



**ONTARIO
SPCA**
AND HUMANE SOCIETY
PROTECTING ANIMALS SINCE 1827

INVESTIGATIONS



16586 Woodbine Avenue
Stouffville, ON L4A 2W3

Phone: 905-898-7122
Report Cruelty: 310-SPCA
Fax: 905-853-8643
Email: cruelty@ospca.on.ca
Website: ontariospca.ca

Charitable Registration # 88969 1044 RR0002

June 18, 2018

To Municipal Clerk,

The Ontario SPCA is launching the **2018 No Hot Pets campaign on June 21st** with the goal to educate the public on the dangers of leaving pets unattended in vehicles during the summer months and we are requesting your municipality's support.

"I left the window down for him" "I wasn't going to be gone long" We've heard it all! The issue of owners leaving their pets in their vehicles during the hot summer months, putting animals' safety at risk and even causing death, is a serious and ongoing problem across Ontario. There is **NO** excuse for leaving a pet unattended in a vehicle!

The Ontario SPCA has less than 75 officers on the road, to patrol the whole province. Due to our limited resources, we simply cannot respond to every single call and rely heavily on police and animal control to help respond to the 1000+ calls we receive every summer about dogs in cars. When we don't have an officer nearby or the call comes in after hours, it is dispatched to the local police in that area. If municipalities have an Animals in Vehicles by-law in place, their animal control officers can step in when the Ontario SPCA or police are not available to educate or lay charges under the by-law and potentially save a life.

Below is an excellent example of a by-law we are respectfully asking you to bring forth to your City Council to have passed. This would make a HUGE difference in the lives of pets in your community.

Animals in Vehicles

- 1.(1) No person shall leave an animal unattended in a motor vehicle unless: (230-14)
 - a) The animal is restrained in a manner that prevents contact between the animal and any member of the public; and
 - b) The animal has suitable ventilation.
- 2) Notwithstanding subsection 1.(1) of this By-law, no person shall leave an animal unattended in a motor vehicle if the weather conditions are not suitable for the animal to remain free from distress or injury.
- 3) Notwithstanding subsection 1.(1) of this By-law, no person shall transport an animal outside the passenger compartment of any motor vehicle unless the animal is contained in a kennel or similar device that provides adequate ventilation, adequate space, protects the animal from the elements and is securely fastened in such a manner to prevent distress or injury to the animal.

For more information on the No Ho Pets campaign, visit nohotpets.ca.

Please let us know if you can count on your municipality's involvement by emailing **nohotpets@ospca.on.ca**.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Connie Mallory
Chief Inspector
Ontario SPCA

HOT CARS CAN KILL.

Even with the window down your pet can overheat in a matter of minutes.

WHY PETS AND VEHICLES DON'T MIX:

- A dog has a normal body temperature of about 39°C (102°F). Unlike people, a dog has a limited ability to sweat to cool off. So even a brief time in a hot environment can be **life-threatening**.
- Even on a mild day, with the windows open and parked in the shade, the temperature in a vehicle can **rapidly reach very dangerous levels**.
- After reaching a body temperature of 41°C (106°F), it doesn't take long for a pet to begin suffering irreparable **brain damage or death**.
- Every summer, too many pets are left in life-threatening situations inside hot vehicles. **But you can do something about it:**

ACT FAST. SAVE A LIFE.

If you find a pet unattended in a hot vehicle, call **310-SPCA (7722)** or your local police department.

LEARN MORE AND TAKE THE PLEDGE AT:

nohotpets.ca



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A PROGRAM OF THE ONTARIO SPCA