

My name is Rod Nolan and I'm speaking on behalf of Darlene Stripe.

I am here today to request an exemption for my dogs. These animals are not simply pets, but my family, my emotional support animals. They help me to navigate and interact with the world. All of these dogs are considered by my health care professionals as "Emotional Support Animals". Enclosed you will find the supporting documentation from those physicians.

I researched the restriction of 3 dogs only in Brampton but was unable to find any rationale but that's not to say it doesn't exist. I was just unsuccessful in finding it.

I was, however, successful finding Toronto's Dog By-Law and it made sense. The basis for the restriction of number of animals per dwelling is based in the safety of the animals, which I fully agree with.

It reads: "The rules prohibit keeping an animal in "an unsanitary condition." And pets are to be given "adequate and appropriate care, food, water, shelter, exercise, attention and veterinary care."

All of my dogs are seniors and rescues. I provide them with an excellent and interesting life which is evidenced not only by the pictures but supporting documentation from numerous people. They are licensed with the City of Brampton, walked daily unless the weather is too extreme, fed well, have annual visits with vet to keep shots UTD, I groom them weekly, they don't bark excessively, very friendly and they don't disturb anyone. Above all else, they are loved. My "standard" for my dogs exceeds the "rules"

I adopted Libby at the age of 5, 6 years ago from a shelter in northern Quebec where she was used as a breeding bitch, never allowed inside unless she was going to whelp. Libby was terrified of men, tail always between her legs and head bowed down. Had she not been rescued by Quebec SOS, she would have been shot. Over time, Libby developed some confidence to occasionally allow a stranger to pet but it's taken years. Libby and I are bonded very deeply. When I first got her, I allowed Libby off-leash and I never feared she wouldn't return to me. I do leash her now, much to her disgust. Libby didn't bark the first 4 years I had her and in fact, rarely ever barks. She has a very kind gentle disposition. She is 85lbs of love. Many thanks to Rod for teaching her not all men will hurt her and to this day, Libby still wags her tail and rolls over for a belly rub from him.

Bailey, now 7, was adopted from the Gananoque Shelter 3 years ago. The same afternoon I brought her home from the shelter, I took her for a walk in Valleybrook Park where she slipped her loop leash and was gone for 2 hours. With the kind help of some folks passing by, I managed to locate her swimming in the Etobicoke Creek. Bailey refused to come out so I had to wade in after her. Her affinity for water has not changed and she will go in anywhere, any time. Bailey is one of the most loving dogs I've met and her trademark is to sit on your foot, gaze up at you with her tongue out the side of her mouth, waiting for you to pet her.

Early 2019, I began fostering dogs. I fostered two brother dogs for the Jack Russell Terriers of Ontario Rescue. The goal was to assess and advise how "suitable" for adoption they were. Entailed some

behavioural training. They are part JRT, part Pug. Senior dogs, 12 and 10 yrs old, that had been given up as the older one, Rocky, growled at their newborn baby and instead of introducing them slowly, they disposed of Rocky and Duke. Rocky only *has* one vocalization- growling-even when he's whining. At the 3 month mark, it became that Duke, the younger brother, would not be a suitable candidate for rehoming. I adopted both of them. At that time, I was not aware of the Brampton by-law restriction regarding the number of dogs allowed per dwelling.

While on our walks, we come across the same people often. Some folks are visibly terrified of dogs so I have my dogs all sit, off the path, until they walk past. I am often complimented on how well behaved they are. I've had very small children pet my dogs as well as couples who look forward every day to how my dogs respond so lovingly towards them.

I have offered to help people train their dogs as well as have had people refer others to me for help with their dogs. Enclosed you will find letters from these people. If I can help someone train with their dog, chances are, hopefully, that dog is going to have a home for life and won't end up in a shelter. Knowing that is my reward because I don't accept money. I have trained all 4 of my dogs. People are often surprised to find out that all of my dogs are both rescues and seniors.

To remove even one of my dogs from my care would stress and traumatize both them and me,unnecessarily. My dogs are living their best lives and they deserve it

Please, leave my dogs with me.