



We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

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To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this letter confirming the Windsor/ Essex County Humane Society's ongoing opposition to the breed specific portions of the *Dog Owners' Liability Act* and the *Animals for Research Act*. In our experience, BSL isn't effective for a variety of reasons. It's extremely difficult to enforce, as research has shown that even experts have difficulty determining a dog's breed based on appearance alone. It ignores the importance of responsible pet ownership, which is a far more significant issue when it comes to a dog's risk to the community. And it wastes shelter resources by forcing us to take extraordinary steps to transfer friendly, healthy dogs out of the province simply because of their breed when there are wonderful homes in Ontario willing to adopt them.

Our position on this issue hasn't changed, and in fact, our experience since BSL was enacted in Ontario has strengthened our concerns and opposition. We urge the members of the provincial legislature to review and update these laws, and ensure that Ontario's dogs are judged by their (and their owners') behaviour, and not by their breed.

Sincerely,

Melanie Coulter
Executive Director