

February 2, 2010

10-004

Impounded Pit Bulls: Update from Brampton Animal Services

Brampton, ON: On January 13, City of Brampton Animal Services impounded two dogs due to documentary and veterinary evidence confirming that the animals are deemed illegal pit bulls under the Province of *Ontario's Dog Owners' Liability Act, 2005*.

Under this legislation, all pit bulls born after November 29, 2005, are considered illegal. The dogs, named Brittany and Rambo, were impounded from different families under the *Dog Owners' Liability Act* and *Brampton Dog By-law 250-2005*.

In keeping with the provincial legislation, the City of Brampton gave the families until February 5 to assess their options as outlined in the legislation, including giving the dogs to another home outside of Ontario. The owners have since requested an extension, which the City is granting, appreciating that this is a difficult situation.

"The City of Brampton is bound by provincial legislation to identify and take action where the health and safety of the community may be impacted by dogs deemed illegal under the provincial law," says Mariam Mesbah, City of Brampton spokesperson. "The City is proceeding with an abundance of caution in this particular case."

The City is continuing its investigation and charges are pending.

About Brampton: The 11th largest city in Canada, Brampton has a successful, well-diversified economy and is home to more than 8,200 businesses. The City continues to retain a Triple 'A' credit rating by Standard & Poor for the third consecutive year, reflecting its debt-free position, exceptional liquidity levels and excellent economy. The City's 2010 operating budget is \$408.2 million with a capital budget of \$241.4 million. Brampton celebrates its diverse population that represents people from more than 175 distinct ethnic backgrounds who speak over 70 different languages. Offering more than 6,000 acres of parkland, Brampton takes pride in being the Flower City of Canada and won the 2008 International Communities in Bloom competition. It is also the first city in the GTA and one of only 10 in North America to have been designated as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization. For more information visit www.brampton.ca

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