### AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS COMMITTEE

### TO BE HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM THURSDAY, 2012-OCT-11, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.

#### CHAIR: COMMISSIONER IAN THORPE

- 1. CALL THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:
- 2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:
- 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

(Motion required to adopt the agenda.)

- 4. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:
  - (a) Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2012-JUN-14, at 5:05 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

(Motion required to adopt the meeting notes of 2012-JUN-05 as circulated)

5. **PRESENTATIONS:** 

NONE.

- 6. CHAIR'S REPORT:
  - (a) Request for Ban of Training Collars in Dog Off-Leash Parks.

Pgs. 6-29

Pgs.

3-5

At the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting held on 2012-SEP-19, a delegation appeared before Commission requesting that Commission support the ban of training collars in dog off-leash parks.

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission heard from a number of supporters of a ban or bylaw that would make it mandatory to remove training collars in dog off-leash parks. Some of the supporters wished for an outright ban or bylaw in all dog off-leash parks; whereas, otherS felt that it should be applied to contained dog off-leash parks only.

Commission determined by motion that they would refer the matter to the Parks Committee for review and report back to Commission.

The delegation request from Ms. Judy Rozsas to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission is attached for information.

<u>Delegations:</u> (10 minutes)

Pgs. 30-31

1. Ms. Judy Rozsas, 2229 Northfield Road, Nanaimo, BC V9S 3C3, requesting a ban on training collars in enclosed off-leash dog parks.

(Motion required to receive the Delegation.)

Correspondence:

NONE.

7. REPORTS OF PROJECT COMMITTEES:

NONE.

8. **STAFF REPORTS:** 

NONE.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** (not related to a Report to the Parks Committee)

NONE.

- 10. **NOTICE OF MOTION:**
- 11. OTHER BUSINESS:

(Motion required if there is other business.)

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NONE.

- 13. **QUESTION PERIOD:**
- 14. **ADJOURNMENT:**

(Motion required to adjourn with next meeting to be held, if required, on Thursday, 2012-NOV-08, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.)

2012-OCT-04

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# NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM, ON THURSDAY, 2012-JUN-14, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner Ian Thorpe, Chair

Members: Commissioner Diana Johnstone

Commissioner Donald Rinald (arrived at 5:09 p.m.)

Commissioner Graham Savage Commissioner Maureen Young

Staff:

Jeff Ritchie

R. Tweed, Recording

1. <u>CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:</u>

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS: (None.)

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 4. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:

(a) Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2012-MAY-10, at 5:04 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

It was moved and seconded that the Meeting Notes be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 5. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be permitted to address the Parks Committee. The mation carried unanimously.

(a) Mr. Michael & Mrs. Corinne Besler, Segway Victoria BC presenting their proposal for a pilot project offering Segway PT Tours in Nanaimo's Parks and Trails.

howehold outlet. When they are out on site, they use a generator in the transport trailer. In the future, they hope to power the units with solar power. The costs charged for using the segways are 10 minutes for \$10, with tour costs at \$49 per hour or \$79 for two hours. Tours would commonly be one to two hours in length. At this time there is no family rate. Tour groups would have a maximum of five riders. Next year they will be outfitted with a communications set to advise riders of points of interest along the tour. In the interim, they will use walkie-talkies between guides. Currently, Segway tours are offered in Kamloops through the company, "Unique Adventures". Segway Victoria, BC is currently in discussions with the City of Victoria with regard to possible approval of segway tours in that City. The transport trailer would be set up as a base in available City of Nanaimo parks parking lots and the training and tours would take place from there – it is difficult to set up off-site training as they would then need to move the units to the tour start and are not legally able to ride on or cross the roads and any exemptions would probably have to be

