

**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

**INJURING OR KILLING LAW ENFORCEMENT ANIMALS**

Approved: June 29, 2006

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WHEREAS law enforcement animals provide critical functions daily in support of Search and Rescue missions, Community-Oriented Policing, Emergency Response, Public Safety, as well as their role in promoting positive relations between the police and the community;

WHEREAS law enforcement animals, by virtue of their training and duties, are thrust into dangerous situations with no more legal protection than domestic animals;

WHEREAS the relationship between police officers and their animal-partners is unique, personal and intense;

WHEREAS law enforcement animals continue to be severely injured or killed in the line of duty;

WHEREAS there is no offence in the Criminal Code of Canada for willfully injuring or killing a law enforcement animal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Canadian Association of Police Boards urge the Minister of Justice to amend the Criminal Code of Canada with respect to cruelty to animals to include a separate offence for persons who poison, injure or kill a law enforcement animal while it is aiding a peace officer engaged in the execution of his or her duties or a person assisting a peace officer.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Canadian Association of Police Boards express its support for the offence provisions outlined in Section 182.7 of Bill C-50.