

College Policy & Procedures Manual	
Category	5- Facilities
Policy #	5.2.9 Animals

5.2.9 Animals

POLICY

With a view to ensuring the health and safety of all, College of the Rockies regulates the presence of domesticated animals in buildings and spaces owned or controlled by the College and in off-campus learning settings and promotes responsible behaviour with respect to wild animals on or in the vicinity of College property.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the presence of domesticated animals in any indoor or outdoor space owned or controlled by the College and in off-campus learning settings, and to outline expected behaviours of members of the College community with respect to wild animals on or in the vicinity of College property.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the College community and to others with respect to bringing domesticated animals to College facilities and in off-campus learning settings, and with respect to their contact with wild animals on or in the vicinity of College property.

DEFINITIONS

Domesticated Animal: An animal kept by humans for purposes such as a pet or work animal, or for agricultural purposes.

Feral Cat: An unowned domestic cat which currently exists in a wild or untamed state.

Guide Dog: A dog that (a) is trained as a guide for a blind person, and (b) is certified as a guide dog.

Learning Setting: The physical space in which learning occurs.

Service Dog: A dog that (a) is trained to perform specific tasks to assist a person with a disability, and (b) is certified as a service dog.

Therapy Animal: An animal, normally a dog or a cat, holding appropriate certification for the purpose of scheduled visitation to the College for a therapeutic program.

Wild Animal: An animal that is living in a natural undomesticated state.

POLICY STATEMENTS

A. DOMESTICATED ANIMALS

- A.1. Animals are not permitted inside College buildings, including in student housing, or in off-campus learning settings, with the exception of the following:
- a. Certified guide dogs and service dogs as defined by the Guide Dog and Service Act of British Columbia
 - b. Therapy animals, provided that:
 - licencing, certification and health documentation has been provided to the College,
 - arrangements approved by the Director of Facilities have been made for a suitable location and notification, and,
 - the relevant Campus Manager, or, in the case of student housing, the Manager, Student Life, agrees.
 - c. Police service dogs
 - d. One-time exemptions granted by the Director of Facilities for events involving animals.
- A.2. As emotional support animals are not considered service animals according to the British Columbia Guide Dog and Service Dog Act, they are not afforded the same permissions as guide dogs and service dogs and are not permitted in College buildings unless there is an approved accommodation. Accommodation requests will be considered through Accessibility Services for students and Human Resources for employees, and include consultation with the Director of Facilities.
- A.3. Domesticated animals are permitted in outdoor spaces owned or controlled by the College as long as animals are under the care and control of their guardian at all times. Guardians must comply with all provincial laws and local government by-laws pertaining to licencing and animal control.
- A.4. Guardians of an animal on property owned or controlled by the College must clean up after their animal, ensure that the animal under their care does not impede normal movements of any person or interfere with the ability of any student, employee or other person to work or study.
- A.5. Persons bringing an animal onto College property will be held responsible for any costs or consequences of damage caused by their animal.

B. WILD ANIMALS

- B.1. All students, employees and visitors to the College must take necessary steps to avoid conflicts with wild animals on or in the vicinity of property owned or controlled by the College. In particular, it is forbidden to feed or approach wild animals that are on or in the vicinity of property owned or controlled by the College and all persons must properly manage animal attractants.

C. FERAL CATS

- C.1. All students, employees and visitors to the College who come in contact with feral cats on property owned or controlled by the College should apply best practices in the treatment of feral cats as outlined by the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA).

RESPONSIBILITY

The Director, Facilities, is responsible for the administration of this policy.

RELATED POLICIES, AGREEMENTS AND RESOURCES

[2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities](#)

[5.2.1 Facilities Usage](#)

[British Columbia Guide Dog and Service Dog Act](#)