



<b>Animals on Campus Procedure</b>	
<b>Parent Policy:</b> Health and Safety Policy	
<b>Category:</b> Academic-Administrative	<b>Approval Date:</b> January 19, 2023
<b>Procedure Owner:</b> Chief Human Resources Officer	<b>Effective Date:</b> January 3, 2023
<b>Procedure Administrator:</b> Manager, Health, Safety and Wellness	<b>Review Period:</b> June 2023
<b>Associated Documents:</b> N/A	

## PURPOSE

To regulate the presence of animals on Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP) property in order to ensure that the animal does not create a health hazard or become a threat while on campus.

## PROCEDURE

1. Animals are not permitted in any RDP building or RDP transportation vehicle except for:
  - a. Working Dogs, such as police, security, or detection dogs;
  - b. Qualified Service Animals;
  - c. Certified Therapy Animals, which are only permitted in RDP buildings in conjunction with programs approved by the Manager of Health, Safety, and Wellness; and
  - d. Verified and approved Emotional Support Animals in Residence.

Live animals are not normally used in credit or non-credit programs at RDP. The exceptional use of live animals in RDP buildings or vehicles for purposes related to teaching, practice or other exceptions must be authorized by either the Manager of Security or Emergency Response or the Manager of Health, Safety & Wellness.

2. Companion Animals are permitted on RDP outdoor grounds as long as they:
  - a. are appropriately licensed, leashed (or otherwise properly restrained), and exhibiting controlled behavior; and
  - b. are restricted to the non-bleacher viewing areas within all outdoor sports field areas.

3. A dog, which is unrestrained or left unattended, including a dog locked in a vehicle, may be removed by Alberta Animal Services in accordance with the Dog Bylaw. Any costs incurred in the removal or retrieval of an animal shall be the owner's responsibility.
4. Owners of animals brought onto RDP Property accept responsibility for any related liabilities and/or costs in the event of injury or damage to persons or property.
5. Notwithstanding any other provision in this procedure, an individual may be required to remove their animal from RDP Property if an Authorized Official, in their sole discretion, determines that the animal poses a threat to the health or safety of people or other animals.
6. Animals found on RDP Property in violation of this procedure may be subject to apprehension and impounding by Alberta Animal Services in accordance with The Dog Bylaw. Owners of impounded animals are responsible for any fees or fines that may subsequently be assessed by The City of Red Deer.
7. Individuals with a Qualified Service Dog (QSD) or a QSD in training, must carry the Qualified Service Dog Identification Card with them at all times.
8. During sanctioned activities using Certified Therapy Animals, the handlers must ensure the dogs are wearing appropriate identification. If no identification is provided when requested, an Authorized Official may instruct the animals' handler to remove the animal from RDP Property.
9. An individual bringing an animal onto RDP Property is responsible for disposing of their animal's waste into an appropriate solid-waste receptacle.
10. RDP Community members who have health and safety concerns regarding the presence of a Qualified Service Animal on RDP Property should contact Security & Emergency Response or the Health, Safety & Wellness Centre. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate the needs of all individuals.
11. Members of the RDP Community who bring an animal onto RDP Property in violation of this procedure may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the applicable collective agreement, terms of employment, or RDP policies. Visitors who breach this procedure may have their access to RDP Property restricted in whole or in part.

## DEFINITIONS

**Authorized Official:** individuals empowered by their position and/or responsibilities to request that an animal be removed from RDP Property. Such individuals could include, but may not be limited to, members of Security & Emergency Response; the Health, Safety & Wellness Centre; Campus Management; Ancillary Services; and management/supervisory administrative.

**Certified Therapy Animal:** an animal that supports and provides well-being for people other than the handler. Therapy animals must be trained and certified.

**Companion Animal:** a domesticated animal whose primary purpose is to provide companionship in a close daily relationship with humans. Commonly known as Pets, such animals are not trained to provide specialized assistance to humans.

**Emotional Support Animal:** Emotional support animals are not considered service dogs under Alberta's *Service Dogs Act*. Emotional support animals provide comfort and companionship to the owner but are not trained to do specific tasks that assist a disability. Qualified mental health

professionals who can legally practice in Alberta, can issue legal documentation that an emotional support animal is a part of a clinical treatment plan for a diagnosed mental illness or condition.

**Qualified Service Dog:** an animal used by a person with a disability, when:

- the work or task of the animal is directly related to the person's disability; and
- the animal has been trained and registered by the Government of Alberta to perform the tasks needed to support the person with a disability.

**Qualified Service Dog Identification Card:** an identification card issued by the Government of Alberta containing the name and a photo of the handler and dog, a validation number and a date of expiration.

**RDP Community:** includes registered RDP students (apprentice, credit, and non-credit), employees (faculty, staff, and exempt personnel), volunteers, tenants, contracted service providers, and members of the Board of Governors.

**RDP Property:** includes all RDP owned, leased, rented, or controlled buildings, residences, grounds, and vehicles.

**Working Dog:** Includes, but is not limited to, police dogs and rescue dogs.

## LEGISLATION

- City of Red Deer Bylaw no. 3429/2009, *Dog Bylaw*;
- *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, SA 2017, c O-2.1;
- *Alberta Human Rights Act*, RSA 2000, c A-25.5;
- *Service Dogs Act*, SA 2007, c S-7.5.