

PETITION TO BAN THE SALE OF ANIMALS AT RETAIL OUTLETS

CITY OF RICHMOND, BRITISH COLUMBIA

TO:	RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF RICHMOND, BC
SUBJECT:	BAN ON THE SALE OF ANIMALS AT RETAIL OUTLETS AND RELATED MATTERS REGARDING THE SALE OF ANIMALS WITHIN CITY LIMITS
DATE:	MARCH 15, 2008

The petitioners and residents of the City of Richmond, BC request that the Richmond City Council take action to:

- a) ban on the sale of animals from retail outlets;
- b) ensure that the sale of animals be restricted to qualified registered breeders or that animals are obtained by adoption through recognized rescue organizations and shelters;
- c) ensure that detailed information on responsible ownership be provided before sale, including an animal's expected lifespan, growth, dietary and exercise needs, and the cost of ownership and;
- e) require spay/neutering of all animals before sale from qualified registered breeders

PETITION INFORMATION:

The Richmond Animal Protection Society Board is currently circulating this petition to ban the sale of animal in retail outlets in the city of Richmond and to ensure that only the sale or acquisition of animals for pets if done in a responsible manner.

This action is being taken in response to the extraordinary number of animals that are sold at local pet stores and are quickly abandoned to the outdoors or taken to local shelters. Dogs, cats and other domestic animals are often surrendered to the City of Richmond Shelter within a matter of months, weeks and often even days after the purchase of an animal from a pet store or retail outlet. The irresponsible purchase of these animals and their subsequent abandonment costs of the City of Richmond Shelter and the taxpayers incredible costs to care for and re-home these animals. In addition domestic rabbits, which are sold at low cost from many retail pet stores, are often simply abandon to the outdoors and create a population explosion as has occurred in Minoru Park. These animals suffer due exposure to the elements, have been recently shot in Minoru Park^[1] and often cause severe damage to the crops of local farmers^[2].

In order to put an end to this needless abandonment of animals and the cost it imposes on local city governments, cities in Australia have completely banned the sale of animals from retail outlets.^[3] Similarly, the undersigned residents of Richmond request that the city council taken such action to ban the sale of animals in our local area.

If you have concerns and questions about his petition and would like to assist in gathering signatures, please email board@rapsociety.com.

^[1] Bunnies shot, maimed, left for dead: It appears to be open season on rabbits in Minoru Park by John Kurucz, Special to the Richmond News, Published: Friday, February 29, 2008: <http://www.canada.com/richmondnews/news/story.html?id=8e0b6ba7-8998-465c-a697-8d5593cc5348&k=75961>

^[2] <http://animaladvocates.com/cgi-bin/newsroom.pl/read/12872>

^[3] City of New South Wales: <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/PARLMENT/hansArt.nsf/V3Key/LA20071018005>