ANIMALS ON CAMPUS POLICY

Policy Statement
Bow Valley College (BVC) recognizes:
- The health and safety risks that animals may pose to the College community on its campuses; and
- The Colleges legal and educational obligations to those within its community who require the use of a service dog or an animal for Educational purposes.

Purpose
This policy prohibits animals within buildings on campus while regulating the allowance of service dogs and animals for educational purposes.

Scope
Compliance with this policy extends to all members of the College community and visitors.

Principal Objectives
Pets
1. Pets are not permitted inside a College owned, leased or rented building, or vehicle, unless part of an organized pet therapy program (i.e., Exam stress relief) as agreed to and/or organized by the Learner Success Services Team. Owners of pets who violate this policy may be held liable for any related liabilities and/or costs in the event of injury or damage to persons or property.
2. It is not permissible to tie and leave a pet anywhere unattended on a BVC property, including those which are outdoors or within parking areas for any period of time.
3. To ensure the health and safety of the College community, the College reserves the right to remove pets, if stray or unattended pets are located on a BVC property. Additionally, Facilities and Ancillary Services may ask the Animal Services Centre from the City of Calgary for assistance where applicable.

Service Dogs
4. Access to College premises will be available to individuals with qualified service dogs. As per the Service Dogs Act of Alberta, qualified service dogs are permitted in any public place where people are normally allowed to be. Service dogs must be accompanied and controlled at all times by their animal owner.
5. To be considered qualified, the dog must be trained by a school that is accredited by Assistance Dogs International. A Government of Alberta Service Dog ID Card is available for qualified service dog users. The Owner must be able to present the Government of Alberta Service Dog ID Card if requested by Campus Security or a Bow Valley College staff.
6. A service dog may only be excluded from College premises or services when one of the following conditions exist:
   6.1. The service dog is disruptive, and its animal owner is not effectively controlling it; and
   6.2. The service dog's presence, behaviour or actions pose an unreasonable or direct threat to property or the health or safety of others. The direct threat, in this case, is not considered remote or speculative, such as thinking an animal might bite someone or will annoy others. Allergies or a fear of animals are generally not sufficient conditions for exclusion but will be addressed

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through College policy and procedures around accommodations under Alberta Human Rights legislation.

7. In cases where a service dog is excluded from certain access permissions, leading to a loss of service (e.g. missed classes, etc.) for the animal owner, the College shall provide the animal owner reasonable accommodation in accordance with legislation.
8. If the person's disability or health condition is obvious and the need for a service dog is evident there is no need to request additional information about the disability or need for accommodation.
9. Employees or learners who have an existing service dog should contact Human Resources or Learner Success Services respectively to ensure accommodation needs are met.
10. Service dogs are not considered pets by the College. Members of the College community are to maintain a respectful distance when in its vicinity. It is not considered appropriate to pet, feed, startle or play with a service dog while it is working on campus.

Animals for Educational Purposes
11. Animals for educational purposes must be pre-authorized by the College to enter a College property or transportation vehicle. This authorization must come from either the Director of Facilities, Ancillary Services & Campus Development or designate. Usually, this authorization should be granted with a timeline.
12. Animals for educational purposes allowed on College property must be licensed and fully inoculated, with the burden of proof on the animal owner.
13. Individuals who request authorization to bring an animal on College premises for educational purposes should provide a valid reason for its necessity. This means that the animals presence on campus must, in some way, support the mission of the College.

Compliance
Employees, independent contractors, and learners are responsible for knowing, understanding, and complying with BVC policies, procedures, and any other attached documentation that relate to their position, employment, or enrolment at the College.

Definitions
Animals: A domesticated or tamed animal that is kept as a companion or treated as a pet.

Animal Owner: Person(s) caring for, having custody of, and responsibility for an animal (pets, service animals and animals for educational purposes).

Service Animal: Any trained animal which serves and performs vital services to disabled persons or persons with medical conditions.

Animals for Educational Purposes: An animal that is on campus temporarily as a part of a College:
- Research, teaching or educational program; or
- Project and/or special event.

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Policy Data

DATA SHEET

Accountable Officer
Vice-President, Strategy and CIO

Responsible Officer(s)
Director, Facilities, Ancillary Services and
Campus Development

Approval
President and CEO

Contact Area
Facilities, Ancillary Services and Campus Development

Relevant Dates

Approved	
Effective	
Next Review	
Modification History	

Associated Policy(ies)
Access Control Policy   Employee Code of Conduct Policy (200-1-1)
Security Services Policy (300-3-2)   Learner Code of Conduct Policy (500-1-1)

Directly Related Procedure(s)
Employee Code of Conduct Procedure (200-1-1)   Learner Code of Conduct Procedure (500-1-1)

Directly Related Guideline(s) (if any)

Related Legislation
Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw (City of   Service Dogs Act (Alberta)
Calgary)

Related Documentation

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