^{- 2 -}

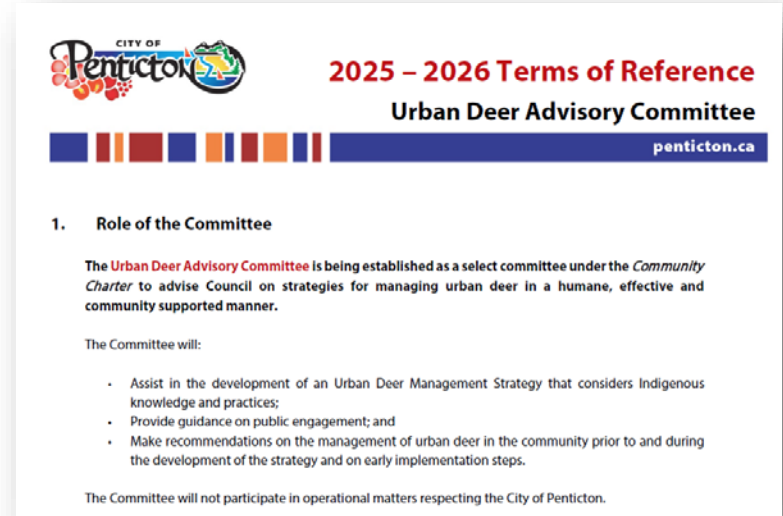
Select Committees are created under the *Community Charter* to provide an opportunity for members of the public to work collaboratively and provide advice on matters referred to them by Council through their Terms of Reference.





Terms of Reference ^{- 3 -}

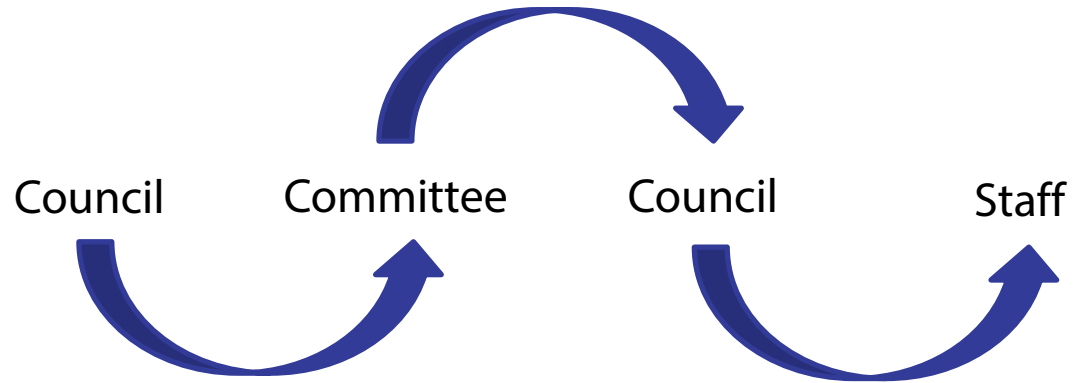
- Outline important information, including:
 - Role of the Committee
 - Membership
 - Qualifications
 - Appointment and Term
 - Meeting Procedures
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Removal of Committee Member
 - Resignation
 - Confidentiality and Closed Meetings



Role of Committee^{- 4 -}

Provide input on matters referred to the Committee by Council.

The Committee will not participate in operational matters respecting the City of Penticton.





Rules of Procedure⁵

Select Committees have the same rules and procedures as Council, these can be found in the Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2018-35.

The Corporation of the City of Penticton

Bylaw No. 2018-35

A Bylaw to regulate the proceedings of Council, Council Meetings and other Council reporting bodies

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Community Charter*, Council must, by bylaw, establish general procedures to be followed by Council and committees in conducting their business;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipal Council of the City of Penticton, in open meeting assembled ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited as the "Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2018-35".

Definitions

2. In this Bylaw,

"City" means the City of Penticton;

"City Hall" means Penticton City Hall located at 171 Main Street, Penticton, British Columbia;

- The Terms of Reference notes how many members are needed for quorum.
- Once members have arrived, the Chair calls the meeting to order, if after 30 minutes quorum has not been reached, the meeting is adjourned, and no business can take place.

Half + 1

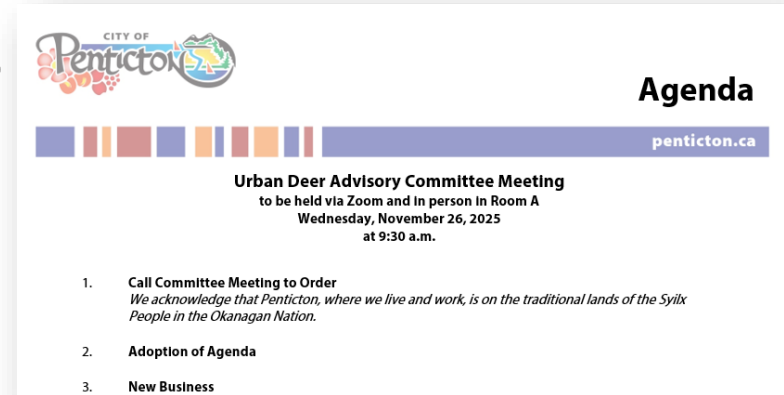


Open Meetings

- Committee meetings are open to the public.
- Meetings can be closed under section 90 of the *Community Charter*.



