

Brampton, Nov 2, 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my neighbour, Darlene. It saddened me to find out she was ordered to give away one of her dogs. I believe this decision is unfair and will have negative consequences on the dogs' and Darlene's well-being. All her dogs are senior – rehoming them at this stage of their life would be inconsiderate, in my view.

I met Darlene a few years ago - we started talking when walking our dogs. I was impressed how well-behaved her dogs were – they listened very well, and I could see Darlene took a great care of them. Also, I see her often on her walks – she provides age-appropriate, daily exercises for her dogs. Her dogs are trained, exercised, and loved.

When I got a new puppy, Darlene asked me if she could help me train my dog as she noticed I was struggling. She never asked for anything in return – she helps me out of her kindness and love for animals. My dog adores her and is always happy to see her. The training sessions are fun, and Darlene made me a better dog owner as she made me realize that a trained dog is a happy dog.

Darlene loves animals with all her heart and advocates on behalf of them. She took in dogs that were not wanted and gave them a loving home. I do not want to think what would have happened to these senior dogs if it was not for Darlene.

Therefore, I urge you to reconsider your decision. The fact that Darlene has more than 3 dogs, does not negatively impact the dogs' well-being. As her neighbour, I can assure you that there have been no incidents related to her dogs. Her dogs are extremely lucky they have an owner that treats them like family members. I hope she will be able to continue to take great care of her pets.

Sincerely,

Alicja First

10 Nov. 2020

To whomsoever it may concern.

Hello,

I am writing to whomsoever it may concern, as I came to know about the order that obligates Darlene to give up one of her 4 dogs. I am deeply saddened by this order for her because I have witnessed how well the dogs are with her and how she treats them as a family. I am a neighbor located in the same street as where Darlene's house is located. As I am fond of dogs, I meet and greet her whenever we are head out of our houses. The dogs she foster, are well fed, groomed and well behaved. They are very friendly with my kids as well and my kids love to play with her dogs. I was told that they are senior dogs but they surely are very healthy and lovely pets that anyone would enjoy owning them.

If my recommendation could be heard, I would strongly agree that Darlene is the best "mom" for all the dogs that she fosters, as she goes above and beyond in her love for those little fur lives.

Please reconsider the order that was given to her and allow her to take care of all the dogs, because for them, no one can replace their mom, Darlene!

Thanks,

Diana David.

Donna Whittaker

Telephone:

August 19, 2020

To whom it may concern.

I have known Darlene for approximately 2 years. During that time, I have watched Darlene with her dogs and she is diligent about walking them daily and ensuring that they behave when around other people and animals. I know she focus's a lot on socialization so that both people and other animals become comfortable.

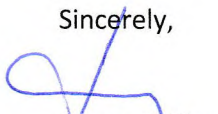
I know she works hard at training them using treats, patience and repetition. Her philosophy is that if you enjoy your dog, then you'll walk your dog. You can tell that they are well cared for because all of them are loving, healthy and friendly.

When Duke came in to her foster care, he initially had some issues (aggression, lunging etc) . With time, love and consistency, his behavior has changed and he's much calmer.

They are happy campers and I believe it's due to Darlene's dedication to them. She brushes them, cuts their nails and grooms them often, ensures that they get their vaccinations yearly etc.

I believe Darlene provides an excellent home for her dogs and they clearly adore her and I know that she loves them with all her heart, and I hope this letter will provide you with enough insight to guide your decision favorably on her behalf.

Sincerely,



Donna Miller

November 3 2020

To whom so ever it may concern

My name is Gaurang Dhebar and I live in same neighbourhood as Darlene. I know Darlene from a few years now, we meet often on the trail where she takes her amazing kids (dogs) for a walk.

To me, Darlene comes across as one selfless soul who has so much love in her heart impossible to ignore. This love is felt 10 folds for her lovely dogs when she asks them to sit quite and let strangers pass by. The dogs obey her like children would listen to their mom.

As lovely as she is, she is an amazing trainer. I have never seen dogs so well behaved when she commands them. Just brilliant. You can know how good she is with dogs when even a strange dog feels happy to obey her.

I am aware that Darlene has her health issues and one is shocked at how well she takes care of the dogs with an oxygen tank on her back and breathing through tubes when she is out. But i believe all her strength, physical and psychological, comes from the love she has for the dogs and receive the same love in return from the dogs.

These dogs are her children and like any mother, she adores them to death. These dogs are keeping her alive and lively in a scenario where a normal person would easily give up living. Even for the dogs, it would be devastating to be away from Darlene when you see how much they love her.

I very very humbly request the city to be kind to her and let her live with her entire family. Doing otherwise would crush her and could lead to an irreparable damage.

Please, Please consider.

Sincerely

Gaurang Dhebar.

KITTY RUNSTEDLER

August 25, 2020

Dear ByLaw Enforcement

I am writing this letter in support of Darlene Stripe. I have known Darlene for over 40 years. Several years ago, Darlene developed severe PTSD that had a huge impact on her overall wellbeing and ability to socialize. Prior to her mental health crisis, she was always a very outgoing and active person. This changed drastically and she was often not able to commit to social interaction and often did not leave her home. This all changed when she adopted several dogs. Since the dogs have come into her life, she has become more social, and I have noticed a significant change in her ability to cope. However, the last few months have been exceptionally stressful and the impact of potentially having these dogs taken away has been very challenging on her overall well-being.

