



## **General Purposes Committee**

**Date:** Monday, October 4, 2010

**Place:** Anderson Room  
Richmond City Hall

**Present:** Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie, Chair  
Councillor Linda Barnes  
Councillor Derek Dang  
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt (4:04 p.m.)  
Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt  
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt  
Councillor Ken Johnston  
Councillor Bill McNulty  
Councillor Harold Steves

**Call to Order:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded

*That the minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday, September 20, 2010, be adopted as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

### **BUSINESS & FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

- 1. BANNING THE SALE OF DOGS IN STOREFRONTS – REFERRAL REPORT**  
(File Ref. No.: 12-8275-01/2010-Vol 01) (REDMS No. 2987900, 2731601)

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Gary Batt, owner, Petland Surrey, and formerly a representative of the Pet Industry Advisory Council of Canada, expressing opposition to banning the sale of dogs in storefronts. Mr. Batt was of the opinion that prohibiting the sale of puppies in storefronts would not have an effect on the number of pets that end up in shelters. He indicated that pet stores are one of the best sources of puppies available as they are a visible part of the community and must conduct the right business practices in order to stay in business. He stated that the majority of sales of puppies are conducted over the internet, direct from breeders, newspaper ads, and side of the road sales.

When speaking of his own store, Mr. Batt stated that customers received a very good choice of healthy puppies and that the store works with veterinarians and the new puppy owners. He stated that it's the breeders that need to be regulated not the pet stores. In conclusion, Mr. Batt suggested that the City, the animal shelter, BC SPCA and the pet industry must work together with the provincial government regarding licensing, regulation and inspections of breeding kennels. Mr. Batt also spoke about the Animal Care Act which sets guidelines for breeding kennels and mentioned that his store has blacklisted a particular breeder in an effort to regulate the source of puppies.

*Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt entered the meeting at 4:04 p.m..*

Discussion ensued, during which the Committee made queries related to:

- what is being done in other provinces to regulate breeders, particularly Manitoba;
- pet store policies related to warranty and the return of pets;
- measures taken by pet stores to educate their customers prior to purchasing a pet; and
- the appropriate age for spaying and neutering of pets.

Christie Lagally, Animal Welfare Advocacy Coalition, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts. Ms. Lagally spoke about the implications for the City if it were to support a comprehensive oversight of pet stores rather than a ban on the sale of dogs in storefronts. She spoke about the requirement of additional Animal Control Officers for regulatory oversight and the costs associated to the City.

In conclusion, Ms. Lagally expressed her opinion that although a ban on the sale of dogs in storefronts may seem drastic to some, it is not a drastic step compared to the results of inaction. A detailed submission from Ms. Lagally is attached to and forms part of these Minutes as Schedule 1.

Discussion ensued and it was stated that approximately 60% of the dogs in protection with the Richmond Animal Protection Society (RAPS) have originated from pet stores because pet stores often refuse to take back pets from their customers.

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Debra Walker, resident of Vancouver, shared her experience as a customer of Pet Habitat in Richmond. Ms. Walker spoke about how she went into the pet store without any intention of purchasing a dog and that once she got there she ended up “rescuing” two dogs. She stated that she had been misled by the store about the pedigree, origin and age of the dogs, and that the store’s preferred veterinarian had misled her about the health of the dogs. Ms. Walker continued to express concerns related to the ongoing health issues that both of her dogs have endured, including severe upper respiratory infections; kennel cough, and ear infections.

Lorie Chortyk, General Manager, Community Relations BC SPCA, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts, advising that the BC SPCA rescues many dogs that were once purchased at pet stores. She stated that dogs are often abandoned once the novelty has worn off or if the dog becomes sick. She expressed her belief that pet stores do not check potential pet owners before selling animals, nor do they allow adequate time for customers to give consideration to the responsibilities associated with owning a pet.

