



Summary of the new Hamlet of Gjoa Haven Bylaw #243

Dog Control Bylaw

Dog Ownership Rules

- All dogs over 6 months must be registered.
- Registered dogs must wear a collar and tag at all times.
- Owners cannot let dogs run loose around community houses and people.
- A dog on a leash needs to be with someone 16+ who can control it.

What You Can't Do

- Let your dog run loose.
- Tie a dog permanently to buildings, stairs, fuel tanks, or hydro poles.
- Tie a dog in a way that blocks service roads, paths or causes damage.
- Neglect to feed or water your dog.
- Abuse your dog.

Dog Officers and RCMP

- Bylaw and RCMP officers can enforce this bylaw
- Other dog officers may be appointed by council.
- Officers can seize unregistered or loose dogs, or if they suspect a rule is being broken.

Surrendering Dogs

- Owners can give up dogs they can't care for, free of charge.

If Your Dog is Taken and You Want it Back

- You have 2 days to claim your dog.
- You must pay the care costs or do community service to cover the costs.
- You must fix any mess or damage caused by your dog or pay for Hamlet staff to do this.



If Not Claimed

The dog may be:

- Sold or given to another home inside or outside of Gjoa Haven
- Or destroyed

An Officer Can Destroy a Dog Immediately

- If it's badly injured or poses a serious danger.
- No compensation is owed to the owner.

Emergency Actions

- Officers can destroy loose dogs that can't be caught.
- Anyone may kill a dog that is actively attacking a person
- Anyone can use non-lethal force to stop a dog from:
 - Attacking people or animals,
 - Destroying property or food supplies.

Penalties for Not Following This Bylaw

- First offense: up to \$200 fine.
- Second offense: up to \$300 fine.
- Repeat offenders and their households can be banned from owning dogs for 2 years.

Other Details

- Council sets the registration fee.
 - Registration will be free of charge for the first 6 months.
- This bylaw replaces Bylaw #21.
- This bylaw came into effect May 6, 2025.