



ORGANIZATION FOR THE RESCUE OF ANIMALS
www.ora-animalsrescue.org

P E T I T I O N

FOR SHELTER REFORM AT THE HAMILTON ANIMAL CONTROL



HAMILTON ANIMAL SERVICES MANAGER Sue O'Dwyer, HAMILTON BOARD SPCA PRESIDENT & CEO Keith Scott, MAYOR Bob Bratina, & COUNCILLORS Brian McHattie, Jason Farr, Bernie Morelli, Sam Merulla, Chad Collins, Tom Jackson, Scott Duvall, Terry Whitehead, Brad Clark, Maria Pearson, Brenda Johnson, Lloyd Ferguson, Russ Powers, Robert Pasuta and Judi Partridge.

We, the undersigned citizens of Hamilton, Greater Toronto Area, and outlying areas, hereby write to petition you:

- (a) to increase or remove entirely the current limit of two pets per household;
- (b) to change the by-laws prohibiting free roaming cats and to stop picking up trespassing cats. This will remarkably reduce the number of animal intake at the Hamilton Animal Services;
- (c) to acknowledge that feral cats are not homeless, they just belong outdoors and stop therefore picking up feral and stray cats;
- (d) to implement a low-cost spay and neuter program and to launch a high-profile and effective education program emphasizing the necessity of spaying and neutering;
- (e) to implement a Trap Neuter and Release (TNR) program for feral and stray cats so as to contain the stray cat population;
- (f) to open the City of Hamilton Animal Services up to the public for adoptions and to extend the facility's opening hours which are currently Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, and Saturday, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, to make the shelter more publicly and conveniently available for pet retrievals, especially before and after standard work and commute hours;
- (g) to guarantee that animals receive prompt veterinary care which includes, but is not limited to, a full-time staff veterinarian on the premises;
- (h) and to take the decision of euthanization away from the hands of just one person. Euthanization should be used only as the very last resort and the decision to euthanize should be taken collectively by senior staff at the Hamilton Animal Services.

Once the ferals are TNR'd and therefore no longer killed, and people's pets are no longer being picked up and killed, then the only animals coming in to the Hamilton Animal Services pound would be owner surrenders and strays taken in by the public. The number of the intakes will be reduced immensely as a result, and with open adoptions and help from rescues, it would be possible to actually transform the Hamilton Animal Services into a no kill pound. The money saved from reducing the number of animals taken in and the money saved from stopping the euthanasia of healthy animals can be used towards the

