

MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE ALBERTA SPCA AND EDMONTON
HUMANE SOCIETY REGARDING COMMENTS MADE BY FORT
SASKATCHEWAN'S MAYOR

EDMONTON, AB (September 19, 2024) – The Alberta SPCA and Edmonton Humane Society (EHS) are aware of recent comments, and subsequent apology, by Fort Saskatchewan's Mayor regarding outdated and unacceptable methods of feral cat management. Both organizations are deeply committed to the humane treatment of all animals, including feral and community cats, and we oppose any suggestion of violence or inhumane treatment of animals.

“While we applaud the community for discussing responsible pet ownership bylaws, we are incredibly disappointed anyone would make such callous comments about the treatment of animals, let alone a community leader,” said Alberta SPCA Executive Director Leanne Niblock.

If any member of the public were to take the kind of actions described in the video, it could be considered animal cruelty and charges could be laid under the *Criminal Code of Canada* and/or under the *Animal Protection Act*.

“Decades of progress in animal welfare have provided effective, non-lethal solutions, such as Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), which help manage feral cat populations responsibly and humanely,” said Edmonton Humane Society CEO, Liza Sunley. “Euthanasia, when necessary, should always be conducted humanely by veterinary professionals,” she added.

Our organizations stand firmly for compassionate, evidence-based approaches that prioritize the welfare of animals and the communities they live in. We would welcome the City of Fort Saskatchewan to contact our organizations if they would like support on exploring humane methods of feral and community cat management.

If you believe an animal to be in distress in Alberta, call the RCMP or the Alberta SPCA's **Animal Protection Line at 1-800-455-9003**.

For further information, please contact:

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About the Edmonton Humane Society:

As a leader in the advancement of animal welfare, the Edmonton Humane Society (EHS) enriches the lives of people and companion animals through animal sheltering, programs and services, and community engagement. The charity has been serving animals in Edmonton and area since 1907. For more information, visit edmontonhumanesociety.com.