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CTV CALGARY

Chickens may soon be welcome in Calgary coops



Backyard chicken coops.

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Urban chicken farms could soon be coming to a backyard near you. The city has dropped all charges against anyone who raises chickens in the city in favour of a pilot project to see if backyard chicken coops can really fly.

Paul Hughes was supposed to appear in court Thursday to support another woman charged with raising chickens in her backyard, instead he is at home celebrating a victory.

Hughes is president of the Canadian Liberated Urban Chick Klub or CLUCK and has been fighting for a year for the right to keep chickens on city property.

Charges against him were dropped last week, now he is working closely with city officials on a pilot project that would allow up to forty families to raise chickens for themselves.

Lindsay Jones with the Calgary Humane Society says "our major concern would be that people are properly educated into the care for chickens. We want to make sure that all bases are covered under the Animal Protection Act, we also want make sure we don't see an overpopulation of chickens that don't end up being surrendered to us".

Results of the pilot project will go before city council which will decide if the bylaw should be amended to allow urban chickens. A number of other cities have already amended bylaws, including Vancouver and New York.

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Sage Pullen tells us why the city may allow backyard chicken coops after all

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