Darlene is a very caring and responsible dog person. She rescued these older dogs who would most likely be euthanized if she did not have them, but I truly believe these dogs rescued her. Darlene also had aggressive lung cancer and had a lung removed a couple years ago. Having the dogs has not only given her mental health support, they have given her a purpose for living and kept her active. Whenever I visit, I have observed exceptionally well-behaved and healthy dogs. She is committed to giving these old dogs a loving and caring home and I believe this has given her the mental and physical support to function daily.

Please reconsider your policy and allow Darlene to continue to keep all her dogs. Your decision would make a huge impact on her mental and physical health. Should you like to speak with me for more specific examples, you can contact me by email or phone as listed above in the letterhead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kitty Runstedler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kitty Runstedler

November 3 2020

To whom it may concern

I met Darlene and her wonderful dogs about two years ago. I was trying to walk my young boxer but he was walking me. I stopped to talk to her and to meet her so well behaved dogs. ! I was in awe how obedient and sweet they all were. She asked me would I be interested in having her give me a few lessons in dog walking as I was clearly not in control of Hamish.

I was delighted with this offer and she was not asking to be paid. Just one dog lover taking pity on another.

We had lessons for a couple of months .Both my husband and I took Hamish to meet up with Darlene and she really did help us a whole lot.

I would be very concerned if she had to give up one of her dogs. How on earth can one choose! She is not in the best of health and the stress of it would be terrible. Also the dogs are not young dogs. A dog of that age has little hope for adoption. So you know what would happen

I understand there are laws to be abided by. But we must show some humanity and bend the rules in special cases such as this occasion . Let the dogs live out the rest of there lives with someone who loves them.

Margaret and John Freitas (And Hamish)

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of Darlene Stripe. I live at _____ and am a direct neighbor of Darlene. Based on what I've seen, Darlene's dogs are well taken care of. They are groomed well, exercised a few times a day and very well trained. Darlene appears to be diligent in picking up after her dogs, and in fact has done so for others that aren't as respectful. She is also always cautious around other people in case of any fears.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Thank you & best regards

Penny Sinclair

23 August 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Darlene Stripe and in opposition to recent orders from City of Brampton By-Law officers for Darlene to get rid of one of her four dogs.

I have known Darlene for about 10 years, and I have watched her grow her dog family for about the last seven. She walks them all on a daily basis, and when she is not able to walk them herself, due to extreme weather conditions, she calls on my family to fill in, so the dogs don't miss their daily exercise.

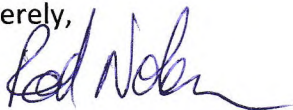
My family and I fostered Libby, Darlene's first dog, for about a month in 2015 while Darlene dealt with her own health problems. Libby was very timid when she first came to live with Darlene and would not interact with anyone else. Darlene slowly encouraged Libby to allow people to pet her and Libby eventually opened up to increased interaction as we gained her trust. I am the first male human Libby ever bonded with and to this day, Darlene encourages this relationship between us. It's still there, all these years later. Libby is precious.

Darlene seems to be driven by a desire to help the "underdogs", so-to-speak; the ones whose challenges require an extraordinary amount of dedication. I have watched her work tirelessly with all of her dogs, personally grooming and training them daily. As a result, I have watched them all develop into very well-mannered, well-socialized pets. She puts in a great deal of personal effort to give her dogs the best possible lives. She also ensures that they get regular vet checkups and keeps all their vaccinations current.

All of Darlene's dogs have a safe and happy home because of Darlene's commitment to them. Furthermore, the dogs have never been a threat to anyone at any time while under her care. Libby is very mellow, like an old grandmother. Bailey is the bouncy teenager; she's blissfully happy when a human is touching her. Duke and Rocky are like Statler and Waldorf... a bit loud and obnoxious at first glance but completely harmless. In my opinion, there is nothing to be gained by the community, nor by the dogs themselves, by breaking up this family.

I would be happy to discuss further. You can reach me at

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rod Nolan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rod" and last name "Nolan" clearly distinguishable.

Rod Nolan

August 17, 2020

Reference: Darlene (Dar) Stripe

Dear Sir / Madam

Ms. Stripe has been my neighbour for 6 years now. Dar is always considerate of others and an ideal neighbour.

Ms. Stripe is an animal lover and at present owns (4) four well behaved dogs. Dar walks her dogs twice daily with all 4 leashed, her dogs heel and respond to her every command. I have two grand kids living with me and I fully trust that they can approach her dogs safely as they sit wagging their tails. I have no problem with Dar's dogs.

Stephen Thiessen

November 4, 2020

To whom this may concern,

We met Darleen thorough Sultan, my girlfriend's dad. Darlene saw Sultan, a stranger, struggling to walk a big puppy as it pulled him down a walkway. Instantly Darlene offered to help Train out puppy Jasmine at no cost, just for the wellbeing of Jasmine's future.

Darlene did not do this for any benefit but for the love that she fosters to all our furry friends. Within 1 week of training with Darlene thought her wisdom and passion our puppy Jasmine was a completely different dog. Through the following weeks Darlene continued this training but added a new element which was the rest of her family, her 4 loving dogs. Through their obedience, extremely loving and friendly nature they were able to help socialize Jasmine within a safe trusted environment.

I cannot express how fundamental Darlene has been within such a short time of raising our puppy to have a better future. Without Darlene and her 4 loving dogs, our community would not be as bright, would not be as loving, and would not be as whole.

Sincerely,

Steven Dunnet & Zamira Lalji