Ms. Chortyk advised that a team of volunteers investigated pet stores and found that the stores were reluctant to provide contact information for breeders and brokers, and that the volunteers felt they were urged to purchase puppies immediately and without due consideration. In conclusion she spoke in detail about some of the animals that have suffered from abuse and neglect, and urged the Committee to support the ban on selling puppies in storefronts. Ms. Chortyk’s submission is attached and forms part of these minutes as Schedule 2.

During the ensuing discussion between Committee members and the delegation, it was noted that any puppy under the age of eight or nine weeks is far too young to be separated from its parents. Comments were also made about working with newspapers and other advertising outlets including those online, to reduce and eventually ban classified listings for puppy mills.

Janet Olsen, A Better Life Dog Rescue, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts, advising that many dogs that are rescued by her organization have been very badly abused, neglected or horrifically handled. She stated that the dogs that are in the puppy mills are the moms and dads of the puppies being sold in pet stores and its those puppy mill dogs who are the real victims. She continued to speak about dogs in puppy mills, and how they spend their entire lives in crates and are either nursing or pregnant at all times. Ms. Olsen noted that those dogs are usually abandoned once they are no longer able to breed. She advised that many of those dogs are fearful, aggressive, confused or unhealthy as a result of abuse and neglect. Ms. Olsen also provided the details surrounding the neglect and abuse of several dogs that had been rescued by the organization.

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During the discussion between the delegation and Committee, it was noted that pet stores provided a good source of business for breeders. It was also noted that people who have been advised that they should not have a pet or have had an application for adoption rejected by a rescue agency have the option to go to a pet store and easily purchase a puppy.

Cheri Simmons, former Store Manager, PJs Pets Richmond, spoke in opposition to banning the sale of dogs in storefronts, stating that a ban will not resolve the issues of unwanted pets, and that regulating the sale of puppies would be more effective. Ms. Simmons provided comments and several suggestions related to four referrals that were outlined in the City staff report entitled 'Banning the Sale of Dogs in Storefronts'. A copy of Ms. Simmons' submission forms part of these minutes and is attached as Schedule 3.

Kristin Bryson, Director, BC SPCA, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts. Ms. Bryson spoke about the bylaws in place to ban the sales of certain animals in pet stores in other jurisdictions including various cities in the State of California, Florida, Texas, and New Mexico. She also spoke about a ban that has been in place in Albuquerque, New Mexico for four years, and advised that the statistics have confirmed that animal adoptions have increased by 23% and animal euthanasia had decreased by 35% at the City shelters since the ban.

Carol Reichert, Richmond Animal Protection Society, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts. Ms. Reichert expressed her belief that the pet store industry is costing the City thousands of dollars and that approximately 30% of the work done by the shelter is related to animals from pet stores. Ms. Reichert also provided copies of the RAPS "Dog Owner Surrender Application" forms which document a number of instances where people were surrendering puppies purchased in pet stores and the reasons provided for the surrender. She spoke about the lack of provisions related to purchasing animals from pet stores. Many pet owners do not fully comprehend the responsibilities related to owning pets and are not being educated on the matter.

In conclusion, Ms. Reichert expressed her belief that banning the sale of puppies in pet storefronts would not result in a underground black market. She believed that a ban in storefronts would put puppies out of the sight and minds of people who might otherwise purchase on impulse and emotion.

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Helen Savkovic, Richmond Animal Protection Society, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts, and stated that she was submitting a petition with 2086 signatures in support of the ban (on file City Clerk's Office). Ms. Savkovic then spoke about the Animal Pedigree Act of Canada, which defines pure breeds and mongrels and advised that she had receipts from pet stores in Richmond, for unregistered 'mongrel' dogs that had been charged high pure breed prices. She advised that the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) does not permit its member to sell puppies to pet stores and provided further information on the organization's Code of Ethics. Ms. Savkovic's submission related to the CKC is attached as Schedule 4 and forms part of these minutes.

