

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 12:23 PM
To: Office of the Mayor
Subject: Petition against new bylaw limiting number of household pets

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councillor,

I would like to thank you and your staff for the years of research that has gone into the new Responsible Animal Ownership by-law. I can see that a lot of work has gone into developing this new by-law, however I disagree with the last minute change in the maximum number of pets per home being restricted to four. By passing this by-law you have caused many pet owners to be in violation of the new by-law.

Pets include dogs, cats, birds, fish, reptiles, hamsters and other small animals. A limit of 4 dogs or cats seems reasonable within the city limits since they require a higher responsibility and dedication from their owners. Fish, reptiles and other caged pets have far different requirements and demands on their owners than dogs and cats. Limiting a fish tank to only four fish or reptile hobbyists to only four animals for example is far too restrictive and does not take into account the profound differences in maintaining their health and a safe environment.

We respectfully ask that reconsideration be made to amend the wording of this by-law and either not include caged small animals, reptiles, fish, and birds, or to define the maximum to specific categories as opposed to grouping pets in general.

Sincerely,