

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

- 43 professional groups were selected to testify at the public hearings held in Ontario. *42 out of 43 professional experts testified against the ban.*
- Reverse onus is now in law. This means you are automatically guilty until **you prove innocence**, a clear violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- Illegal search and seizure is now law;
- Since it is very difficult, if not impossible to determine a dog's breed without proper documents, BSL can and does target a multitude of innocent dogs based solely on appearance. BSL does not take into consideration how responsible a dog owner is, or how well socialized, well behaved or trained their dog may be.



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

- Visit www.SupportHersheysBill.com and send your letter of support. Let your MPP know you do not personally support BSL
- Educate yourself: visit the links provided
- Educate others: pass on information, studies and links to friends and family
- Have an open mind: not everything one hears in the media is based in fact;
- Participate in rallies/protests. Bring your co-workers, friends and family;
- Remember **you can** make a difference and save an innocent dog's life!



SHORT LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST BSL

Animal Behaviour Consultants
Algoma Dog Fanciers
American Dog Owners Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Animal Farm Foundation
Animal Alliance Of Canada
Animal Hospital Of Kitchener-Waterloo
ASPCA
Association Of Animal Shelter Administrators Of Ontario
Banned Aid Coalition 2019
Barrie Kennel & Obedience Club Inc.
Beaver Creek Animal Hospital
Best Friends Animal Society
Bracebridge Animal Hospital
Brantford & District Kennel & Obedience Club
Canadian Association Of Professional Pet Dog Trainers
Canadian Dog Judges Association
Canadian Federation Of Humane Societies
Canadian Kennel Club (CKC)
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
City of Ottawa
City of Hamilton
Dog Legislation Council of Canada
Gemini K9 Obedience Inc.
Georgina Kennel And Obedience Club
Grey-Bruce Veterinary Association
Humane Society Of Canada
Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society
Limestone Valley Animal Hospital
National Canine Research Council
National Companion Animal Coalition
North American Flyball Association
Ontario Coalition Against BSL
Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA)
Ottawa Citizens Against BSL
Ottawa Humane Society
Ottawa Kennel Club
Responsible Dog Owners of Canada
Rottweiler Club Of Canada
Royal Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of Canada
Toronto Humane Society
United Kennel Club



Support Hershey's Bill


Breed Specific Laws DON'T Work



EDUCATE
DON'T
DISCRIMINATE

www.supporthersheysbill.com

WHAT IS BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION (BSL)?

- Commonly referred to in Ontario as *the "pit bull" ban*;
- Ontario's BSL prohibits the ownership of American Pit Bull Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers and *any* dog born after November 2005 that could be deemed "**substantially similar**";
- All "pit bull" type dogs born before November 2005 must be sterilized, licensed and registered as "potentially dangerous";
- Any dogs born after 2005 deemed to be "pit bull" type can be automatically seized (with or without a warrant) and either destroyed or sent to an animal research facility. Since 2005 thousands of mixed mutts and many litters of puppies have been unjustly killed. 

WHAT IS A "PIT BULL"?

The term "pit bull" has become an umbrella term used to describe dogs with similar physical characteristics to the three registered banned breeds. This term is used to profile other registered or mixed breed dogs by appearance. In spite of what people are led to believe....

There is no such breed as a "pit bull".

HERSHEY'S BILL

To date there have been six private members bills tabled at Queens Park to repeal the breed specific portions of the *Dog Owners' Liability Act* (DOLA) and to amend *The Animals for Research Act*. A new bill, Bill 147, was tabled by the current Ontario government on November 18, 2019. The bill is currently moving through parliamentary process.

Hershey's Bill originally presented by MPP Cheri DiNovo was named to honour a gentle "pit bull" named Hershey. She was used as a breeding dog in a puppy mill. Hershey was rescued by a shelter where she was adopted by her angel, Jennifer. Jennifer socialized, trained and showered Hershey with love and affection. Hershey went on to become a **Certified St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dog**. Hershey was very attached to the seniors she would visit, as they were to Hershey. In 2005 this "pit bull" type dog was **presented with an award** from the **Toronto Humane Society** for her outstanding therapy work with seniors and her restricted breed status in Ontario. BSL forced Hershey into retirement and she could no longer work as a therapy dog in Ontario. She was now considered a "dangerous" dog. Hershey's Bill honours Hershey a "pit bull" who changed the hearts and minds of those who knew her.



Hershey

WHY BSL DOES NOT WORK

- ❗ Does not deal with irresponsible owners;
- ❗ Very loosely written law putting many purebred and mixed breed dogs at risk;
- ❗ Targets innocent family dogs. Current law is based on appearance not behaviour;
- ❗ Dogs can be seized from good homes and euthanized without question or warrant;
- ❗ Professional research worldwide has shown aggression is not based on any particular breed or type of dog;
- ❗ Overall bite statistics have not dropped since BSL was enacted in 2005;
- ❗ The ban targets dogs, not owners and does not educate children or the general public on how to safely interact with dogs of all breeds and types;
- ❗ Costly to taxpayers. Wastes court time;
- ❗ Onus needs to be on irresponsible owners with both fines and laws directed at individuals who do not properly train, care for or socialize their pets.



"PIT BULL" FACTS

- ❗ Used for therapy, service, search & rescue;
- ❗ Sgt. Stubby, a "pit bull" type dog served along side his master during WWI;
- ❗ APBT scored a 87.4% passing rate with the American Temperament Test Society, Inc. (AST: 85.2%; SBT: 91.2%)(April 2016);
- ❗ "Petey" from the Little Rascals was an American Pit Bull Terrier mix;
- ❗ Helen Keller's therapy dog was an American Pit Bull Terrier.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS' PHILOSOPHY

- ❗ My dog is my beloved companion, not my accessory or possession;
- ❗ My dog is vaccinated, spayed/neutered and receives regular veterinary care;
- ❗ My dog is fed a canine diet appropriate to his size, breed, energy and activity level;
- ❗ My dog has been well socialized from puppyhood to a wide variety of people, objects and situations;
- ❗ My dog is trained with positive reinforcement, not punishment and is under my control;
- ❗ My dog and I receive practical guidance in training from professionals to solve problems;
- ❗ My dog does not run at large. I exercise my pet as much as his nature requires;
- ❗ My dog is never isolated by tethering or excessive kennelling;
- ❗ My dog is never left unsupervised with small children or small animals;
- ❗ My dog is licensed, leashed and muzzled according to Provincial and municipal requirements.



INFORMATION & RESOURCES

- www.supportershaysbill.com
- www.endtheban.ca
- www.nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com