



THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE
PROTECTION
of Fur-Bearing Animals

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Trudeau government to allow cat and dog fur into Canada

Ministry relies on lobby group for opinions on international trade

VANCOUVER – Tens of thousands of Canadians said they wanted to see an end to the importation and sale of dog and cat fur to their country, but the government is relying on a non-binding policy from a lobby group instead of taking action.

The Ministry of Trade last night posted their formal response to petition e-123, sponsored by MP Don Davies, calling on the government to prohibit the importation of dog and cat fur, in which they stated, “the Fur Council of Canada, the national association representing the Canadian fur trade, that the Council has an established policy that Canadian designers, manufacturers and retailers do not work with, buy or sell products containing fur from dogs or cats.”

“Not only does the Fur Council have absolutely no involvement in the importation or sale of fur products from overseas, but this is the exact same response sent by the Harper government in 2009,” states Lesley Fox, Executive Director of The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers). “The same statement was provided by then-Minister of Trade Gerry Ritz. Why is the Ministry of Trade continuing to listen to a lobby group instead of the investigations that prove dog and cat fur makes its way to Canada, and the tens of thousands of signatories on this and past petitions?”

The United States, European Union, Australia, and other countries have all enacted policy that bans the importation of these products – though Canada has remained steadfast in their refusal to do so, despite promises of a culture of change from government leaders. Investigations by the major media outlets such as the Toronto Star have tracked the movement of dog and cat furs from some Asian countries, where the fur and meat of domestic dogs and cats is harvested and sold commercially with little to no animal welfare standards.

“It’s time for the Trudeau government to stand ahead of the past antics of Harper’s lobby-friendly policies and listen to the people,” Fox says. “It’s time for a change in this archaic lack of policies. After all – it is 2016.”

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Copies of past letters indicating verbatim lines of text, as well as similar text, are available upon request.

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About The Fur-Bearers

Since 1953, The Fur-Bearers have advocated for fur-bearing animals in the wild and in confinement across Canada, providing practical solutions to communities facing wildlife conflict, working to develop humane policy relating to fur-bearing animals, and speaking against the cruelty of the commercial fur trade. They are a non-profit based in Vancouver, British Columbia.