through the motor vehicle body in British Columbia. The current parks bylaw permits electric bikes and has the flexibility to regulate and permit segways on the trail, including E&N and the parkway trail. Bylaw services cautions that there should be a sign to dismount to cross streets and crosswalks. 44 of the U.S. states permit them by law. Ideally, they would like to set up and use the Bowen Park lower parking lot on Wall Street and tour from there. The truck, trailer and training area would require an area approximately 20' X 20'. Should this venture be approved, the business would have two waivers - liability and code of conduct waiver - with their customers and the City would have a license of use agreement which would require \$5M general liability insurance as well as a city of Nanaimo business license. If riders don't follow the rules, their tour is over. Trail etimette is used when meeting other users on the trails. Segway tour guides have the group slow down and pull over. Segway Incorporated recommends that the minimum age limit of ride be 16 years of age. Some tours allow riders of 10 years of age and up. No doubling allowed and no babies can be carried. The tours are always guided therefore always supervised. If people are not accustomed to prolonged standing they do need take breaks and breaks are built in to the tour. As the company does not currently employ any me (all are family members) they do not have WCB coverage. Segway Victoria, BC world also like to provide these tours to the cruise ship passengers; however, as location has been secured they are restricted as to where they can operate. The company is looking to provide a viewing experience along the way - making Bowen Park ideal and the hope, in the future, to have interpreters along the tour - for example where total poles have been laid down. The units are manufactured in New Hampshire. The model that is being proposed is equipped with bigger tires and is mean for rougher terrain and trails and can travel over chip, gravel, uneven terrain, and have a 30% gradient tolerance. Four sensor pads react to the weight – which is why there is a minimum weight estriction. They can be pushed without a motor. Each wheel operates independently Some oise was built into it for safety

- 6. CHAIR'S REPORT: (None.)
- 7. REPORTS OF PROJECT COMMITTEES: (None.)
- 8. STAFF REPORTS (action):

#### (a) Segway Tours within Nanaimo's Parks and Trails Network.

<u>Staff's Recommendation</u>: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recognition and Culture Commission approve piloting segway tours within Manaimo's Parks and Trails network.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

Discussion: Overall, the Committee felt that they are a great idea; however, they seem expensive for the public to rent for tours. The company also sells the units for approximately \$8,000.00. There is a benefit to tourism in getting more people out in the parks. There are a lot of hurdles for them to cross. Bowen Park offers the greatest ease of access with the advantage of the lower parking lot on Wall Street and they do not need to drive on or cross public roadways to tour the Park. Parks, Recreation and Culture charges a user fee to youth groups and non-profits to use facilities – as an example, the hot dog vendor at Long Lake would be charged about \$100/month. Approval could be for a pilot at a comparative nominal rate with success determined and then a monthly amount determined based on the results of the project. The Committee Chair had researched on

line and was disappointed to see, in more than one place, comments that tours had been confirmed in Nanaimo and were being offered at both Bowen Park and Beban Park

A friendly amendment was made to the motion to read,

"That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve piloting segway tours within Nanaimo's Parks and Trails network, specifically restricted to Bowen Park, with the provision of a current business plan, and written guidelines stipulating rider age limit as 16 or older, for the period 2012-JUL-01 to 2012-DEC-31." The motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

- 9. <u>STAFF REPORTS (information only):</u> (None.)
- 10. <u>CORRESPONDENCE:</u> (Action) (None.)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information) (None.)

- 11. NOTICE OF MOTION:
- 12. OTHER BUSINESS:
- 13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (None.)
- 14. QUESTION PERIOD: (No questions.)
- 15. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded 6.7 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, on Thursday, 2012-JUL-12, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ian Thorpe, Chair Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:

Jeff Ritchie

Senior Manager, Parks & Civic Facilities

office Whetho

R. Harding, Director

Parks, Recreation and Culture

2012-JUN-19 File: A2-5

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PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION

#### REQUEST TO APPEAR AS A DELEGATION

ON 2012 - SEPT - 19th

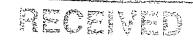
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	NAME OF PERSON MAKING PRESENTATION: JUDY ROZSAS						
	ADDRESS: 229 NORTH FLELD RD NANA IM D BC V953C3  street address City Province Postal Code						
	PHONE: 250-729-8186 FAX:						
	NAME OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN ABOVE:						
	DETAILS OF PRESENTATION:						
	- Myintroduction & Submission (10 min).						
-	- Speakers - Animal Control - William Mitchell						
	- Dog N Suds-Bonnie Hussell						
	- Miss Behaviour - Kathy Reilly						
	- K9 Training & Rehab - Rebecca Preston (Cyndie Counter						
-	a Possibly SPCA & Nanaimo Kennel Club						
	- Conclusion (35 min)						
	approx 45 min for speakers a presentation & pages  PLEASE NOTE  Submitted						

- Electronic presentations must be provided on a CD or by e-mail no later than 9:00 a.m. the day of the Meeting.
- Please submit a written copy of your presentation to the Recording Secretary either at, or prior to, the Meeting.
  - Multiple speakers on a single issue or topic shall be given 5 minutes each to make their presentations as per Section 18.6 of the Council Procedure Bylaw.



Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission 500 Bowen Road, Nanaimo BC V9R 1Z7



SEP 12 2572

Phone: (250) 755-7511 Fax: (250) 753-7277 parks@nanaimo.ca



Kathy Reilly 2155 Lang Crescent Nanaimo, B C V9S 5R9

To: Members of the City of Nanaimo Parks and Recreation Commission

As an experienced, licensed professional dog trainer in the City of Nanaimo I would like to lend my support to Judy Rozsas' submission.

Training collars are for training. Period.

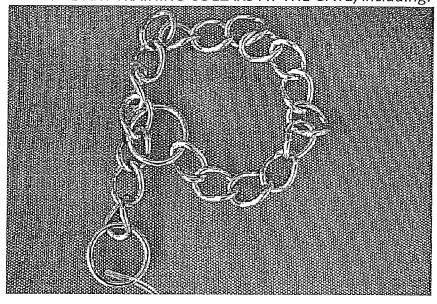
I have employed a number of different types of collars over the past 15 years of my professional training. I ALWAYS counsel people to use them only during training sessions, to never leave a dog unattended with a training collar on, and to never allow two dogs to play with any type of training collar on. Even if supervised, the dogs teeth can become entangled in the chain of the collar and panic ensues. When dogs are feeling panic, it is very difficult to get them to settle so that a human can ntervene and disengage them. Even the most highly trained dog will become deaf to any command when it is in a panicked state.

Dogs will engage in some primal play at times, mouthing one anothers necks in mock "kill" mode, this is when the collars can get tangled in the teeth and jaws.

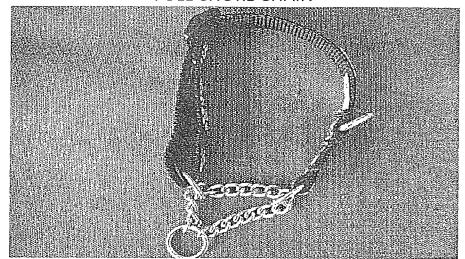
have seen a dog get his own front foot entangled in a Martingale collar and turn panicky. I have seen a dog get his Martingale collar twisted and caught between the boards on a sundeck. I heard from another trainer, a story of two dogs who became entangled in a choke collar, crashed through a fence n panic and both struck and killed by a passing truck. These useful tools can turn deadly if used in the vrong circumstance. Dogs immediately resist any type of pull on their neck or teeth and do not have he cognition to slacken the hold and release the tension. I would suggest that it would take more than one human being and sometimes more than two to hold two dogs and untangle the collar. The fact hat a dog will turn aggressive through fright will also endanger the person coming to save him.

Any of the above situations can easily be prevented by imposing a dog park rule

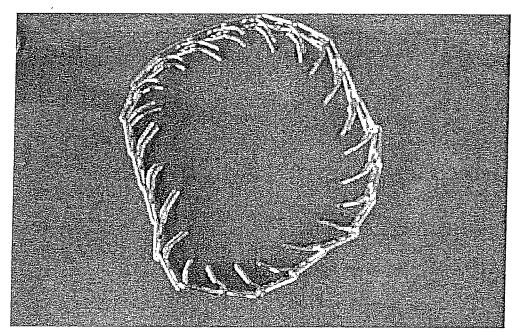
REMOVE ANY TRAINING COLLARS AT THE GATE, including:



FULL CHOKE CHAIN



HALF CHOKE (SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS MARTINGALE



PRONG OR PINCH COLLAR

I have not heard of any non-compliance with the current rules to remove any leashes so I do not foresee there being a problem with getting responsible dog owners to comply with the additional rule to remove the above collars.