In conclusion, Ms. Savkovic read a letter from a customer of PJs Pets regarding their experience with the dog that had been purchased from the store who had never been walked and was poorly cared for while it was up for sale in the store.

Marcie Moriarty, General Manager of Cruelty Investigations for the BC SPCA, spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts. She noted that pet stores claim to get their puppies from reputable breeders, however, evidence shows otherwise. She also spoke about the safety related to paediatric spaying and neutering, and noted that the selling of animals under eight weeks in pet stores is a problem. In conclusion, Ms. Moriarty stated that stopping the sales of puppies in pet stores is the way of the future, and urged the City Council to listen to the public regarding banning the sale of dogs in storefronts.

Shim, a volunteer at a shelter, stated that the pet stores sell puppies as a mass product. He indicated that puppies are sweet and innocent, and people buy puppies from pet stores as if they are shopping for clothes without giving any consideration. The delegation also spoke about how the pet stores earn money from puppy sales, and how those same puppies end up at shelters such as RAPS and the tax payers end up paying for it in the end. He concluded by stating that dogs and cats enrich family life and are not a mass product for shopping.

Anna, representing her family's pet store in Richmond, advised that her family's store only carries small breeds of puppies that they get from local breeders. She indicated that the store has the health records and history pertaining to the parents of the puppies. She also mentioned that they enjoy educating their customers, many of whom are ESL. In conclusion, the delegation indicated that her family's store was willing to cooperate with City Council.

In answer to queries, the delegation advised that her family's store will consider refunds for pets depending on the reason, and that they get their puppies primarily from local families.

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Allison Trinkess, Volunteer, Richmond Animal Protection Society, spoke about how easy it is for anyone whose application for adoption has been rejected by one of the shelters to go to a pet store and get a puppy. She stated that shelters and rescue agencies advise potential pet owners of the most appropriate breeds and review living arrangements, whereas pet stores sell to anyone.

As discussion ensued, Committee queried the feasibility of enacting a bylaw which would prohibit pet stores from purchasing animals from certain sources. The General Manager, Law & Community Safety, Phyllis L. Carlyle advised that she would require additional time to provide the necessary information.

At this point, in order to allow for the additional time requested by Ms. Carlyle, it was agreed that the agenda would be varied to deal with Item No. 2 at this time.

### PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND FACILITY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

#### 2. **ANDERSON ROOM – LIGHTING CONTROL**

(File Ref. No.: 06-2050-20-CH/Vol 01) (REDMS No. 2996355)

It was moved and seconded

*That additional electric blinds be installed in the Anderson Room to improve lighting conditions for audio-visual presentations and to address the low angle of the sun in the fall months on the occupants of the room.*

**CARRIED**

At this point, Ms. Carlyle had not yet returned to the meeting with the requested information. At 5:46 p.m. Mayor Brodie announced that the General Purposes Committee meeting would be recessed until Ms. Carlyle's return to the meeting and that in the meantime, the Finance Committee meeting would be called to order.

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At 6:10 p.m. Mayor Brodie reconvened the General Purposes Committee meeting.

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As discussion and questions continued about Banning The Sale of Dogs in Storefronts, Ms. Carlyle advised that the City may regulate the sale of dogs in pet stores under the Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7538. It was also noted that those who purposely breed animals with the intent to make a profit are required to have a business licence.

It was moved and seconded

*That:*

- (1) *the staff report dated September 10, 2010, entitled "Banning the Sale of Dogs in Storefronts – Referral Report" from the Chief Licence Inspector be received for information;*
- (2) *staff prepare an amendment to the Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7538, Schedule B Section 8, removing the Domestic Dog as an exception to the Prohibited Species of Canidae effectively banning the sale of the dogs from storefronts in Richmond, effective April 30, 2011, and return that bylaw to the October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Regular Council meeting for Council consideration of first, second and third reading;*
- (3) *a letter be sent to the Premier and the appropriate minister and local MLAs emphasizing the need for provincial regulations regarding the sale of dogs in store fronts; and*
- (4) *a letter be sent to the other communities in Metro Vancouver and the BC SPCA advising them of this resolution.*

The question on the motion was not called as discussion continued and Committee members spoke in support of banning the sale of dogs in storefronts. Comments were made that the ban may stop impulse buying and although it was not a complete solution, it was a step in the right direction.

