

From: [best.friends.best.friends](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: My comments for 2017.MM27.40 on March 28th, 2017 Toronto City Council
Date: Monday, March 27, 2017 12:21:36 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 28, 2017 City Council meeting on item 2017.MM27.40, Review of Chapter 349, Animals, for regulation on dog collars – by Councillor Jon Burnside, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

These comments are offered on behalf of the Canadian Association of Professional Pet Dog Trainers, in my capacity as Director-At-Large (Communications).

Comments:

The Canadian Association of Professional Pet Dog Trainers does not believe it is an appropriate protection of dogs to ban or approve specific tools. Our emphasis is instead on the treatment of the animal in a kind, thoughtful manner that considers the well-being of the dog and the relationship between owner/handler and dog. Our Code of Ethics calls upon members to "Discourage and reject gratuitous or non-instructive physical or psychological punishment of dogs, instead advising or instructing clients, where appropriate, on humane, instructive means of communication with their dogs," and separately, to "Discourage and reject inhumane or unkind physical or psychological treatment of dogs (as distinct from punishment in [the above] item."

Existing laws already ban the *abuse* of animals, including the *abuse* of tools. Training experts agree, and are submitting to you today, that it is abuse to fail to provide a dog with adequate opportunity for exercise. Training tools that afford management and control, used humanely, are often central to the owner's ability to provide adequate exercise. Our members make it a mission to provide education to dog owners on how to kindly and humanely train and manage their dogs to make that possible - despite a wide range of tools and techniques. The Canadian Association of Professional Pet Dog Trainers urges the City of Toronto to similarly focus on treatment of animals, not the devices themselves.

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