

JUNE 8/07
For the love of dogs

To the editor:

Notwithstanding the plentitude of issues facing Canada's remote northern reserves, there are also many barriers facing less remote northern communities like Thunder Bay.

Of particular interest to me in this letter, are the local economic barriers preventing a significant percentage of the population of Thunder Bay from accessing veteri-

nary services for their pets.

There is a noticeable absence of locally sponsored or subsidized spay/neuter programs geared towards various age and income groups, as well as a general absence of animal welfare educational programs geared to schools and community organizations.

Projects such as these would prevent the city pound and humane society from overflowing, allowing them more time for preventative work.

They would lighten the burden of other caring animal rescue organizations and individuals who, through personal perseverance, feel like the problem is never ending; the

suffering never stops. Would it not be a win-win situation for all those involved, least not the animals, to target the root of the problem?

Local veterinary associations and strong animal welfare organizations like the Keri Chase Foundation (who advertises they have fundraised \$88,000 to date, donating \$2,700 in 2006) have the expertise and resources to make these solutions happen. Am I alone in this feeling?

Is there something more we can all do to help make this happen?? Are there already programs out there that no one knows about?

*Karen Bester,
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