The question on the motion was called and it was **CARRIED**.

## ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

*That the meeting adjourn (6:38 p.m.).*

**CARRIED**

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Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, October, 4, 2010.

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Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie  
Chair

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Shanan Dhaliwal  
Executive Assistant  
City Clerk's Office



Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010

City of Richmond, BC  
City Council  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC

Dear Honorable Councilors and Mayor Brodie:

I am grateful that you have taken such humane and responsible steps to improve the lives our animals in our city. You have my respect and my admiration for considering the ban and other proposals to make life in Richmond safer for domestic dogs.

There are several points I wish to address regarding the Proposal to Ban the Sale of Dogs in Storefronts. Based on reading the staff reports from December 3, 2009 (presented at the March 2 GPC meeting) and the Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> report from Glenn McLaughlin, it appears that there are two basic options to move forward with this proposal in order to avoid the status quo.

Based on my understanding of the materials submitted from staff and from interested parties, I hope you will consider the following options.

- Option 1):** Council can direct staff to prepare an amendment to Business Bylaw No. 7538, Schedule B, Section 8 to effectively ban the sale of dogs and puppies in retail stores (i.e. this would mean removing the domestic dog from the list of species that are exempt from prohibition for sale in Richmond's pet stores).
- Option 2):** Council can direct staff to prepare a proposal to amend Bylaw 7538 to incorporate the comprehensive oversight of pet stores suggested by the BC SPCA in Attachment 1 in the report from September 10. However, I feel the report stops short of the actual amount of oversight that would be required by the City, and I feel that oversight should also cover:
- a) Oversight of breeders in the Richmond City limits, including breeding licenses and inspections.
  - b) Ensuring that pet stores only dogs bred and raised within city limits so the breeders can be inspected by the City.
  - c) Ensure that pet stores provide standardized and comprehensive educational information to potential customers to help prevent animal abuse or neglect after purchase. (Note: Pet stores would be required to pay the cost of education and the City of Richmond would be required to provide oversight to these daily educational activities.)
  - d) Ensure the City ensures that a waiting period before sale (as suggested by the BC SPCA) is strictly enforced. Hence, the City will need to determine that the pet stores have not sold a dog to a person who has not visited the pet stores more than once.
  - e) Allow the Richmond Animal Shelter contractor (RAPS) to pass on all the costs to spay/neuter, feed and provide veterinary care for any animals that is surrendered to the Richmond Animal Shelter with proof of purchase at a Richmond pet store. Based on the number of dogs surrendered to RAPS, the cost to pet stores would be more than \$150,000 per year.

If you choose to direct staff to implement comprehensive oversight (Option 2) and grandfathering of pet stores, then it is important to note that the staff report indicating "There is no financial impact on the City" is incorrect.

To implement oversight of Richmond's pet stores to ensure they are in compliance with Animal Control and Business Licensing Bylaw and to ensure that all breeders are complying with animal welfare laws, it will be necessary to double or triple the number of animal control officers in Richmond. Currently, there is only one animal control officer on duty at any one time in Richmond, and oversight is nearly impossible. Additional oversight would therefore require a substantial increase in City funding for animal control.

On the other hand, if you choose ban the sale of dogs in pet stores (Option 1), in the long run, the cost to run the Richmond City Shelter should be reduced based on the fact that 57% of the dogs in the Richmond Animal Shelter are purebred, and that many are known to come from local pet stores (based on the receipts from pet stores that are surrendered with the animal). Based on reports of cruelty and neglect to pet store purchased dogs, a ban will help reduce these cases as well as surrenders to the Richmond Animal Shelter.

