

Municipality of Lakeshore – Report to Council

Legal and Legislative Services

Bylaw Services



To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Rob Sassine, Division Leader – By-law Services
Date: March 5, 2025
Subject: Rat Abatement Program

Recommendation

This report is presented for information only at the April 29, 2025 Council meeting.

Strategic Objectives

This report does not relate to a Strategic Objective, however is related to a direction of Council.

Background

At the October 22, 2024 Council meeting, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution #347-10-2024

Direct Administration to bring a report regarding the Rat Abatement program.

Comments

At the January 10, 2023, Council meeting, a Rat Abatement Pilot Project was presented and approved by Council. Due to previous resourcing constraints, the development and implementation of the program was delayed. Due to additional administrative staff being added in the Division in 2024, the pilot program is now ready to be launched for early 2025.

Below are the steps required to initiate the process for consideration.

- 1.To initiate rebate assistance, the property owner must first complete the Residential Rat Abatement Program Intake Form (attached as Appendix A) identifying the location of rat sightings on the property and suspected origin of the rat(s).
- 2.Upon receipt and review of the application, a By-law Enforcement Officer will contact the property owner to schedule an inspection of the exterior of the property.

3. Any violations of the Property Standards, Yard Maintenance or any other relevant municipal by-law identified during the inspection process must be corrected for the application process to proceed. The property owner would need to ensure all preventative measures are undertaken in order to participate in the program.
 4. The property owner shall obtain the services of a licenced Ontario exterminator recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).
 5. The property owner is responsible for remitting evidence to the Municipality detailing that the pest control company has been paid in full.
 6. The Municipality will pay the applicable rebate directly to the property owner following receipt of required documentation from both the property owner and pest control.
- The Communications and Engagement Team will provide communication support to the public through social media. The Lakeshore website will also have a section dedicated to the program for residents to learn about the program.

Financial Impacts

The Municipality's Rat Abatement Program is funded for the balance of 2025, or until the funding allocation is exhausted, whichever comes first. Funding in the amount of \$10,000 in property owner rebates has been approved in the Municipality's 2025 budget. Only one rebate up to 50% of \$400 per property will be accepted in the 2025 calendar year.

Attachments

Appendix A - Rat Abatement Program Form

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Rat Abatement Program.docx
Attachments:	- Rat Abatement Program Form.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Apr 22, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Prepared by Robert Sassine

Submitted by Susan Hirota

Approved by the Corporate Leadership Team