Please consider this application seriously and I do hope you decide to impose a by-law to assist the enforcement people in their efforts to ensure that dog parks in the City of Nanaimo are safe for all our canine friends.

Sincerely,

Kathy Reilly

#### Calgary's Dog and Cat Bylaws

Calgary's bylaws are in place to encoulage a community where pets; their owners and neighbours can all live in safety and harmony

#### Throughout Calgary

- Dogs and cats cannot be "at large." Dogs that are out without their owners or not under control are "at large." Cats must be confined to their owner's property or they are considered "at large." \$100 Penalty
- Dogs must be on leash at all times unless within a securely fenced yard or in a designated off-leash area. Visible signs are posted in all designated off-leash areas.
  - \$100 Penalty
- At three months of age, all dogs and cats must be licensed. \$250 Penalty
- A dog must wear its licence when off the owner's property.
  A properly licensed cat will have a licence and may wear the tag, have a microchip or tattoo.

#### \$75 Penalty

Dogs are prohibited at all times in the following areas: school grounds, playgrounds, sports fields, golf courses, cemeteries and wading or swimming areas.

#### \$100 Penalty

When dogs are taken off their property, their owners must carry a "suitable means" for picking up the pet's feces.

\$250 Penalty

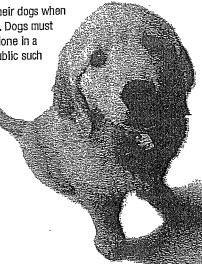
Owners must supervise their dogs when tethered on their property. Dogs must not be tethered and left alone in a place accessible to the public such as a store or coffee shop.

#### \$100 Penalty

Dogs and cats must not be a nuisance by barking, howling or scattering garbage.

#### \$100 Penalty

Dogs and cats must not chase, threaten or injure people or other animals. \$200 - \$1,500 Penalty



calgary.ca | call 3-1-1



#### in Vehicles

Leaving dogs and cats in vehicles is prohibited if weather conditions (too hot or cold) jeopardize the animal's safety. Pets must also be provided with suitable ventilation.

#### \$100 Penalty

Dogs in the back of pickup trucks must be enclosed in a trailer, in a truck bed covered by a topper, in a secured ventilated kennel, or securely tethered in the back of the truck. They are not to be standing on bare metal.

#### \$500 Penalty

#### In Parks

All parks in Calgary are considered "on leash," unless otherwise indicated with appropriate signage.

#### \$100 Penalty

Off-leash does not mean "out of control." Dogs must be under control at all times in designated off-leash areas. This means dogs must remain within the owner's sight and come when called.

#### \$100 Penalty

All parking lots are "on leash," even in off-leash areas. \$100 Penalty

Dogs are not allowed to enter or swim in any body of water within a park. \$100 Penalty

Dogs are not allowed in or on the Glenmore Reservoir. \$350 Penalty

#### On Pathways

Calgary's pathways are "on leash" for dogs, even in off-leash areas. \$100 Penalty

Leash length must not exceed two metres.

#### \$75 Penalty

Dogs and owners must stay on the right-hand side, unless passing someone travelling in the same direction.

#### \$75 Penalty

Dogs must not interfere with, obstruct, or chase other pathway users. \$75 Penalty

No cycling, in-line skating or skateboarding with a leashed dog. \$75 Penalty



FSC Logo (for placement only)

2009-1667

Contact informationcalgary.ca/bylawscalgary.ca/parks



## Welcome to the Somenos Creek Dog Park

Please follow this standard of etiquette for this park

- Park users and dog owners assume all risks related to park use.
- Scoop up the poop! Baggie station is available on-site. Please use designated doggie doo trash cans for disposal.
- Dog owners must remain in the fenced area with their dog(s).
- Leash your dog prior to entering and upon leaving the dog park.
- Owners must remove dogs at first signs of aggression.
- For safety reasons, children must be at least 10 years old and supervised by an adult to use the park. Dog handlers must be 5 years of age or older.
- . No more than two dogs per person on any one visit.
- Dogs in leat are prohibited from using the ark.
- Dogs must display current licenses on their collars.
- Choke, prong, pinch and spike collars must be removed inside park area.
- Dogs that have been cited for being a "dangerous or aggressive dog" are prohibited.
- All significant incidents and injuries must be reported to the Municipal Dog Pound by calling 748-3395.