**While action to ban dogs from sale might seem drastic from the point of view of council or from people selling animals or from business owners, I would like to explain why the opposite is true.**

Today you will hear from rescue groups who have all rescued animals from people who have purchased them at pet stores and from horrible puppy mills.

The request by these rescue and advocacy groups to ban the sale of dogs *is NOT a fanatical request*. It is a necessary and measured action to take considering the cruelty of puppy mills, the trauma to breeding dogs, the failure of pet stores to screen their customers, the suffering of dogs not wanted after they are no longer puppies, costs to our local rescue groups and shelters and finally, the failure of the pet industry to regulate their own industry to prevent cruelty and overpopulation.

These conditions for our pet store- and puppy mill dogs are what are extreme and drastic, not the proposal to ban the sale of dogs in pet stores. The advocates of this ban are simply trying to stop the cruelty and suffering that they see every day, before more animals end up in unspeakable danger.

As an example of this danger, last year two German Shepherd dogs were found by a realtor in a Richmond house after it was raided by the RCMP. Both shepherds were just under 1 year old and were found locked in the garage. When the realtor found the dogs, one dog was vomiting rubber bands – which was the only thing she had to eat in well over two weeks. The other dog was dead and decomposing in the garage. I sit before you today, asking you to take action on this matter because those dogs were purchased by a person who should never have had dogs.

Shopping for a dog should not be as easy as shopping for vegetables. If you were the person to pull those dogs, one dead and one alive, out of an abandoned drug house in Richmond, wouldn't you be here today asking for a changes in the law to prevent any more suffering? Please take action.

With my upmost respect,

**CHRISTIE LAGALLY**

Christie D. Lagally  
Animal Welfare Advocacy Coalition (AWAC)  
Contact Telephone: (604) 910-6508

- My name is Lorie Chortyk. I am the general manager of community relations for the BC SPCA and I am here this afternoon to speak on behalf of the BC SPCA, but also as a member of this community. I have lived in Richmond for the past 23 years and I care deeply about what happens in my city and the example that we offer to other municipalities.
- I urge council to support a ban on the sale of dogs and puppies in pet stores.
- Every year, the BC SPCA rescues countless dogs who are subjected to horrific, sickening cruelty in B.C. puppy mills. These dogs are forced to endure unspeakable abuse and neglect in order to put money in the pockets of those who exploit them. Sick and neglected dogs churn out sick and ill-bred puppies, so that those who view them simply as a commodity can profit. The puppies bred in these gruesome facilities infiltrate our communities through puppy brokers – the middle man who deals directly with the puppy mill and finds outlets in our communities to sell the animals. As if this wasn't bad enough, many of these puppies, who are often purchased on impulse, are then abandoned or surrendered to animal shelters when the new owners discover the puppies are sick, or when the novelty wears off, and taxpayers and charities are then left to pay the price to provide veterinary care, rehabilitation and to try and find new homes for them. We can point to many cases where puppies were purchased at pet stores and almost immediately brought to the SPCA. This cycle of puppy mill abuse and homelessness is allowed to occur because there are currently NO checks and balances in place to ensure that the puppy brokers who access dogs from puppy mills do not sell animals in our communities.
- The last time we were before council, we sat and listened as representatives from local pet stores assured you that they only dealt with reputable breeders who were known to them - that they personally inspected the homes where puppies were bred and raised; that they made sure appropriate education and matching was done; that they had "cooling off" periods to ensure that individuals did not buy an animal as an impulse purchase and that they strongly advocated for the dogs to be spayed and neutered to avoid adding to the tragedy of pet overpopulation .
- A few days after that meeting, some of our staff and volunteers visited these very same Richmond stores, as members of the public, asking about dogs for sale. In each case our volunteers were encouraged to purchase the dogs immediately and take them home that very day without proper preparation or a time to consider the responsibilities they were taking on. When these individuals said they didn't want to spay or neuter the puppy they were told that was just fine, that there was no reason they had to do that. In fact Pet Habitat's own website talks about how new owners have full breeding rights and right beside this statement on their website is a logo from PIJAC.
- The most disturbing thing that occurred during these visits was when our people asked for contact information for the breeder so that they could find out more about the puppy's health and genetics. In one store they were given a name of an individual who a staff member later admitted was a puppy broker. This is in spite of the store initially claiming to the volunteer that they did not deal with brokers, only reputable breeders whose facilities they inspected. Telephone requests to the store manager for the broker's contact information were ignored. The volunteer then left her personal phone number and asked to have it passed along to the broker, also without results or a return phone call. The store obviously didn't want our volunteer to have any contact with the source of the puppy she was enquiring about.

