



Notification to OBTAIN a Pit Bull Dog Licence

To: Unlicensed Pit Bull Dog Owners

Date:

Contained in this envelope:

- Your Pit Bull Dog Licence Invoice
- Document Check-list / Application for Pit Bull Dog Licence

Action required by pit bull dog owner:

- Complete the attached Mandatory – Document Check-list / Application for Pit Bull Dog Licence and bring form and any other documentation such as veterinarian's bills, etc. as indicated on the Document Check List, **in person**, with the Licence Invoice and Payment **before December 31, 2013**, to:

London Animal Care Centre
121 Pine Valley Blvd
London, Ontario
Telephone: 685-1330

Hours of Operation:
Monday to Friday: 8:00am to 8:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am to 4:00pm
Sunday: Closed

City of London Pit Bull Dog Licensing By-law:

Any pit bull dog not licensed is in violation of By-law PH-12 – Pit Bull Dog Licensing and the owner is subject to appropriate fines and charges. The fines under By-law PH-12 range from \$200.00 to \$500.00 and are noted on the reverse side.

Protect your pit bull and know your responsibilities as a pit bull dog owner:

- It is incumbent on you to be very familiar with the Provincial Government requirements under the *Dog Owners' Liability Act* of owning a pit bull, the requirements that must be met, the rules that must be followed for impounded pit bull dogs and the potential significant penalties that may be imposed by the Courts. Some details are provided on the next page for your benefit. Others can be found at:

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/about/pubs/dola-pubsfty/dola-pubsfty.asp>

FINES UNDER CITY OF LONDON PIT BULL DOG LICENSING BY-LAW PH-12:

1. Own Pit Bull Dog that is not Grandfathered	\$500.00
2. Transfer Grandfathered Pit Bull Dog not by gift or bequest	\$500.00
3. Allow Pit Bull Dog to run at large	\$500.00
4. Allow Pit Bull Dog to run at large in dogs off-leash area	\$500.00
5. Fail to renew Pit Bull Dog License	\$200.00
6. Fail to securely attach tag to Pit Bull Dog	\$200.00
7. Fail to muzzle Pit Bull Dog	\$500.00
8. Fail to leash Pit Bull Dog	\$500.00
9. Fail to notify License Agent of death of Pit Bull Dog	\$500.00
10. Fail to notify License Agent of change of ownership of Pit Bull Dog	\$500.00
11. Fail to Microchip Pit Bull Dog	\$300.00
12. Fail to sterilize Pit Bull Dog	\$500.00
13. Fail to provide License Agent with new (address / telephone number)	\$200.00
14. Fail to provide License agent with (name / address / telephone number) of Person to whom owner giving up possession	\$200.00
15. Fail to immediately Notify License Agent if Pit Bull Dog Running at Large	\$500.00
16. Fail to immediately notify License Agent if Pit Bull Dog has (bitten / attacked)	\$500.00

Reminder – Dog Owners' Liability Act – A Provincial Law (NOT Municipal By-law):

The amendments to the *Dog Owners' Liability Act* (DOLA) took effect province-wide on August 29th, 2005. The amendments include broader powers to deal with dangerous dogs in general, as well as a ban on pit bulls and restrictions on existing pit bulls. For Ontario residents who currently own a pit bull, the new legislation contains a "grandfathering" clause, which will allow existing pit bulls to remain in Ontario provided that the pit bull was owned by a resident of Ontario on August 29th, 2005 or born in Ontario between August 29th, 2005 and November 26, 2005.

The amendments prohibit anyone from owning, breeding, transferring (unless by gift or bequest), importing, fighting or abandoning pit bulls in Ontario. The definition of a pit bull includes: Staffordshire bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, American pit bull terrier or a dog that has an appearance and physical characteristics that are substantially similar to any of the aforementioned dogs. In brief the key rules that apply to all pit bulls are:

- the dog must be muzzled with a humane muzzle that is strong and well-fitted enough to prevent the pit bull from biting when not within enclosed property occupied by the dog owner
- the dog must have a fitted collar or harness with an attached leash no more than 1.8 metres in length when not within enclosed property occupied by the dog owner
- the dog must be enclosed with an enclosure that will prevent the dog from breaking out of the property when on property occupied by the dog owner (see PH-12 section 1.1 for full definition of "Enclosed Property")
- the dog must be sterilized

Should the owner of a pit bull dog not be in compliance with the requirements of DOLA, Court proceedings may be commenced for which the Act provides for a penalty of up to \$10,000 for an individual and/or up to 6 months imprisonment (up to \$60,000 for a corporation). Court proceedings could result in additional consequences including the destruction of your pit bull and a prohibition against owning other dogs. Also note that if a pit bull dog that is not in compliance or could not come into compliance with DOLA comes into the possession of the municipal pound in the City of London, the pound has limited options on how the pit bull dog must be dealt with in accordance with the *Animals for Research Act* (ARA) which specifies:

- Destroy the dog; or
- Transfer the dog to a person who is a resident outside of Ontario in a jurisdiction in which ownership and possession of the pit bull is lawful, where the person is acquiring the dog, in good faith, in order that it be used as a pet or in hunting or for work purposes.; or
- Transfer the dog in accordance the requirements under ARA (ARA, Section 7.4).