



City Clerk's Office
City Hall 13th floor, West Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
clerk@toronto.ca

March 27, 2017

Dear Sir/Madame,

As a recognized Canadian authority on purebred dogs and ardent proponent for responsible dog ownership, The Canadian Kennel Club and our members were pleased to be part of the consultation process regarding the City's proposed amendments to Animals, Chapter 349.

CKC applauds the efforts of the City to strengthen its animal control bylaw, particularly where dangerous dogs are concerned, and we agree with your decision to ban tethering a dog with a choke, chain or prong collar. However, we think the decision to ban these collars entirely is misguided and falls short of its intent to target irresponsible dog owners.

For over 125 years, the CKC has supported our members' use of a variety of collars in shows, trials, and training, and assure Council that canine competitors are not under any duress. These integral and effective tools permit thousands of Toronto trainers, exhibitors and evaluators to carry out their work in a safe and effective manner.

We also note that the Municipal and Licensing Standards Committee did not recommend a complete ban and 55% of the respondents to the City's survey also disagreed with a complete ban on the named collars. Therefore, we respectfully request that Council conduct a more extensive review on this subject.

The Canadian Kennel Club supports positive and humane training methods for dogs and believes that positive owner influence and education are paramount throughout the training process. Any training device may cause fear and or pain when used by an irresponsible or neglectful person. We also recognize that certain training devices may be necessary as a matter of life or death of a dog, or for the safety of the dog or the owner.

The Canadian Kennel Club also encourages all dog owners to educate themselves and seek the advice of our experienced and knowledgeable CKC members to help guide them regarding training that will best suit an individual dog. CKC members serve as canine ambassadors, educating new and prospective dog owners about health, training and social responsibility.

CKC is committed to helping Torontonians become caring and responsible dog owners and would be pleased to offer additional consultation regarding the use of the collars, in support of responsible dog ownership. I can be reached at lnovak@ckc.ca.

Sincerely,



Lance Novak
Executive Director

cc: CKC Board of Directors