Be advised that this dog park is unsupervised. The use of the dog park is at your own risk. Dog owners are responsible for, and liable with respect to, the actions of their dogs and any damage or injury to person or property caused by same.

Hours of Operation: 7:30 am to dusk everyday except Wednesday Wednesday 11:00 am to dusk

Wednesday park closed 8:00 am-11:00 am for Maintenance.

District of North Cowichan 746-3100

NANAIMOS COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

www.nanaimobulletin.com

VOL. 24, NO. 33



# BY TOBY GORMAN THE NEWS BULLETIN injured another dog. Pyrenees, arrived. extra minutes of playtime.

CHRIS BUSH/THE NEWS BULLETIN

Judy Rozsas shows off injuries she suffered while trying to free her dog Angel from the choke collar she and another dog became entangled in while playing at the Beban off-leash dog park. Rozsas is now advocating for a ban on the collars after her dog passed out from strangulation in the mishap.

# Dog owner choked up over chain

Resident launching campaign to have choke collars banned

A Nanaimo resident wants to see choke chains, designed to control and train dogs, banned from dog parks after a horrific experience that almost killed her Rottweiler and

Judy Rozsas and her 18-month-old rotty, Angel, were leaving the Beban dog park July 8 when one of Angel's friends, a young great

They decided to re-enter the park for a few

Within a minute, both dogs were panicked, struggling violently with each other and

shrieking in pain.

"I usually take the choke chain collar off in the park, but because this was just going to be a couple of minutes of play I second-guessed it," said Rozsas. "Then they got locked up while playing. I heard what sounded like a vicious fight and I turned and could tell they weren't fighting. Instantly I knew it was the chain and I began to yell."

The Pyrenees got its teeth stuck in the chain and struggled to release itself by twisting. With each twist, the chain wrapped tighter and tighter around Angel's throat.

In less than a minute, the Rottweiler's eyes rolled back into its head, unconscious as her playmate dragged her. Rozsas tried to separate them and during the struggle was inadvertently bitten in the hand.

She could end up losing the tip of her fin-

♦ See 'DOG OWNER' /5

♦ From /1

a Good Samaritan exactly what happened sas doesn't remember entered the fray and pinned to prevent furseparated the dogs. next, but at some point ther movement, Koz-With the Pyrenees

unwrap her from the chain. That gave him hero," said Rozsas. "I dog's mouth." some slack in the chain guess he had a chance to slide it off the other to untwist "I'm calling him my Angel,

#dog's body. . . . . . . . . . . . . certain she was going choked out, Rozsas felt band to pick up the to have to call her hus-Upon seeing Angel

and based on other when choke chains are safer, more effecsituations like this. . Hussell added there dying in front of me is typical," she said. "I watched my dog

owners who use choke, and should be used chains to be aware of with caution. full recovery but Roz-Both dogs made a

supervisor at Dog n Bonnie Hussell, floor

Nanaimo, said she Suds dog daycare in policy for its customhas a no-choke chain killed dogs. Dog n' Suds chains inadvertently instances where choke is aware of several

said Hussell. "It can if the dog is by itself," quite dangerous even something and choke easily get hung up on ent incidents of this heard of several differnappening." itself to death and I've "Choke chains can be

well as the larger rings ger loops in the chain as at the ends pose a daning tool to get dogs to designed as a train-Unsupervised, the respond to commands. Choke chains are

sas wants other dog on a dog unsupervised involved, the dog dying at tive devices on the man they should not be left choke chains are used ket to train dogs, but if

at least some kind of would be awesome, or "I think a bylaw

uses a flat collar on she said. education campaign," Joan Havers, who

a similar experience at son was playing with a friend who got twisted Beban dog park. Jackher dog Jackson, had to asphyxiate. up in his collar, causing the Lab-shepherd "His eyes rolled back

recovered from his adding Jackson also rifying," said Havers, in his head, it was terordeal. "Fortunately

