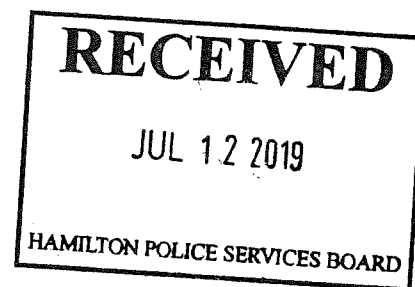




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July 11, 2019

Members, Hamilton Police Services Board  
155 King William Street  
Hamilton, ON L8N 4C1



Dear Members

The Hamilton/Burlington Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (HBSPCA) is pleased to advise the Hamilton Police Services Board that it will continue to protect animals at risk over the next six months while the Ontario Government develops new animal welfare legislation.

In March 2019, the Ontario SPCA made a decision to withdraw from cruelty investigations effective June 28th. The Ministry of the Solicitor General announced on June 28th interim measures to protect Ontario's animals. These measures ensure that no animal falls through the cracks while the Government develops a new animal welfare model. A key feature of the interim measure is a Provincial Call Centre for the public to report animals in distress at 1-833-926-4625 (1-833-9ANIMAL)

Locally, this means that HBSPCA Protection Team will continue enforcement and investigation duties in Hamilton and area. Established relationships with veterinarians, justice, health and social services, and police will continue.

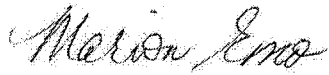
In addition, Investigators, formerly Peace Officers, will continue to educate owners about standards of care, link vulnerable animals to wellness clinics and affordable veterinary care, and, resolve hoarding situations. Last year, the HBSPCA Protection Team investigated 940 calls about animals in distress and 604 cases. As of the end of June, there were 11 animal cruelty charges before the courts.

The HBSPCA has been invited to provide enforcement and investigation services in Brantford and the County of Brant. Since June 28th, we have been working together with the OPP detachment in the County of Brant and Police Services in Brantford to ensure seamless and appropriate response among all parties to incidents.

On behalf of the HBSPCA, I thank the Police Services Board for their expressed interest in the pending changes announced in early March.

I invite you to contact me should you have any questions about the interim measures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marion Emo".

Marion Emo  
President and CEO

Cc: Lois Morin, Administrator, Hamilton Police Services Board  
Juanita Gledhill, Chair, HBSPCA