



Graham Paine/Metroland

A lone coyote is spotted roaming the greenspace along the north side of Mainway opposite Sutton Drive in 2017.

Burlington councillor holds meeting about potential trapping of coyotes

At least 40 residents in attendance have questions answered by "Trapper John"

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The days of a few Burlington coyotes may be numbered after a local councillor organized a private meeting between a group of residents and a man calling himself "Trapper John."

In a Jan. 19 email directed to select residents Ward 4 Coun. Jack Dennison drew attention to a meeting, which took place at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Jan. 30.

"Thank you to many of you who have written me and shared your encounters, experiences and concerns about coyotes," says Dennison in the email.

"As you are aware, citizens have the right to band together and hire a trapper to have an aggressive coyote(s) removed. Since the summer, I have been in contact

with a trapper in the hopes of securing a date/time to have 'Trapper John' visit our city and more specifically, meet and speak with us."


The email goes on to discuss how Dennison has been involved with the coyote issue since March 2014.

He noted that in 2015 council approved a Coyote Response Strategy, which was developed by the city and the provincial Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry staff with a goal of coexisting with urban coyotes using education, behaviour modification and the development of a tiered response to aggressive coyotes.

"I believe that further action is required on the part of both the city and the provincial government," Dennison wrote.

He said in February 2017 he took steps to promote Burlington being the setting for a pilot study where the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry would trap, collar and track Burlington coyotes to determine their territories, how many coyotes are present and whether there are particularly aggressive coyotes that "perhaps have to


● See MUNICIPALITY, page 39



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