

From: Stefan Oskar Neff 22 (1)
Sent: March 5, 2021 6:26 PM
To: WebInfo <webinfo@langleycity.ca>
Subject: Help Langley Pet owners stay together during these uncertain times...

Hello Langley, City Council
My Name is Stefan Neff I have lived in Langley for 22 (1) means all my life.
My postal code is V3A 1S8
Langley, BC.

I want to let you know that I strongly support Pets OK BC's petition, calling for an end to discriminatory 'no pets' policies, across BC. Your position on this matter had a large impact on how I voted in this last election. I am a registered voter in the Langley riding and voted for change on this topic and many more.

A little about my story, I have been living in a Langley Townhome with no Animal agreement for the past seven years and was given an eviction for having an emotional support dog 22 (1) during these uncertain times. We were given three days to get rid of our dog on March 3rd, 2021 or face eviction and be out by March 31st, 2021. This caused even more emotional damage 22 (1) due to this dramatic situation.

Now it's past March 3rd, 2021 we removed 22 (1) 8-month emotional support puppy and 22 (1) devastated, to say the least. Both myself 22 (1) are so upset over this situation and would really want some changes made surrounding the NO PET POLICY in Langley like they have done in Vancouver READ MORE HERE:
<https://www.rebgv.org/news-archive/vancouver-council-passes-motion-to-end--no-pets--rental-rules.html>
Vancouver city council passed [a motion](#) to end "no pet" restrictions in rental housing contracts on October 13, 2020.

Please help families like ourselves stay with their pets.

I have read countless stories from people who have moved to BC from elsewhere in Canada and abroad, who were shocked to find how hard it is to find pet-friendly housing here. Many of them are leaving because of it. Locals are going homeless or giving up their companion animals, which many rely on for mental health, and the numbers are increasing each year, due to the affordability crisis.

It's important to understand that we are asking for the RTA to be amended similar to Ontario, which has shown for the last 27 years that not only is pet-friendly housing mutually beneficial for tenants and property owners, codifying a hard stance against 'no pets' policies in the tenancy act is putting families first.

Dr. Bonnie Henry states:

1. Under the guidelines set forth by Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, British Columbians have been strongly encouraged to practice physical distancing with all but one's own household. Social distancing is particularly difficult for seniors, under-housed individuals, and those who live alone. It has become clear that pets can help ease this isolation;
2. Read here <https://council.vancouver.ca/20201006/documents/b2.pdf>

Motion - Prohibition of "No Pets" Clauses in Rental Contracts: 2020 Oct 6

1. COVID-19 has exacerbated an already existing problem: the current legislation discriminates against renters that have pets and are trying to find affordable housing in BC. The BC SPCA reports that "no pets" policies are the leading cause for surrender and abandonment of pets;
2. Ontario prohibited "no pets" policies in rental units, and this law has brought benefit to renters and pets for decades in Ontario. As the two provinces face similar pressures in rental housing, this model could be studied and applied within BC; and
3. The Renters' Advisory Committee has asked its liaison councillors to bring forward this resolution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council ask the Mayor to advocate to the province for the prohibition of "no pets" clauses in rental contracts, and ask staff to look into what

mechanisms the City can use to curb landlords' right to refuse rental on the basis of pet ownership.

Thank you for your attention!

Sincerely

Stefan Neff