- In another Richmond pet store, our volunteer was given the names of the supposed sire and dam and the kennel they were raised in, but no contact information. Neither a website nor a phone number could be found to match the information and our volunteer, again, could not make contact with any breeder or broker.
- Our ongoing experience with pet stores who sell live animals for profit is that they will say one thing publicly, but the reality is very, very different. We have countless examples of pet stores who refused to supply information about their breeders or who were evasive when questioned. This secrecy suggests that there are no safeguards in place to stop the flow of puppy mill dogs into our local stores.
- Many years ago, before I began working for the BC SPCA and before I knew about the link between pet stores and puppy mills, my own parents purchased two puppies from a Pet Habitat store. Within days both puppies were at the vet's office with serious medical issues which the vet confirmed were the result of poor breeding and neglect. While Pet Habitat said they would take the puppies back and euthanize them (an offer we declined) they refused to supply information about where the dogs were bred, and in fact the puppies they sold us as siblings turned out to be different breeds entirely. One of the puppies died a few days later despite medical intervention and the second dog lived but had continued medical issues throughout his life. The SPCA hears these kinds of pet store experiences all the time and when people demand "what can you do about this?" we tell people the only thing we can do is to encourage our municipal governments to protect local citizens and hold businesses accountable in our communities.
- The BC SPCA is currently working with newspaper classified sections and online sites to try and prevent the sale of puppy mill dogs through these sources. But only this council can prevent puppy brokers from accessing and infiltrating our community through pet stores. Richmond Council has shown commendable leadership in addressing a number of animal welfare issues in recent years. Banning the sale of puppies would add to our legacy as a community that refuses to condone animal suffering.
- The BC SPCA understands that Richmond Council wants to support its local businesses. We agree with this – we are not anti-business. But it is abundantly clear that the pet industry does not need to sell live animals in order to be profitable. We have two very successful business models right here in Richmond who sell pet supplies – Bosley's Pet Food Plus and Tisols.
- Richmond pet businesses can be successful without sacrificing innocent animals on the altar of profit. As a member of this community and on behalf of the BC SPCA, I urge mayor and council to continue building Richmond's reputation as a humane and responsible city and to support a ban of the sale of puppies in pet stores.

October 4 2010

City of Richmond  
6911n No 3 Road  
Richmond, BC  
V6Y 2C1 Canada

Attention: Mayor and Councilors

Subject; Petition against a proposed ban on the sale of puppies in pet stores.

Your Worship the Mayor, members of City Council;

The decision on whether to ban the sale of puppies or not in the City of Richmond is filled with many questions and I appreciate the time and thought that City Council has put to this decision.

Pet shelters, such as RAPS, would have you believe that the ban of puppies in pet stores will eliminate the issue of having unwanted pets in Richmond. As was shown during the last council meeting on March 2 2010, regarding this issue, banning the sale of puppies is not going to make the problem of unwanted pets go away. Regulating the sale of puppies is the only way the City of Richmond has any way to control what is happening.