1

it was a quick-release separated. I just feel collar and we got them reported and these because they aren't rare, but is it rare only there. I'm told this is like this should be out ing more often? Who incidents are happen

knows?" park in the city, and ager for parks, said Nanaimo's senior manof at a designated dog Angel's experience is the first he is aware Jeff Ritchie,

question. cult, but not out of the chains would be diffibylaw banning choke that implementing a

restrictions at our dog for that is we just don't have that kind of conparks and the reason not considering any not sure now we would trol," said Ritchie. "I'm "At this point we're

association, whatever

dangerous as it appears even enforce it. If it's as governing body or dog to be, I would think a

fact a problem." these collars, if it is in the source for banning that might be, would be

said, adding he will everywhere else, he still be free to use them banned in municipa dog parks, people would If choke chains were

choke chain collars in work toward a ban on investigate further. and wants to launch a Nanaimo dog parks paign to alert dog own public-awareness cam-Rozsas said she will

to make sure that I do she said. "If Angel going to be their voice," these things so I'm don't want to wear what I can to get the ers of the dangers. not let her owners put could tell her friends to They can't tell us they not going to shut up to be her voice and I'm she would, so I'm going dogs'] voices heard. until I get it done. these chains on them "I'm in mission-mode reporter2@nanalmobullettr.com

# Lack of proper dog etiquette riles responsible pet owners

STAFF REPORTER

Dog-owner etiquette is a rising concern for residents and city staff members, as offleash dog park use enters its summer peak period.

Two recent incidents involving pooches have added to worries that Nanaimo dog owners need to be more responsible with their pets.

The Coastal Animal Service annually records a seasonal increase in the number of dogs and their owners in off-leash areas across Nanaimo in the summer.

A large pit bull killed a small papillon log at the Invermere dog beach July 7 and the idea to ban choke collars at the Bebardark off leash area is being encouraged by the Nanaimo branch of the B.C. SPCA ifter Judy Rozsas dog Angel nearly died ifter becoming entangled with another nimals.

"You're only supposed to be here with two logs and many come with multiples," said licole Wiet about the Beban Park off-leash rea

Wiet is the daughter-in-law of Jennifer okarek, whose dog Simba was killed at the ivermere beach.

In response to the increased demand for ff-leash areas, officials have expanded the umber of parks in the city.

Nanaimo has 11 off-leash dog areas locatl around the city, with a new pilot project cation opening at Northfield information losk in the coming months.

"Dog off-leash doesn't mean dog out of introl, owners still have to have control rer their animals," said city spokesman



Inattentive dog owners at unleashed dog parks irritate responsible pooch owners in Nanaimo. [KRISTA BRYCE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER]

Richard Harding.

With more people going outside during the summer months, the Coastal Animal Services is also reporting a rise in aggressive dog incidents at the off-leash areas.

In June, the centre responded to 13 aggressive dog incidents; they have already seen . 16 in July.

Beban Park sees the majority of incidents: due to the number of dogs being more concentrated in a smaller space than at places like Colliery Dam.

"You can't just go to the off-leash dog park and let your dog loose then stand and talk and have coffee," said Sue Hughes, office manager for the service.

The service responds to all aggressive dog incidents in Nanaimo and helps dole out punishment as well.

The problem, Hughes says, is that owners see their friendly dog and assume everybody wants to interact with it.

Instead, it can scare other dogs and cause them to lash out.

While children and families are encour aged to bring their pets to dog parks, they can cause problems.

"We have concerns over kids running loose in the parks," said Jeff Ritchie, sen ior manager of parks.

In an effort to combat inattentive dog owners, the service launched a series of educational seminars at the start of July on what they called "petiquette" or dogowner etiquette.

They hold the sessions on Thursday afternoons, with no set location, and try to educate owners on how to read their dog's body language to better respond to aggressive situations.

The sessions are just one attempt to turn around the bad habits of irresponsible dog owners.

But, according to the SPCA's Leon Davis, owners should better research the breed of dog they are purchasing and make sure they are getting one that is right for their lifestyle.

## ALL COLLARS POSE RISK If not used correctly



In Nanaimo, we have our dogs on a leash and collar when out walking with them.

