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RM considers dog control after child mauled

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A mother of a boy who was being bitten in the face by a German shepherd and needed plastic surgery wants the rural municipality to force dog owners to lock up their pets.

Micheline Prosser, who lives in the hamlet of St. Joseph about 50 kilometres east of Regina, can't forget the day four months ago when her husband came running into the house with six-year-old Bailey.

The boy had been bitten by a neighbour's dog and was covered in blood, with several deep cuts around his left eye, she said.

"It's something that you do see on the news," she said. "Never once did I think it would happen to my child."



They rushed him to hospital, where he required numerous stitches and the services of a plastic surgeon.

Prosser said while scars from the attack are fading, his fear is not. Bailey is frightened of all animals, even gophers, she said.

"He's scared that the gopher will bite him," she said. "The fear is there that every animal is out to get him."

Bailey, 6, after getting stitches

Doran Scott, the administrator of the RM, said a dog control bylaw is in the works, but residents of St. Joseph need to decide what they want in it.

"Making sure that owner has control of the dog at all times, perhaps fines if the dog is found running at large – I guess in the worst-case scenario there could be a pound keeper and the dog could be impounded," he said.

The question of whether to declare the dog a dangerous animal is before the courts. Its owner could not be reached for comment.

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