May 30, 2016

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Attention: City of Vaughan Council (To be added to the agenda of the whole committee on June 1st, 2016 at 9:30am).

Dear City of Vaughan Council:

As a nursery owner in Vaughan, I am currently looking after a colony of 13 cats living on a private property adjacent to my business. Upon noticing these feral cats, I immediately trapped each one and brought them to my local veterinary to have them neutered/spaded. I paid for these services out of pocket, because I did not want the cat population to increase. This happened in 2014 and if I had not taken initiative back then to have them fixed, the number of cats in my care would have been considerably more. In addition to having them fixed, I also built a shelter and continue to ensure these cats are fed on a daily basis.

I care for these cats, because I refuse to watch idly while these poor animals are forced to fend for themselves in search of food and shelter (particularly in the cold winter months). I know for a fact that there are other concerned citizens like myself who are also taking care of other colonies throughout Vaughan. Vaughan is currently facing the problem of increasing feral cat populations and it needs to be addressed.

In this regard, I fully support Monika Sudd's effort to implement a TNRM program to help control the population of feral cats in Vaughan. Sadly, there are many irresponsible people who abandon their pets when faced with the demands of owning an animal; more problematic, however, is the City of Vaughan's reluctance to support a program that will prevent these cats from multiplying and facing an uncertain future.

If kind-hearted people are willing to do what they can to care for these animals, it is the City of Vaughan's responsibility to do their part as well. Please do the moral thing and support Ms. Sudd's initiative.

Thank you for your time and attention,
Carlo Ammendolia