



Courtesy Viktorija G.

OMVQ ; targeted sterilization protects public, not vets

Wednesday march 19th 2014

I am writing in response to the article from Stephanie Azran and the comments from Dr.Senay

The caacQ position for reducing the pet overpopulation is spay and neuter must be accessible. No restrictions that would prevent anyone who is the guardian of a cat or dog to have it sterilized this is the key element in regards to the solution to pet overpopulation in Québec. In its latest report the CFHS recommends that no restricted access should be imposed.

Studies demonstrate that cost is a factor in having your pet sterilised

The service provided at an accessible sterilisation clinic is a onetime visit. The Humane Alliance of North Carolina who spay and neuter 22,000 cats and dogs a year reported in a survey that 85% of their clients said that cost was a factor and 88% had never seen a vet. A private vet clinic located within a 10 mile radius of the Humane Alliance has confirmed that his business has suffered no loss of revenue and actually increased his client base. Local pounds have reported a

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reduction of 79% in their kill rate since the Humane Alliance has opened its doors to the community.

I wish to clarify some statements by Dr. Senay

- *The client pays for a service that it's done based on state of the art technologies*
Spay and neuters does not require state of the art technologies,

- *Future mobile units would have to be organised and run by a veterinarian.*
The OMVQ guidelines state a municipality or shelter can own a clinic be stationary or mobile. The veterinarian owns the medical file of the patients, medication & drugs and is responsible for surgery protocol. Most spay and neuter clinics in North America are owned by not for profit organizations.

- *If you cannot afford to neuter a cat at \$120.00 it's not helping people to further reduce the price of spaying/neutering because this does not guarantee the life of that pet.*
Once the animal is neutered the humane community do not have to worry about kittens and puppies entering the shelter. If the owner cannot support a \$1500.00 surgery this is their choice.

- *If they pay a lot it's because it costs us a lot*
Accessible sterilization clinics only do spay's and neuters so the overhead is reduced and the veterinary team are dedicated to a high quality high volume practice.

Hopefully this information will reassure certain individuals who are concerned about the eventual opening of such clinics and I invite the community to visit www.humanealliance.org and view the video and come to their own conclusion on the need for such services.

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