

Press release



The city of Montreal still supports Le Berger Blanc and endorses the way they treat animals

For immediate release

Major disappointment for SPA Canada concerning the announcement of animal management in Montreal, made this morning during a press conference presented by Mr. Richard Deschamps, Vice-chair of the executive committee of the City of Montreal and in charge of the city services

Montreal, December 15th, 2011 - Since the broadcasting of the undercover investigation in Le Berger Blanc, by an investigator from SPA Canada, in the TV program "Enquête" in April of this year, SPA Canada, the major player in this issue, organized several demonstrations, put political pressure on the authorities, educated the public and rallied the citizens and high-profile figures like Georges Laraque, Joelle Morin, Marc-André Labrosse, Paricia Tulasne and Jacques Godin in this cause (see bergerblancrueaty.com Web site). Since the beginning of this campaign, the requests of the population stay the same: the immediate closure of "Le Berger Blanc" as well as any profit-making pounds.

Despite positive projects announced this morning by the city, such as the creation of a municipal Animal Control Facility and the implementation of an awareness campaign with the aim of encouraging sterilization and adoption, we remain very disappointed that the city does not take the totality of its responsibilities announcing that it will continue to deal with "Le Berger Blanc" and will work in partnership with this company after the implementation of its "Animal Control Facility". The population wants to see the closure of "Le Berger Blanc" and wants that the city will take full care of the animal service. " What we understood this morning goes against our requests " comments Gabriel Villeneuve, campaign manager.

Animal management is a municipal responsibility. The alternative solution, is not to relieve contracts to organizations for-profit or non-profit, but in whole to the city itself. This system is already in place and works well in Calgary and Toronto, where animal management is directly managed by cities and maintained by employees of the city, in the same way as dog parks and libraries.

(See next page)

SPA Canada will be happy to grant media interviews.

For further information, please contact:

Gabriel Villeneuve

Campaign Coordinator

613 875-7721 / 514 808-7330 or gvilleneuve@spacanada.org

Press release



The city of Montreal still supports Le Berger Blanc and endorses the way they treat animals

The city also announced that it does not intend to banish the sale of animals in pet shops. Considering that Quebec is classified among the places where there are the most factories with puppies in America (more than 2000) and where these puppies are mainly sold in pet shops, this ban would have direct consequences on the problem of puppy mills, and would decrease considerably the number of animals sent to the municipal pounds.

With the announcement of the new regulations of MAPAQ, which makes nothing to counter the problem of puppy mills, (see press release of SPA Canada on December 14th, 2011) the government shows us, one more time, that it supports the cruel practices of puppy mills and for-profit pounds on its territory.

The citizens of Quebec supported by SPA Canada will continue their actions as long as “Le Berger Blanc” will not be closed, as long as profit-making pounds can operate in the province, as long as the city will not create a pound completely managed by the city and as long as pet shops will continue to sell animals.

We invite the public to contact directly the office of mayor Gérald Tremblay (514-872-3101) to tell him their dissatisfactions and demands.

SPA Canada will be happy to grant media interviews.
For further information, please contact:
Gabriel Villeneuve
Campaign Coordinator
613 875-7721 / 514 808-7330 or gvilleneuve@spacanada.org