In regards to the referrals to Council on September 10 2010;

**Referral 1**

*What are the standards, if any, for people selling and/or breeding dogs in BC,*

Richmond Pet Stores would support Council to put appropriate regulations in place in regards to the breeding practices and the sale of puppies.

**Referral 2**

*(What are Richmond's) Kennel regulations, as well as the number of dogs in households at various ages and the impacts.*

The current dog and cat kennel requirements currently apply to commercial kennels and may want to be readdressed to apply to "private" kennels with more "household" requirements. This would make it easier for private homes who breed puppies to come forward and meet kennel regulations, thus, not forcing them to go "underground".

**Referral 3**

*(That staff) liaise with Richmond pet store owners and Richmond Animal Protection Society (RAPS) to see what suggestions they have to address the issue;*

Pet Stores are against a blanket ban, but would suggest to City Council that pet stores and RAPS work together with Council to put together a viable by-law to regulate the source of puppies. Also, that pet stores and RAPS work together to find homes for unwanted pets.

**Referral 4**

*The potential grandfathering of existing pet stores based on the purchase of dogs from bona fide kennels in BC*

As Staff states, this is currently not an option as there are no current accepted definitions of a bona fide kennel. I would suggest that Council look at what the City of Richmond deems acceptable for breeding standards and work with pet stores to put this into motion.

This issue is not an easy issue to come to conclusions, as when dealing with animals so many emotions do come into play. This makes it that much more important that Council take the time to consider all the options available in regards to putting regulations and by-laws in place to regulate the source of puppies.

This is to also remind Council that pet stores are here to be part of the solution.

Sincerely,



Cheri Simmons  
Former Store Manager, PJs Pets Richmond



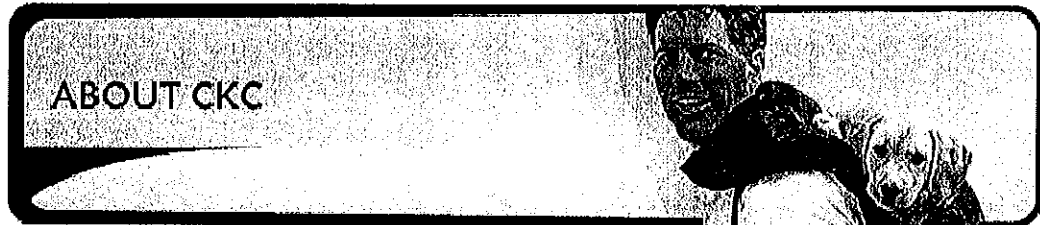
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CKC Breeder Code of Practice

CKC Member Code of Ethics



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## ▶ Code of Practice for CKC Member Breeders

### Purpose

This Code of Practice shall apply to all breeders who are members of The Canadian Kennel Club. Its purpose shall be to provide breeders with a set of mandatory standards and requirements relating to the proper maintenance, breeding, selling and overall protection of their chosen breed(s).

It shall be the aim of every breeder to breed dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body, to ensure that the dogs are true to their heritage and that they meet the requirements of the CKC Breed Standards.

It shall also be the responsibility of every breeder to adhere at all times to proper and ethical business practices when buying, breeding, selling and placing their dogs.

### II. Breeding Principles

The breeding of dogs is a serious responsibility; therefore, the decision to breed should never be taken lightly. To this end, every breeder, or prospective breeder, must be willing to embrace the following general principles:

- Be prepared to make a serious commitment of both time and financial resources in order to ensure that a proper breeding program can be carried out.
- Be prepared to provide for the well being of the dogs, both while in your care as well as in the ultimate placement of the dogs.
- Be prepared to work hard to preserve and maintain the breed for future generations through the judicious selection of breeding stock.
- Be prepared to share knowledge that is gained through experience with fellow breeders, particularly those who are novices.

