



Municipal Enforcement

Q3 Report & Statistics

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► **Overview**

- During a challenging time in our community where physical health has become the focus, we recognized that mental health has been negatively affected: thereby, increasing the number of neighbourly conflicts we addressed.
- As well, numerous new citizens have changed the landscape of our community, moving north seeking peaceful repose from the hustle and bustle of the larger metropolis. Inform and educate opportunities are important to give them an understanding of the occurrences that are commonplace in Elliot Lake and not subject to any by-law prohibition.
- Attached to this report is a spreadsheet of service calls added to the departmental database. It is important to note that not all service calls are entered into the MiLISA database as not all calls are associated with a municipal address.
- Certain calls require extensive investigation and also include wait times set forth by various Acts.

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▶ **Initiatives**

- ▶ A Business Registry / Licensing concept as well as revisions to the Garbage by-law are in development for presentation at the By-law and Planning Committee meeting.
- ▶ Orders have been filed on numerous properties in the municipality to address deficiencies as identified by the Zoning, Property Standard, and Clean Yards By-laws. If the respondent does not comply by the due date on the order, the Municipality arranges for the work to be done by a third party. All costs for the work done are borne by the Municipality which reclaims the monies through municipal taxes in accordance with the Municipal Act.
- ▶ Municipal Enforcement Dept. also assisted the Building Dept. by identifying and reporting “build without a permit” instances that have been noticed during patrol.

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▶ **Hoarding Coalition**

- ▶ The recent hire for Executive Director at the Counseling Centre of East Algoma has made the decision to forgo any further regular meetings of the Hoarding Coalition; adopting instead, an operating procedure of emergency meetings on a case by case basis.
- ▶ Furthermore, a new model is going to be developed by the Coalition through consultation of the Elliot Lake Fire Chief. As it stands now, the Municipal Enforcement Department is unsure of its roll, and frankly its future with the Coalition is in doubt going forward

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▶ **Wildlife Response Effort**

- ▶ Municipal Enforcement continues to field calls regarding Elliot Lake wildlife. Whether reports are referencing injured or sickly appearance, we make every effort to address the concerns. However, still lacking a mandate, training and equipment for wildlife presents a barrier to effective service in this area.

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▶ **By-Law Revision**


- ▶ The Anti-Noise and Clean Yards by-laws have garnered much attention by the community. Many incidents have been reported in relation to these by-laws.
- ▶ The Garbage By-law is slated for further updates.

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▶ **Service/Operations**

- ▶ We have reached more than 715 calls for service that have been captured for the most part in the Department's MiLISA database. The result is both Officers having an extensive caseload.
- ▶ To help alleviate call backlogs and to facilitate the roll of Call Taker and Dispatcher, an additional staff person has been temporarily shared with the Department. Their responsibility has been primarily to receive calls for service and create incidents for each in the database, ensuring no call or email from the public goes unanswered.
- ▶ Operationally, Officers have noticed an increase in calls dealing with persons suffering from situational or chronic mental illness and those involved in Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMG) activities. In addition, there has also been an uptick in calls dealing with large breed "guard" style dogs. These dogs create a risk to the public and responding officers, particularly when running at large. Officers have also noticed increased exposure to incidents involving CDSA (controlled drugs and substances) and persons suffering from addiction.

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- ▶ **Service / Operations cont'd**
 - ▶ With respect to the Outlaw Motorcycle Gang activity, Municipal Enforcement was approached by the Ontario Provincial Police and asked to develop a Bylaw that would prohibit members of motorcycle clubs from wearing their “colours” and insignias within City limits.
 - ▶ Further discussions were conducted and the assistance of a prior rapport being established by our Department with a local motorcycle club member and dialogue between a local motorcycle club Organizer and Municipal Enforcement, in conjunction with stepped-up OPP involvement, Municipal Enforcement has noticed a substantial decrease in the organized movements by local OMG members.
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- ▶ **Service/Operations cont'd**
- ▶ As the result of a recent series of incidents dealing with wildlife, stray dogs and unwanted/nuisance persons, Municipal Enforcement as of November have taken to intermittent early morning patrols to ensure that students get to their buses and their schools in a safe manner. Similar patrols are being conducted during the afternoon dismissal. Other adjustments to the schedule continue to occur to include evenings and some weekends.
- ▶ With the change in seasons, Municipal Enforcement has now undertaken to monitor weather forecasts and schedule adjustments are frequently made in order to have Officers out on the roads during weather events to ensure vehicles and other obstacles are removed from surface streets and the downtown core to allow for safe, effective and proper snow removal.

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- ▶ **Service/ Operations concluded**
- ▶ A recent parking initiative, targeting those who park on City surface streets between 12:00 AM and 07:00 AM during the winter months starting November 1st and end in March 31st, was conducted. Several parking infractions were subsequently issued and some potential obstacles that would have interfered with snow removal activities identified.