Some types of collars, like buckle collars or quick release collars, are designed to fit fairly snugly to the dog's neck, other types like choke chains and martingales are designed to fit more loosely and only be tighter when there is tension on the leash.

While dog collars are often essential pieces of dog equipment for safety, all types of collars can harm dogs if COMMENT. precautions are not followed.

Each year, many dogs die from accidents involving their collar getting snagged on a fence, a crate, a kennel, another dog's mouth or paw, or something like a tree or furniture while off-leash.

In such an accident, even if the owner is right nearby, it may not be possible to untangle the dog in time to prevent strangulation.

We at the Nanaimo Kennel Club suggest you follow these safety tips:

Remove your dog's collar when it is home alone, in the backyard, in the back of your vehicle, in a crate or in a kennel.

Never tie your dog up on a raised deck, balcony, or table nor tie them up in the back of an open vehicle by their collar. If the dog falls over the side, the dog can hang itself.

♦ Use collars such as chokes, prongs, martingales only when the dog is on leash. Remove this type of collar when you unclip the leash.

♦ Fit a guick release

· snap collar or buckle collar so that it snugly fits the dog with only two fingers of space between collar and neck. This helps reduce the chance of either the dog slipping out of the collar and running loose or the dog getting the collar caught on something or someone.

If you are going to take your leash off your dog so that it can play with another dog in a safe, enclosed area like an off-leash dog park or your backyard

or inside your GUEST house:

Consider taking the collar off until it is time the leave the off-leash area.

Do not ever leave a choke, prong, or martingale collar on your dog. It is very easy for a paw or mouth to get caught in these types of collars and difficult to untangle them on time for the dog to survive.

If you cannot have your dog with no collar in an off-leash situation, use a snugly fitting quick release type collar that you can quickly remove in an emergency or better yet, use a breakaway collar.

Breakaway collars act like a regular collar when the leash is attached (to two D rings) but when a leash is not attached, the breakaway mechanism is allowed to release the collar if there is twisting or specific tension on the collar.

Your dog will love you for following these safety tips.

Teresa Mvrfield is head trainer for obedience with the Nanaimo Kennel Club.





#### Dog parks no place to use training collars

To the Editor,

Re: Dog owner choked up over chain, July 14.

Several years ago we test a beautiful, loving Rhodesian Ridgeback in just such an accident in a Parksville dog e park

She was wearing a Martindale training collar which got entangled with another dog.

We are still traumatize about this and agree there should be no collars in the dog park.

Helen and Ron Embree Nanaimo

Hello, my name is Judy Rozsas and I have a Rottweiler named, Angel, who is 19 months old. Some of you may have read about an incident we had at Beban off-leash Dog Park on July 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 involving a 'choke' chain collar. I nearly lost Angel and my finger when her and her playmate got tangled up in the collar and she was being strangled. This incident is what is motivating me to work towards have this type of collar and other training devices being banned in the play area of **ENCLOSED** off-leash dog parks in Nanaimo BC. I am NOT asking that they be banned neither from being sold nor in ALL off-leash dog parks, just **ENCLOSED** ones which currently there is only one (1), Beban Park. The proposed Northfield Rd site will also be enclosed. My goal is to have a safe environment for the dogs to meet and play and ultimately go home uninjured and ALIVE...

I have drafted up a petition for signatures to be collected to support this ban. If you feel these types of collars should be banned from **enclosed** off-leash dog parks, Please add your name to the opposite page..

Sincerely, Judy & Angel

Dudy Kozsas.

PS. The reason for the postal code is so your information can remain private and park users can be determined by them..

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#### **NANAIMO K9**

Training and Rehabilitation



To: Members of the City of Nanaimo Parks and Recreation Commission

As the owner and head trainer of Nanaimo K9 Training and Rehabilitation we understand the importance of correction collars and use them often in our training programs. We are certainly not against them as a correction tool and we are not writing this letter to ban correction tools all together as they save the lives of dogs each day when they are used appropriately. We are writing this letter to bring awareness about the dangers of leaving your dog with a correction collar on when alone, inside crates and inside dog Parks. Correction collars like prong collars, martingale collars, gentle leaders (haltis) and chain collars (choke) have no place left on a dog in a dog park, on a dog inside of a crate or left on a dog without supervision. If the collar becomes caught on something the dog is unable to free themselves because they are designed to synch tighter when pulled. If two dogs become locked together during play or an altercation this could be a very deadly situation. We 100% support the ban of correction collars left on dogs while in the dog park or when unsupervised.

