

August 20, 2009

Town of Ingersoll
By-Law Committee
130 Oxford St., 2nd Flr.
Ingersoll, ON N5C 2V5

ATTN: ELAINE CLARK

Please accept this letter as our plea for consideration to by-law # 01-3989 on regulating the number of dogs permitted to dwell at one residence.

We moved into our home 4yrs ago. We moved in with two miniature cock-a-poops now aged 12yrs and 10yrs. Within a short time of moving in we purchased a male chocolate lab pup. A year later we purchased a female chocolate lab pup. We in turn also purchased a female chocolate lab pup one year ago. At no time did we think about the fact that we hadn't seen any paperwork concerning licensing of our dogs. Some towns do not license them. Also, we never once thought of a by-law being in place limiting how many dogs we could have at our home as pets.

We purchased the lab pup last year because the now 3yr old female was hit by a car 2yrs ago which left her scarred and unable to have pups after months of treatments. Her mood wasn't the best before getting the addition to our family. It has greatly improved considering she has adopted the new dog as if she were hers. I would be afraid to see the mental strain it would put the 3yr old through if we had to give up the pup.

The 4yr old male and 3yr old female are inseparable and have been almost since day one. Neither one will eat without us being with them even if it is my children looking after them while we go out. They will not touch their food until we return. They even have done this when we have left a close family friend to look after them while we went away for the weekend. We cut our trip short and came home and within minutes they were eating for us. Without us I am afraid of what would happen to either of them.

The two miniature cock-a-poo dogs are old and would be too difficult to give away as we have had both since they were pups and probably don't have much time left unfortunately.

Generally our dogs are very quiet and our yard is kept in good clean order for them. We have not had a complaint over the last 4yrs until just today. I would love to have a kennel license to comply with the by-law that I am now aware exists but have been informed because of living in a residential area we can't even apply for. Due to this restriction we are asking for special consideration to allow us to keep the five dogs that we have which they would all be fully licensed now that I know that we also need yearly licenses for them. It would be a great hardship for my children and both of us as well as for our dogs if we were to have to get rid of any of them.

C 14/Sept/2009
Corresp. a7

Please give this the utmost consideration for the well being of our family as well as the well being of our pets. It saddens all of us to think of having to choose between any of them and/or having to part with any of them as well as having to separate any of them from us or each other.

We will be awaiting your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Darlene Goodwin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and address.

Darlene Goodwin
50 Victoria Street
Ingersoll, ON N5C 2M7