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▶ **Summary/Conclusion**

- ▶ Municipal By-Law Enforcement, much like our counterparts in the policing industry, is law enforcement. Municipal By-Law Enforcement Officers are Peace Officers as specifically define in the Criminal Code.. Our goal is maintain and preserve the public peace and often times we are the very thread that keeps the fabric of a neighbourhood together.
- ▶ The Municipal Enforcement landscape continues to change on a Health and Safety front; this has not gone unnoticed by the Department. Some of these Health and Safety risks include, but are not limited to, Officers becoming targets of threats of violence, potential exposure to the Covid-19 virus, domestic and wildlife animal encounters and dealings with persons suffering from mental illness and addictions. This exposure occurs both in rural and urban settings. To help mitigate the risks, Officers now complete a risk assessment prior to attending various calls for service, keeping Officer Safety at the forefront.

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▶ **Summary/Conclusion**

- ▶ Furthermore, Officers do not work alone and are equipped with 2-way radios and cell phones. However, the Department is exploring other ways to help mitigate risks through the Health and Safety Coordinator
- ▶ The mindset and approach to each incident is different and unique but the common approach is both to identify and solve the problem, as well as ultimately, establishing long-term solutions. This approach, or the thread that is sewn, calls for the necessity to manage expectations and maintain confidentiality in order to avoid reprisals and the further development of neighbourly conflict.

Incidents by Category

Category	Number of recorded incidents
Animal Control/ Pick-up:	93
Assist Other Agency	7
Assist Other Department	38
ATV/Off Road Vehicles	5
Business Licensing	5
Clean Yards	72
Encroachment	7
Exotic Pets	1
Firearms	2
Garbage	20
Mobile Vendors	1

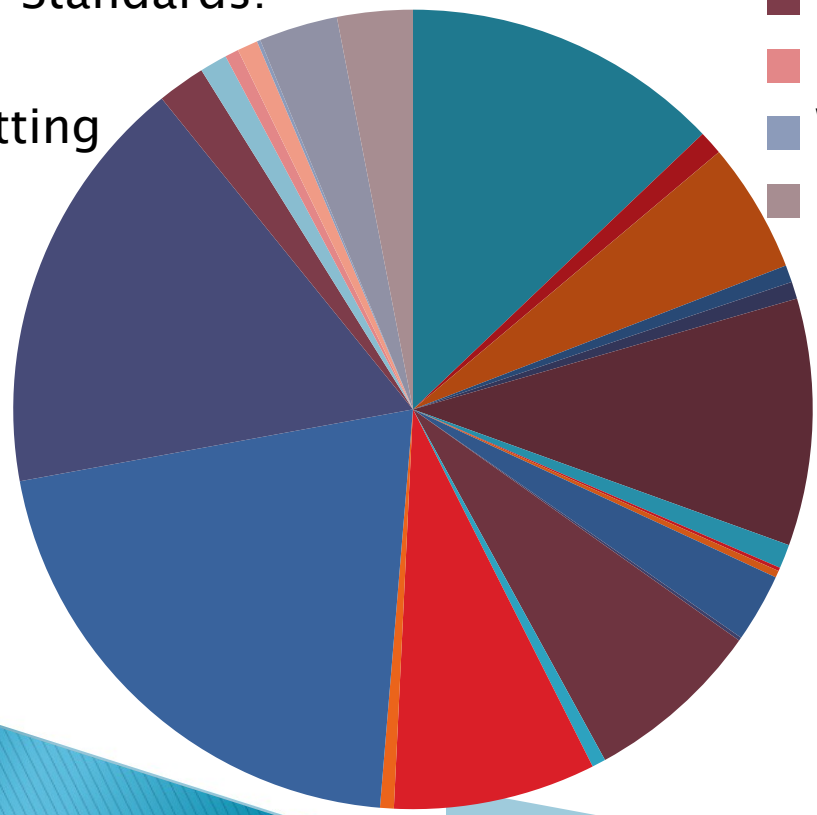
Incidents by Category Pg. 2

Category	Number of recorded incidents
Noise:	52
Obstruction of Highways	4
Other (Pandemic Related):	59
Parks	4
Parking:	150
Property Standards:	123
Public Nuisance	14
Sign	8
Smoking	4
Tree Cutting	6
Waste Discharge	1

Incidents by Category Pg.3

Category	Number of recorded incidents
Wildlife	23
Zoning / Waterfront:	22

- Animal Control/ Pick-up:
- Assist Other Department
- Business Licensing
- Encroachment
- Firearms
- Mobile Vendors
- Obstruction of Highways
- Parks
- Property Standards:
- Sign
- Tree Cutting
- Wildlife
- Assist Other Agency
- ATV/Off Road Vehicles
- Clean Yards
- Exotic Pets
- Garbage
- Noise:
- Other (Pandemic Related):
- Parking:
- Public Nuisance
- Smoking
- Waste Discharge
- Zoning / Waterfront:



**Incidents by
Category**

Incident Status

