

Policy 4160: Animals on Campus

A. PURPOSE

Selkirk College is committed to providing an academic environment which promotes removing barriers to education and access created by an area protected by the British Columbia *Human Rights Code*, while at the same time respecting the health and safety of the College's employees, students and visitors.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for employees, students, and visitors of the College who are disabled, and require the use or presence of an animal when attending Selkirk College property.

B. SCOPE / LIMITS

This policy applies to any persons with an animal, including a pet, in Selkirk College buildings and the immediate surrounding areas on Selkirk College campuses, exclusive of walking trails and undeveloped areas. This policy does not apply to animals left in vehicles, which are the concern and responsibility of the owner.

C. PRINCIPLES

Live animals are strictly prohibited on Selkirk College property including, but not limited to, in College owned, leased or rented vehicles, buildings and student housing unless prior authorization to bring the animal onto Selkirk College property, or any property occupied by Selkirk College, is obtained in accordance with this policy.

Authorization to bring a live animal onto Selkirk College property will only be granted if it can be determined by the College that the animal:

1. Is deemed necessary for academic purposes;
2. Is a guide dog or service dog as defined in the *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* and *Guide Dog and Service Dog Regulation*, or other applicable legislation;
3. When accompanied by a dog trainer, is a dog-in-training as defined in the *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* and *Guide Dog and Service Dog Regulation*;
4. Is a working animal, such as a police, security or detection dog when those animals are being used for such purpose and accompanied by an authorized handler;
5. Is necessary for accommodation of a person's medical need in accordance with Policy 6010: Human Rights, Harassment, and Discrimination and under the British Columbia *Human Rights Code* and:
 - a) The person has met with Accessibility Services with respect to the request for an Authorized Animal prior to bringing the animal to campus;
 - b) The person has provided appropriate documentation verifying the certification of the animal and medical documentation to support the need for such an animal; and
 - c) If applicable, the person has read and executed Selkirk College's Handler & Animal Conduct Confirmation.

"Authorized Animals": The College reserves the right to revoke permission for an Authorized Animal to enter and remain on Selkirk College property should the Authorized Animal or the owner, handler, trainer or guardian of the Authorized Animal breach any of the provisions of this policy.

Policies and Procedures

D. DISCIPLINE AND LIABILITY

An owner, handler, trainer or guardian shall be held responsible for any and all damage, loss or expense caused by their animal while on Selkirk College property. The College assumes no responsibility for any animal or pet, including Authorized Animals.

Discipline may be applied against owners, handlers, trainers and guardians under Policy 3400: Student Code of Conduct and Policy 6000: Employee Code of Conduct for bringing animals onto Selkirk College property under false pretenses, without permission or in a manner inconsistent or contrary to this policy and/or providing false or inaccurate documentation substantiating the need for an Authorized Animal.

E. RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All Authorized Animals on Selkirk College property must be properly restrained and under the care and control of their owner, handler, trainer or guardian at all times.

Guide or service dogs must be appropriately identified as such, in accordance with the *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* and *Guide Dog and Service Dog Regulation*, and any other applicable legislation.

Selkirk College reserves the right to ask any animal's owner, handler, trainer or guardian for reasonable identification or verification confirming that an animal is an Authorized Animal. Failure or refusal to provide such verification may result in the animal's owner, handler, trainer or guardian and the animal being asked to leave or be removed from Selkirk College property.

A person who brings an Authorized Animal onto Selkirk College property is required to:

1. clean up after the animal;
2. ensure the animal is properly trained and at all times under the full control of the owner, handler, trainer or guardian at all times;
3. ensure the animal remains reasonably clean and adequately treated for fleas, ticks, etc.;
4. ensure the animal is in good health and has received all vaccinations required by law (e.g., rabies);
5. comply with all municipal and local laws regarding licensing.

If an Authorized Animal has been approved to be present with a person during class time, it must:

1. remain quiet and in one place during regular classroom activities such as the entry and exit of individuals, discussions, and classroom activities; and
2. respond to the handler's re-direction and remain under the handler's control if it is not meeting this expectation.

No animals, including Authorized Animals, are allowed to be left unattended at any time while on Selkirk College property. Any unattended animal will be removed from the College premises immediately.

Policies and Procedures

F. PROHIBITIONS

In order to protect Selkirk College students, employees and visitors, animal aggression will not be tolerated. Animals, including Authorized Animals, posing a health or safety risk to any person on Selkirk College property must be removed from College property immediately.

Selkirk College reserves the right to remove any animal in violation of this policy including, but not limited to animals, including Authorized Animals, that are, or are perceived to be:

1. aggressive or exhibiting behaviours that may pose a threat to the health or safety of others;
2. damaging property;
3. seeking attention or food;
4. running freely, urinating or defecating in inappropriate areas;
5. disrupting students, employees or visitors of Selkirk College;
6. barking or growling without reason.

All complaints or concerns regarding a specific animal should be directed to Campus Security if immediate assistance is required. All other complaints or concerns should be directed to the Campus Manager (Telephone: 1-250-365-7292 x 21277). Upon receiving a complaint regarding a specific animal, the Campus Manager may rescind permission to bring the Authorized Animal onto Selkirk College Property.

Selkirk College will endeavor to explore all reasonable options toward resolving any animal-related issue prior to 'banning' a specific animal.

G. REFERENCES

Guide and Service Dog Act

Guide and Service Dog Regulations

BC Guide Dog and Service Dog Assessment

Guide & Service Dog Legislation & Policy

Policy 6010: Human Rights, Harassment, and Discrimination

St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Program

Responsibility, Recommendation and Approval Dates

Executive Responsibility: Vice President College Services/CFO

Administrative Responsibility: Director of Facilities

Recommended by Policy Review Committee: 2019-10-16

Recommended/Approved by Education Council: N/A

Approved by President: 2019-10-18

Linkage to Board Policy: EL10 and E30