



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2025

The Local Government Compliance and Enforcement Association of BC (LGCEA), is sharing the top ten interesting, unique and funny calls for service that bylaw departments from across British Columbia received in 2024.

Bylaw officers have a difficult job, often having to weigh a requestor's concerns while considering the broader impact to the community, the interests of the local government and whether the matter is a "neighbour dispute". Sometimes, officers have the unfortunate and difficult situation of explaining to members of the public that their concerns are not a bylaw issue or one that the local government will not address, even if the matter impacts them. The profession aims to protect a safe and livable environment for those who live, work, learn, and play in communities by fostering voluntary compliance through information, education, and respectful enforcement when possible.

We are sharing the top 10 calls from across the province to not only provide the public insight into the types of calls bylaw departments receive but to also provide educate on what often is not a bylaw matter.

In no particular order, the 2024 top ten calls for service are:

Stinky situation: Neighbour was "purposefully" farting at resident and wanted bylaw to arrest them for harassment.

Roses are red, tulips are yellow: Resident upset as neighbour planted yellow tulips that clashed with the colour of their fence.

Feline frenzy: An individual is shopping in a thrift store and has brought in a cat who is yowling loudly as is in heat.

Crappy accusation: Resident upset that neighbour is throwing dog feces into their yard – turned out to be mole hills.

Are you ducking me: Member of public upset because someone in their municipality had an approved Emotional Support Duck and they were extremely upset as they have a friend who would like a chicken and cannot have as per regulations.

Terrifying tarp: Member of public scared of tarp on their neighbour's property. Resident was so concerned they also called the police to report the frightening activity.

Seeing yellow: Resident upset that a neighbour bought a new vehicle that was yellow in colour and believed it went against "community standards".

Wildlife woes: Member of public concerned as the pond continues to attract snakes and other wildlife.

Ruff decision: Member of public who identifies as a dog wanted to purchase a dog licence.

Purr-sonal Drama: Neighbour's cat sits on the fence and stares at them.

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