- The Legislative Assistant will work with the Staff Liaison to set the agenda.
- The agenda is shared with the committee members and posted on the website prior to the meeting date.





Reports and Presentations

- It is important that Committee members have these in advance so they can review and be prepared to speak to the issue and vote on a motion.
- Reports should include a motion (recommendation) if staff is looking for the Committee to make a decision.

Decision Making⁻¹⁰

Committees make recommendations to Council by making a motion.

Example:

THAT the Urban Deer Advisory Committee recommend that Council...





Roles and Responsibilities – **Chair**

- Responsible for controlling the flow and the conduct of the meeting in accordance with the Council Procedure Bylaw, Terms of Reference and when appropriate, Roberts Rules of Order.
- Responsible for following up with a Committee member who has missed three or more consecutive meetings.





Roles and Responsibilities – **Committee Member**

- Responsible to meet with the group on a regular basis (frequency set out in the Terms of Reference) and participate in discussions involving matter that require community perspective and directive.
- Provide a “voice” for the general community by offering their opinion and directive in a recommendation to Council.





Roles and Responsibilities – **Council Liaison**



Represent Council at the Committee table and communicate back to Council on the Committee progress.



Roles and Responsibilities – **Staff Liaison**

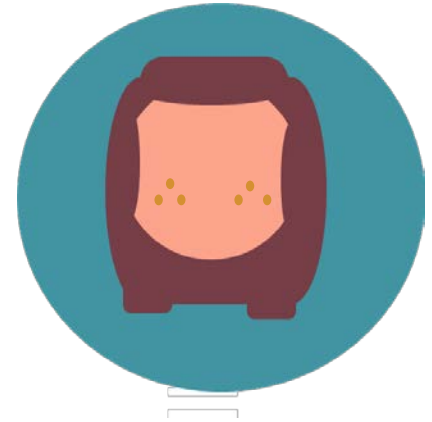
- Provides oversight of activities and technical expertise support and ensure that supporting material is included in the agenda.
- Responsible for providing financial background and analysis of the monetary impacts on the potential decision or a clear indication of the amount of budget involved that would assist the Committee in formulating workable recommendations.
- Will report back on items that the Committee recommended to Council.





Roles and Responsibilities – **Legislative Assistant**

- Works with the Staff Liaison to compile the agenda to be circulated to Committee members.
- Assists the Chair with meeting management and parliamentary procedure.
- Responsible for taking minutes and circulate as required for approval, before being forwarded to Council.
- When a motion is raised on the floor that was not pre-prepared, they will work with the Chair to create an applicable motion to be voted on.





Electronic Participation Expectation

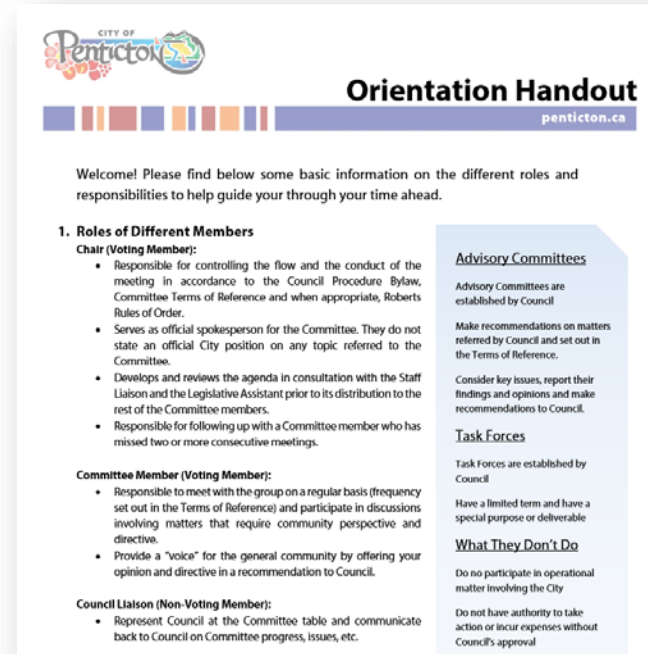
- Meetings to be taken place electronically via Zoom or in person.
- When electronically, so the Chair can determine if there is quorum, please keep camera on during meeting and mute yourself unless you are speaking.





Orientation Handout^{17 -}

- Provides basic information on the different roles and responsibilities.
- Covers similar information provided today – use it as a reference in the future!
- Attached in an email with the first Agenda package.



Questions?

