

Interview Questions

**“URBAN AGRICULTURE IN NORTH AMERICAN CITIES:
LESSONS IN BACKYARD CHICKEN POLICY”**

Name of Participant: _____

Name of Researcher: _____

1. What do you consider the strengths and weaknesses of the existing backyard chickens policy in your city?
2. When amending the by-laws, why did you:
 - a. Write a new backyard chickens by-law;or
 - b. Include new provisions in the existing animal control by-law?
3. Does your city provide guidelines for keeping backyard chickens?
4. Does your city have any additional urban agriculture guidelines or policies?
5. During the process of legalizing backyard chickens, did the city hold any public information sessions?
6. How much support from the public was there for backyard chickens? Who were the loudest or most influential voices during this process?
7. What would you have done differently in developing the policy on backyard chickens?
8. What recommendations would you make to other municipalities trying to facilitate backyard chickens?
9. What makes your city a good model for urban agriculture and backyard chicken policy?

Contact Email

**“URBAN AGRICULTURE IN NORTH AMERICAN CITIES:
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[Insert name of participant],

My name is Kieran Miller, and I am a graduate student in the Queen’s University School of Urban and Regional Planning. I am conducting research for my masters report.

The report “Urban Agriculture in North American Cities: Lessons in Backyard Chicken Policy” will examine the process of legalizing backyard chickens in three North American cities, Vancouver, British Columbia, Seattle, Washington, and Niagara Falls, Ontario. Specifically, it will analyze amendments to planning documents such as the official plan and zoning by-laws, and provide a series of recommendations of other municipalities facilitating backyard chickens.

Based on your knowledge and position at the City of [Insert name of City], you have been selected to participate in an approximately 30 minute telephone interview to help collect data about the process undertaken by the City.

For more information about the report, please see the Letter of Information (attached) or contact the researcher directly: Kieran Miller, kieran.miller@queensu.ca or (613) 532-7687.

Thank you for participating in the research and I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Kieran Miller
M.PI Candidate 2011
School of Urban and Regional Planning
Queen’s University

Letter of Information

**“URBAN AGRICULTURE IN NORTH AMERICAN CITIES:
LESSONS IN BACKYARD CHICKEN POLICY”**

Name of Participant: _____

Name of Researcher: _____

This research is being conducted by *Kieran Miller* under the supervision of *Leela Viswanathan* in the School of Urban and Regional Planning at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario.

The purpose of this research is to provide a series of recommendations for Canadian municipalities trying to facilitate backyard chickens. This will be accomplished through an analysis of backyard chicken policy in three North American Cities (Vancouver, British Columbia, Seattle, Washington, and Niagara Falls, Ontario) and interviews with key informants in municipal government.

The study will require one interview with the participant, with the possibility of a follow-up at a later date. Interviews will be completed by telephone at the convenience of the participant, and are schedule to take 30 minutes. There are no known physical, psychological, economic, or social risks associated with this study.

Participation in this study is voluntary. Although it be would be greatly appreciated if you would answer all material as frankly as possible, you should not feel obliged to answer any material that you find objectionable or that makes you feel uncomfortable. You may withdraw at any time.

Your responses will be kept confidential. Only the researcher will have access to information and notes from the interviews. To help ensure confidentiality, please do not put your name on any of the interview data sheets. The data may also be published in professional journals or presented at scientific conferences, but any such presentations will be of general findings and will never breach individual confidentiality. Should you be interested, you are entitled to a copy of the findings. There will be no compensation for participation in this study.

Any questions about study participation may be directed to the researcher, Kieran Miller, at kieran.miller@queensu.ca and/or (613)532-7687; the project supervisor, Dr. Leela Viswanathan, at leela.viswanathan@queensu.ca and/or (613)533-6000 ext 75038; or the Chair of the General Research Ethics Board at chair.GREB@queensu.ca and/or 613-533-6081.

This study has been granted clearance according to the recommended principles of Canadian ethics guidelines, and Queen's policies.

Again, thank you. Your interest in participating in this research study is greatly appreciated.

Consent Form

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Name of Participant: _____

Name of Researcher: Kieran Grattan Miller

1. I have read the Letter of Information and have had any questions answered to my satisfaction.
2. I understand that I will be participating in research for a report called “*Urban Agriculture in North American Cities: Lessons in Backyard Chicken Policy*”. I understand that this means that I will be asked to participate in an interview about backyard chicken policy in my municipality.
3. I understand that my participation in this study is voluntary and that I may withdraw at any time.
4. I understand that every effort will be made to maintain the confidentiality of the data now and in the future. Only the researcher, *Kieran Miller*, will have access to this data. The data may also be published in professional journals or presented at scientific conferences, but any such presentations will be of general findings and will never breach individual confidentiality. Should you be interested, you are entitled to a copy of the findings.
5. I understand that the interview will not be tape recorded.
6. I am aware that if I have any questions, concerns, or complaints, I may contact the report researcher, Kieran Miller (613-532-7687), kieran.miller@queensu.ca; project supervisor, Dr. Leela Viswanathan (613-533-6000 ext 75038), leela.viswanathan@queensu.ca; or the Chair of the General Research Ethics Board (613-533-6081), chair.GREB@queensu.ca at Queen’s University.

I have read the above statements and freely consent to participate in this research:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return signed consent form to researcher by
fax (613) 533-6905 or email to kieran.miller@queensu.ca.