



BEAVER CREEK FARM SANCTUARY (BCFS)

*Providing sanctuary to companion and farm animals
who have been abused or neglected...*

... and finding rescue animals loving forever homes.

Registered Charity Animal Rescue
828253435RR0001

Purpose & Agenda

Purpose: Beaver Creek Farm Sanctuary is requesting an exemption from the animal bylaws that govern Fort Erie as well as four amendments.

Agenda:

- BCFS Stats
- BCFS in the Media
- Registered Charity Status
- Guiding Principles of Ideal Bylaws to Combat Pet Population
- Current Bylaw Limitations – need for change
- Requested Bylaw Changes

Saving the world one animal at a time...

- BCFS rescued and rehabilitated over **100 animals**.
- Over 97% of BCFS rescues went on to find forever homes
- All rescues are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, de-wormed, and all medical needs are met prior to adoption (including costly dental surgeries).

BCFS in the Media

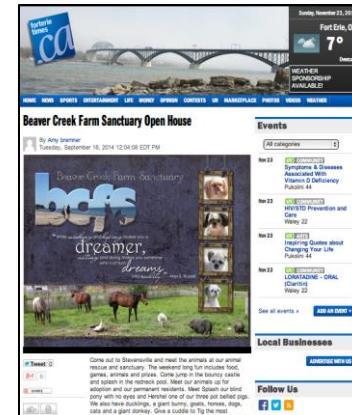


Cogeco TV wins Star Award for Short Documentary on BCFS!



Forever Network TV Series featuring BCFS

- Filming since Fall of 2014
- To be aired in fall of 2015 on The Pet Network.



Beaver Creek Registered Charity

- Robust adoption and foster process is in place. For each & every adopter or foster home BCFS requires:
 - Two personal reference checks
 - Vet check
 - Home visit
- As a CRA, we are governed and judged by high standards in federal government
- Offer High School volunteer hours
- Beaver Creek has proven itself to be a legitimate animal rescue that adds value to our community!

Guiding Principles of Ideal Bylaws to Combat Pet Population

1. Increase Adoptions

- ❑ Collaboration between SPCAs and rescues NEED to work together -- critical for success
- ❑ Gets dogs out of shelters:
 - ▣ adoption events – animals visible in community
 - ▣ match right dog to right family.

2. Increase animals sterilized

- ❑ All animals spayed and neutered (OSPACA clinics)
- ❑ Dog registration incentives for altered & microchipped
- ❑ Microchipping gets lost dogs home

Guiding Principles of Ideal Bylaws to Combat Pet Population *continued*

3. Increase Animals Retained in Homes

- Animals subjected to stressors while in shelters leading to at least one serious behavioural problem in the first month post-adoption.
- 20% of dogs in shelters are returns.
- Expand **foster home program** to get dogs out of shelters and into homes.

Current Bylaw Limitations: Need for Change

- ❑ Limits BCFS's ability to save animals.
- ❑ The current Bylaws, as written do not allow BCFS to be licensed as a kennel with the benefits of associated dog limits.
- ❑ Limits BCFS's ability to place animals in foster homes. The Bylaw severely limits who can qualify to be a foster home (i.e. 5 acres, zoned agriculture, \$125 annual licensing fees)
- ❑ Bylaws require personal information to be disclosed when information should be kept confidential and secure

Requested Changes

1. Animal Limits
2. Remove Alpacas/Llamas from exotics
3. Expand kennel to include Domestic Charitable Rescues
4. Update Fees

1. Bylaw Animal Limits

- **Requested Change:** No limit for foster homes or agricultural properties – as long as animals spayed/neutered and microchipped.
- Research shows bylaw limits are a challenge for many homes wishing to foster **AND foster homes** are the only way to make this system work.
- Bylaw drastically limits the use foster homes.

Concerns that come with change

- **Puppy Mills: Very Strict Spay/Neuter Policy**
 - No animal ever adopted out from any organization unaltered.
- **Hoarding situations:**
 - These animals are not in good physical condition
 - Violates Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.
 - Bylaws in place to stop hoarding: unsanitary conditions, excessive noise and interference with property are unlawful in nearly every community. Health Protection and Promotion Act, and the Fire Protection and Prevention Act.

2. Update Exotic Animal Bylaw: Camelids (Alpaca & Llamas) Not Exotic Animals

- **Requested Change:** Reclassify Camelids as non Exotic Animals
- Yes, the camelids are not native to Canada, but due to the desirability of their fiber they have been accepted as “livestock”.
- In Canada and the US considered livestock.
- Many experts willing to educate that alpaca are not considered exotics – including our large animal vet.

3. Domestic Charitable Rescues

- **Requested Change:** Add Domestic Charitable Rescues in section 4 Part II (a) of By-law No. 119-07
- **Domestic Charitable Rescue:** a facility operated, owned or maintained by a charitable organization registered with the town of Fort Erie for the purpose of providing and promoting the welfare, protection and humane treatment of animals with the goal of finding forever homes through an adoption program.

1. THAT Section 3 of Part II of By-law No. 119-97, as amended, is further amended by adding thereto, immediately following Section 3(b), the following:

“(c) No person shall possess or harbour a rescue foster dog without a licence.”

2. Section 4 of Part II of By-law No. 119-97, as amended, is repealed and the following section substituted therefor:

“4. The provisions of Section 3 are subject to the following:

(a) Sections 3(a) and (b) herein do not apply to any person keeping a kennel of purebred dogs registered with the Canadian Kennel Club, Incorporated, so long as the said kennel is registered and the kennel, pens, or runs are operated and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this by-law.

4. Fees

- **Requested Change:** Domestic Charitable Rescue Fee should not exceed that of a kennel license and is one fee to cover all the sanctuary animals and foster homes of said Registered Charity Animal Rescue.
- No individual foster home should ever be expected to pay a fee to care for a rescue animal. That fee should be addressed at the Registered Charity Level.
 - Homes should be encouraged to foster.

Thank You!