Hayley Anderson, Legislative Assistant

committees@penticton.ca

250-490-2473

Memo to Committee

penticton.ca

Date: November 26, 2025
To: Urban Deer Advisory Committee
From: Blake Laven, General Manager of Development Services
File No: RMS 0540-20
Subject: Urban Deer Advisory Committee Objective Overview

Staff Recommendation

THAT the Urban Deer Advisory Committee receive into the record the report dated November 26, 2025, titled "urban deer advisory committee objective overview"

THAT the Urban Deer Advisory Committee support the work plan as outlined

Background

Deer are wildlife that have become comfortable in the urban areas of Penticton. Over time, deer have adapted to living within the city, where they find a comfortable environment with abundant food sources and few natural predators, allowing them to increase in numbers over successive generations.

While generally docile, deer can exhibit aggressive behavior during rutting season (fall) and fawning season (spring). They also pose risks to motorists and can become confrontational around pets and even people when they lose their natural wariness of humans.

In addition to safety concerns, deer can cause significant damage to residential landscaping and agricultural crops. Many agricultural properties have responded by installing six-foot-high deer fencing, which, while effective in keep deer out of their individual properties, can inadvertently exacerbate the issue by altering movement patterns and concentrating deer in urban areas. These interactions tend to increase as deer populations grow.

Although local government is often the first point of contact for residents experiencing negative interactions with deer, municipalities have limited authority to manage wildlife. In British Columbia, deer are considered wildlife under provincial law and are legally classified as property of the Crown and are managed by the province under legislation such as the Wildlife Act. Any actions to control populations, such as culls, relocations, or other interventions, require provincial authorization because municipalities do not have direct authority over wildlife management.

Penticton is located within Syilx territory, where snpink'tn culture carries responsibilities for tmix^w (all living things), including deer. In this worldview, deer are regarded as relatives and providers, and this

understanding needs to inform any approach to managing urban deer, as Penticton has obligations and has made commitments to honoring and respecting snpink'tn culture.

Despite these jurisdictional realities – provincial Crown authority over wildlife and the spink'tn worldview – the public continues to look to the City for leadership on this issue. While the City undertakes several initiatives to address urban deer concerns, it does not currently have a comprehensive deer management strategy.

Over time, Penticton's approach to managing urban deer has evolved to focus on four key areas:

- *General Education*
The City maintains a dedicated webpage and issues seasonal media releases. Signage is installed during fawning season (May–July) and rutting season (October–December) to raise awareness.
- *Targeted Education*
Physical signs are placed in areas where aggressive deer have been reported, warning the public and providing safety tips.
- *Bylaw Enforcement*
A municipal bylaw prohibits the feeding of urban deer, helping to reduce habituation and aggressive behavior.
- *Partnerships*
The City collaborates with RDOS WildSafe BC and the Conservation Officer Service to share information and coordinate responses.

Urban Deer Advisory Committee Objectives

Despite the City's ongoing efforts to respond to urban deer concerns, City Council determined that additional action was needed and has supported the creation of an Urban Deer Advisory Committee to provide guidance and recommendations on managing urban deer in Penticton.

At its October 16 Regular Meeting, Council approved the committee's Terms of Reference, which outline a membership that includes Indigenous representation, subject matter experts in wildlife and habitat conservation, animal welfare, biology as well as general members of the public.

The committee's primary objective is to support the humane, effective, and community-supported management of urban deer within the city. Its role includes assisting in the development of an Urban Deer Management Strategy informed by Indigenous knowledge and practices, advising on public engagement, and making recommendations to Council during the planning and early implementation phases of the strategy.

Proposed Work Plan and Meeting Agenda Schedule

Staff propose the following schedule of milestones for developing the Urban Deer Management Strategy and presenting recommendations to Council.

- Meeting 1 (November 26th)
- Meetings 2 (January 21): Subject matter expert presentations, spink'tn / indigenous approaches on wildlife and deer

- Meeting 3 (February 25): Delegation from other communities (Cranbrook and Invermere) sharing experiences for those communities
- Meeting 4 (March 25): Planning for deer count and planning for public communications
- Meeting 5 (April 15): Strategy development workshop I
- Meeting 6 (May 27): Strategy development workshop II
- Meeting 7 (June 24): Finalize strategy and recommendations for Council, Committee wrap up
- Meeting 8 if necessary (July 29): Finalizing any outstanding items if necessary/ Committee wrap up

This schedule is intended as a high-level roadmap and may be adjusted as the committee works through the various steps of strategy development.

Analysis

Managing urban deer is a cross-jurisdictional challenge. The public looks to local government for leadership on the issue. To meet this expectation, Council established the Urban Deer Advisory Committee with the goal of understanding the issue, providing recommendations, and assisting in the development of an Urban Deer Management Plan. Through the work plan outlined in this memo, the committee will help shape a strategy that manages urban deer effectively, humanely, and in a manner informed by Indigenous knowledge and practices. The intent is that all committee members will find meaning in this work and leave the process with a constructive and hopeful outlook on addressing the issue.

Attachments

None

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Laven, RPP, MCIP
General Manager of Development Services
Urban Deer Advisory Committee Staff Liaison

2026 Urban Deer Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

Month	Date
January	21
February	25
March	25
April	15
May	27
June	24
July	29