

Authority: Licensing and Standards Committee Item 4.3, adopted as amended,
by City of Toronto Council on September 21 and 22, 2011
Enacted by Council: September 22, 2011

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW No. 1163-2011

**To amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 545, Licensing, respecting the
licensing of pet shops.**

WHEREAS the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* grants the City of Toronto the authority to enact by-laws for the licensing, regulating and governing of businesses wholly or partly carried on in the City of Toronto and for the regulating of animals within the City; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of animal welfare, consumer protection and in aid of law enforcement, a register is currently required to be kept by pet shops recording the details of where and from whom their dogs were acquired; and

WHEREAS, these same considerations apply to the acquisition of cats as well as dogs; and

WHEREAS, in order to halt the proliferation of puppy mills, it is necessary to ensure that all animals kept for sale in licensed pet shops and otherwise are, in certain circumstances, acquired only from certain reputable sources;

The Council of the City of Toronto HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 545, Licensing, is amended by:

1. Deleting § 545-255 and replacing it with the following:

§ 545-255. Receipt and certificate of health to be provided upon sale or disposal of dogs and cats.

- A. Whenever a keeper sells or otherwise disposes of a dog or cat, he or she shall give to the purchaser a receipt showing the name and address of the vendor and the purchaser, the date of the sale, the sale price, and the breed or cross-breed, sex, age and description, including colour and placing of markings, if any, of the dog or cat, and an up-to-date certificate of health from a veterinarian with respect to such dog or cat.
 - B. Every keeper who is obliged to provide a receipt showing the matters set out in § 545-255A shall post, in a conspicuous place, a notice provided by the Municipal Licensing and Standards Division advising customers of the required content of the receipt.
2. Adding the following as § 545-255C:
 - C. Every keeper shall provide to every purchaser of a cat or dog, a health assessment report from a veterinarian for all cats and dogs kept in the store that receive veterinary care.

3. Deleting § 545-256 and replacing it with the following:

§ 545-256. Register concerning dogs and cats to be kept.

- A. Every keeper shall keep a register, in a format satisfactory to the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing Standards in which shall be entered in the English language, a record of each dog and cat purchased or otherwise obtained. Each entry shall be made at the time each dog or cat comes into such keeper's possession, and shall include, in addition to the date of purchase, a full description of the dog or cat, together with the name, address and description of the person from whom it was purchased or otherwise obtained. The keeper shall retain the register in respect of each such transaction for the period of 12 months thereafter.
- B. Every keeper shall ensure that the aforesaid register is not mutilated or destroyed and shall keep it open to inspection by the Municipal Licensing and Standards Division, or any person designated by the Executive Director, at all times during business hours and shall make it available to be removed at any time for inspection or for use in the courts, if necessary. The keeper shall not be responsible for neglecting to make the necessary entries in the said register while it is removed from his or her premises for this reason.

4. Adding the following as § 545-262:

§ 545-262. Retailers to obtain animals from specified sources.

Every retailer, including any person or business that sells more than 10 dogs per year, must obtain animals from one of the following sources only:

- i. municipal animal shelters;
 - ii. registered humane societies;
 - iii. registered shelters or rescue groups; or
 - iv. from people who have surrendered their pets to them at no charge.
5. This by-law shall come into effect on its enactment.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 22nd day of September, A.D. 2011.

FRANCES NUNZIATA,
Speaker

ULLI S. WATKISS,
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)