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TOWNSHIP OF/CANTON DE

To: Mayor Evans and Members of Council

From: Steve Harvey, Chief Municipal Law Enforcement Officer
By-law Department

Prepared By: Haili McKee, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer

Report Number: MLE-003-25

Meeting Date: 14 May 2025

Subject: **By-law 1st Quarter Activity Report for 2025 (January 1 - March 31)**
Our File No:

Recommendation

THAT MLE-003-25 regarding By-law 1st Quarter Activity be received as information.

Background/Analysis

By-law Occurrences for the 1st Quarter

Type of Occurrence	Number of Occurrences		
	2023	2024	2025
Parking	9	4	33
Dumping Snow	0	0	15
Short-Term Rental	56	27	12
Fire	2	3	3
Noise	10	3	2
Clean Yards	10	12	2
Miscellaneous	0	0	2
Dog	2	4	1
Zoning	8	5	1
No By-law	5	2	1
Property Standards	2	1	0
ICBL	0	1	0
Sign	0	2	0
Questions	4	2	0
Littering	0	1	0
Fireworks	1	0	0
Encroachment	0	0	0
TOTAL for 1st Quarter	109	67	72

NOTE: An "occurrence is when a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Responds to any complaint (Whether it is determined that a by-law violation has occurred or not), or when doing pro-active enforcement and a violation of a by-law has occurred.

From 2024 to 2025 the complaints have increased over the 1st quarter time period. Staff analyzed the differences and would draw the following conclusions.

Parking: Of the 72 complaints received during the first quarter, 33 complaints were related to parking. Staff analyzed this and noted that the parking complaints received were for Interfering with Snow Removal.

Dumping Snow: In 2024 the By-Law Department received 0 complaints for Dumping Snow where as in 2025 15 complaints were received. Staff analyzed this and came to the conclusion that the increase in complaints was due to the inclement weather and amount of snow seen across the region over the winter.

Short-Term Rentals: Over the course of the first quarter, the By-Law Department received 12 complaints which is a significant decrease from the 27 complaints received in 2024.

- The Short-Term Rental Licence renewal process begins in November each year. Applications were being reviewed and approved in the first quarter. The below table reflects the year over year changes:

	2023	2024	2025
	Oct. 4, 2022 – March 31, 2023	November 4 – March 31, 2024	November 4 – March 31, 2025
Number of applications received	249	148	121
Number of approved licences	5	112	87

- The By-Law Department issued Non-Complaint Letters to identified Short-Term Rentals that were found to be advertising without a licence. These letters were generated and mailed through the Short-Term Rental software and additionally emailed by the Officers where email address were available. Subsequently, a significant number of properties applied for a licence while others decided to removed their Short-Term Rental advertisements.

As of December 31st, 2024 the department received a total of 177 Short Term Rental Applications and Approved 157 Licences for the year of 2024.

As of March 31st, 2025, the Township had received:

1. 121 complete Applications;
2. Issued and Approved 87 Short-Term Rental Licences;
3. An additional 14 Waitlist Applications working on necessary paperwork;
4. Leaving 165 spots remaining available as of March 31st, 2025.

- The Short-Term Rental Waitlist function continues to be in use and has 2 important functions: 1st functions provides a quick review to see if the potential applicant actually owns the property (ex. upcoming land ownership change) and that its not vacant land. The 2nd and original function is to be utilized once we have reached 300 applications. There is an annual fee of \$150.00 per year to maintain the applicants position on the waitlist which is currently waived until we reach 300.
- The below tables breaks down the Short-Term Rental related complaints received between January 1st to March 31st as follows:

Type of Complaint	Number of Properties with Complaints	No Violation	Properties Charges Issued/ Pending & Charge Counts	Number of Work Orders Issued (Licenced/ Ad Removed)	Offender Apprised (Complied Before Order Issued)
Unlicenced Property	8 (67%)	0	0	8	0
Noise and Nuisance Concerns	0 (0%)	0	0	0	0
Advertisement Violation	1 (8%)	1	0	0	0
Renting For Less Than 6 Consecutive Days	1 (8%)	1	0	0	0
Other/Not STR By-law (police, real estate, roadside parking, building, cars in driveway, garbage)	2 (17%)	2	0	0	0
TOTAL	12 (100%)	4 (33%)	0 (0%)	8 (67%)	0 (0%)

Charges

The following chart reflects the number of charges issued by the By-law Department over this period.

By-law & Type of Occurrence	Number of Charges		
	2023	2024	2025
STR – Disobey an order	9	0	0
STR – Operate without licence	9	0	0
STR – Advertise without a licence	9	0	0
Total	9	0	0

Parking Tickets Issued

MONTH	2023	2024	2025
January	2	1	3
February	0	9	1
March	0	0	2
TOTAL:	2	10	6

Activities During This Period

1. Seasonal Staff - Shift Supervisors, Officers, and Administrative Assistants

The recruitment drive for these positions were posted on the Township website, Indeed, The Ontario Association of Property Standards Officers website and posted on the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Association website. The township received resumes during the first quarter and started the interview process. Various related other tasks were organized during this time period in advance of their spring start.

2. Court Activity

On March 6, 2025 there were nine (9) charges on the court docket and the following was their dispositions:

Short-Term Rental By-Law Violations - 1 property, 1 Defendant, 2 charges

- The defendant failed to appear and the 2 charges were adjourned on consent to June 5, 2025 at 10:30 a.m., to be spoken to.

Dogs By-Law Violations - 3 charges

- A defendant appeared and entered a guilty plea. A fine of \$50.00 was imposed with 30 days to pay.
- The defendant failed to appear and was deemed not to dispute the charge. A fine of \$100.00 was imposed with 15 days to pay.
- The defendant failed to appear and was deemed not to dispute the charge. A fine of \$100.00 was imposed with 15 days to pay.

Noise By-Law Violations - 2 charges

- The defendant failed to appear and was deemed not to dispute the charge. A fine of \$300.00 was imposed with 15 days to pay.
- The defendant appeared but no Officer was available. As a result, this matter was withdrawn.

Parks By-Law Violations - 2 charges

- The defendant appeared and entered a guilty plea. A fine of \$50.00 was imposed with 30 days to pay.
- The defendant failed to appear and was deemed not to dispute the charge. A fine of \$150.00 was imposed with 15 days to pay.

Burning By-Law Violation - 1 charge

- The defendant appeared and entered a guilty plea. A fine of \$75.00 was imposed with 30 days to pay.

Reviewed By Other Departments

Not applicable.

Options/Alternatives

There are no options/alternatives associated with this item

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this item.

Relationship to Strategic Plan

- Not Applicable

Conclusion

The By-law Department is expecting to provide the 2nd Quarter Report at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on August 6th, 2025.

Sue Walton, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk Approved - 05 May 2025

Haley Leblond, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy CAO Approved - 06 May 2025

Robert Lamb, Chief Administrative Officer Approved - 07 May 2025