

B.2

MOTION ON NOTICE

The following Motion is submitted by Councillor Capri for the Regular Council meeting on February 28, 2006.

2. Exotic Animal By-law

MOVER: Councillor Capri

SECONDER: Councillor

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver recognizes that it is prudent and necessary for the protection of persons and animals to prohibit certain animals from being kept, sold or used in performances, within the City of Vancouver; and

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver currently has an animal control bylaw and a bylaw to prohibit performances involving certain wild animals in circuses (No 6940) but has no bylaws dealing with the sale and/or ownership of exotic pets or with exotic animal performances outside circuses; and

WHEREAS virtually all animal protection agencies are against exotic animals being kept as pets, noting that:

- These animals if placed into unnatural conditions will suffer physical and psychological harm;
- Numerous purchasers of exotic animals recognize that they are unable to provide appropriate care for these animals, resulting in many of these animals becoming ill and abandoned in community parks or turned over to refuges; and
- There are issues of public health and safety, including that reptiles carry salmonella and many exotic animals demonstrate behaviour that is unpredictable and dangerous.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Vancouver staff report back recommendations for an exotic animal bylaw, including but not limited to:

1. A definition or appendix listing what constitutes the prohibited animals;
2. Addressing the issues of sale and ownership and use of exotic animals for performances;
3. A proposal regarding how to manage and address the many exotic pets residents already own, such as a "grandfather clause."
4. Issues of expense, recognizing that the experience from other municipalities who have implemented similar bylaws, indicate expenses are minimal, as:
 - most people obey the law;
 - few serious violations occur; however, the bylaw offers Council an opportunity to address the matter, should a serious incident arise.