Thank you Rebecca Preston (250) 667-5965 (250) 591-5856 http://www.nanaimok9.ca

#### MANDOUT @ PRCC MTG 2012-SEP-19

#### Best Paw Forward Dog Training www.bestpaw.ca 250,729,3900

To Whom It May Concern.

I am writing this letter in support of the ban on "training collars" at enclosed dog off leash parks.

The purpose of an enclosed park is to ensure safety and security so that dogs that wouldn't normally be off leash now have the chance to do so. While I am in support of that, I am not in support of allowing people to come to the dog park with little education on what their dog is wearing around their neck and how that could affect their dog, other dogs and other people.

Sadly, what happened to Judy is not even the worst I have seen. Years ago I witnessed 2 dogs playing at a dog park, one with a regular collar and one wearing a pinch collar. The dogs played like most do, with their mouths and around the neck, shoulders and legs. I watched the dog with the regular collar get his lip stuck in the pinch collar of the other dog, and when he started to yelp, the other dog turned quickly. This caused the pinch collar to tear the skin around the dog's mouth, resulting in a large cut that needed stitches.

That accident was ONE HUNDRED PERCENT avoidable. Not only do I feel as though these collars should never be used on a dog for training, I certainly agree that they should not be allowed at all dog parks, enclosed or not. I stopped taking my dogs to dog parks years ago, and it is not something that I encourage my students to do for the same reason of safety for the dogs.

I believe that the most important thing that should come from this meeting is the education we can give to dog owners. I suggest a large sign be posted on the entrances to the dog park so that owners can see pictures of the collars, the pictures of Judy's injury and some information telling people about this proposal.

We are in this to better the dog's life and encourage owners to take a step. Should this ban be passed, I would likely start heading back to the dog park, as I am sure many others would do too. For the safety of dogs AND people, I hope you consider this proposal.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Robyn Andexser
Owner, Best Paw Forward Dog Training
<a href="https://www.bestpaw.ca">www.bestpaw.ca</a>
250.729.3900

CITY OF NANAIMO



RECEWED

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION ~ PARKS COMMITTEE ~

SEP 2 5 2012

#### REQUEST TO APPEAR AS A DELEGATION

ON 2012 - OCT - 1/4 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS RECREATION AND CULTURE

NAME OF PERSON MAKING PRESENTATION: JUDY ROZSAS					
ADDRESS: 2229 Northfield Rd Management BC V953C3  Street address City Province Postal Code					
PHONE: <u>250-729-8186</u> home business FAX:					
NAME OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN ABOVE:					
DETAILS OF PRESENTATION:					
el would like to submit further information, in addition to					
Frewhat was presented to the Parks, Recreation & Culture					
Commission. On my original submission papers el could					
not stress enough my goal was for ENCLOSED off-leash					
dog parks. This again was written on the top of each					
signature page of the petition, while it understand that					
other speakers gave their input that evening on the top					
alwish to re-inerate to youthat my wason for applying to					
PLEASE NOTE (see attached page)					
<b>.</b>					

- Electronic presentations must be provided on a CD or by e-mail no later than 9:00 a.m. the day of the Meeting.
- · Please submit a written copy of your presentation to the Recording Secretary either at, or prior to, the Meeting.
- Multiple speakers on a single issue or topic shall be given <u>5 minutes each</u> to make their presentations as per Section 18.6 of the Council Procedure Bylaw.

COMMISSION SECRETARY
Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission
500 Bowen Road, Nanaimo BC V9R 1Z7

Phone: (250) 755-7511 Fax: (250) 753-7277 parks@nanaimo.ca JUDY ROZSAS - Delegation Request for OCT 11, 2012

20F5

be a delegate on belhalf of myself and other Betoin dog park users, was for a ban on training collars in off-leash dog parks that are ENCLOSED.

> Sincerely gudy Rozsus