### III. General Responsibilities

The following are a set of general responsibilities that shall be understood and accepted by all CKC member breeders:

- Every breeder shall be conversant with and fully adhere to the By-laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures of CKC, as well as the requirements of the Animal Pedigree Act (APA).
- All litters and all dogs in each litter shall be registered with the CKC. Litter

registrations shall be forwarded to CKC as soon as is reasonably possible after the birth of the dogs.

- Upon the sale of each dog from any litter, breeders shall transfer ownership and register each dog in the name of the purchaser in accordance with stated requirements.
- At all times the dogs shall be provided with proper housing, nutrition, health care and necessary exercise.
- Every breeder shall make a conscientious effort to learn about structure, movement and behaviour, understand and stay current with inherited traits, congenital and hereditary health problems related to their breed, and to have a basic knowledge of health care and first aid.
- Breeders are encouraged to regularly test for health and genetic problems and are encouraged to openly share the results of all such testing that are undertaken. They should also follow recommended protocols for the control of genetic disease.
- Every breeder shall maintain current and accurate records pertaining to their breeding program, the particulars of all dog registrations and all sales transactions.
- No breeder shall sell or donate dogs for the purpose of their being auctioned, raffled, or to pet stores.

#### **IV. Breeding Practices**

- In order to attain the goal of producing quality dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body, a breeder must give priority to the following:
  - Select breeding stock that conforms to the approved CKC Breed Standard to the highest possible degree.
  - Use dogs that are known to be of sound health and stable temperament.
  - Choose both a sire and dam that have reached such maturity that they can produce and raise a healthy litter.
  - Assure that all breeding documents and registrations are available for inspection and completely in order.
  - As the owner of a stud dog, ensure that the owner of the dam has the ability and the necessary facilities to successfully whelp, raise and assure the future well being of any resulting litter.
  - As the owner of the dam, ensure that the owner of the sire has the knowledge and experience to provide a safe and proper mating, including the diligent care of the dam.

#### **Selling Practices**

All breeders have a serious responsibility when selling dogs to purchasers, whether they are fellow breeders or members of the general public. In order to fulfill this responsibility and without limiting the specifics of the CKC By-laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures and the Animal Pedigree Act, all CKC breeders shall adhere to the following general sales practices:

- Dogs must never be sold on a "with or without papers" basis. As noted in Section III. (b) above, all dogs must be registered with CKC.
- In accordance with the By-laws, the breeder is responsible for the submission of and payment for all registration applications. Such costs may be included in the price of the dog. Under no circumstances shall the buyer be asked to submit or pay for any applications to register or transfer the ownership of a dog.
- All dogs must be uniquely and permanently identified with an approved Canadian Standard microchip transponder or a tattoo, prior to leaving the breeder's premises.
- Potential purchasers of dogs shall be reasonably screened for their suitability and



capability to own and meet the needs of the particular breed. The concept of a dog being a lifetime commitment should always be reinforced with the purchaser.

- Breeders shall represent their dogs to prospective purchasers with honesty and integrity.
- Breeders shall commit themselves to assisting novice dog owners in understanding the breed. They shall also encourage new dog owners to become involved in the activities of the sport of purebred dogs and inform them about the values in becoming a member of CKC.
- Breeders shall provide a written sales agreement containing the name of the purchaser, the date of sale, a statement confirming that the dog is purebred, the name of the breed and the dog's unique identification number. In addition, all terms and conditions of the sale, including a return or replacement policy, shall be clearly defined. The agreement shall be properly dated and signed by all parties.
- Breeders shall provide the purchaser with a reasonable written guarantee that protects the dog, the purchaser and the seller.
- Regardless of age, spaying or neutering of all dogs sold as companions should be actively encouraged.
- Purchasers should be provided with copies of all relevant documentation, including such things as CKC registration documentation, copies of non-breeding agreements, completed sales agreements, guarantees, health and vaccination records, and a set of instructions on the care, training and diet for the dog.