

# INSTITUTE STATEMENT ON PETS ON CAMPUS

APRIL 30, 2018

## **Institute Statement:**

The British Columbia Institute of Technology (the “Institute”) is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and accessible environment for its students, employees, contractors, and visitors.

BCIT recognizes the need for specially trained animals that assist persons with disabilities (“service animals”), as well as animals used for approved research and teaching purposes (“research and teaching animals”). Service animals, and research and teaching animals, are permitted in Institute buildings, vehicles, grounds, and at Institute events.

**It is BCIT’s strong preference that with the exception of service animals, and research and teaching animals, animals not be brought onto any of BCIT’s campuses.**

## **Pets**

All pet owners must:

### Before bringing a pet to the workplace:

1. Communicate with all members of the department to confirm that no one has any health or personal challenges that would adversely impact their ability to work - do not assume having a pet around is acceptable to everyone. Employees are encouraged to communicate any concerns directly with their Supervisor or Manager.
2. Communicate with your Supervisor or Manager to ensure that the pet would not adversely impact the department, workplace and/or delivery of service.

### While the pet is on campus:

1. Maintain control of, and remain with, the animal at all times.
2. Ensure the animal is leashed or otherwise appropriately restrained at all times.
3. Immediately clean and dispose of animal waste in an appropriate and sanitary manner.
4. Ensure the animal is licensed and vaccinated (if applicable).
5. Ensure that the animal does not disturb the peace or enjoyment of other persons.
6. Immediately remove the animal from Institute grounds if the animal disturbs the peace or enjoyment of other persons.
7. Comply with all applicable local animal control bylaws.

Animals found tethered, unattended, or abandoned or unattended in vehicles will be subject to intervention.

Animals are prohibited from entering Guichon Creek.

With the exception of service animals, and the Student Association “Doggy De-stress days,” animals are not permitted in any areas where food is being served or prepared, including cafeterias, kitchens, or lunch rooms; in addition to restrooms, labs, shop areas, classrooms, learning or teaching spaces, or meeting rooms.

## **Service Animals / Research and Teaching Animals**

All owners of service animals, and individuals responsible for research and teaching animals must:

1. Maintain control of, and remain with, the animal at all times;
2. Clearly identify the animal as a service animal or research and teaching animal;
3. Immediately clean and dispose of animal waste in an appropriate and sanitary manner;
4. Comply with all applicable local animal control bylaws.

## **Liability**

A pet owner who brings a pet onto campus accepts sole financial and legal responsibility for any damage, injury, or other harm caused by the pet to any person.

The pet owner will also indemnify the Institute, should the Institute be found legally liable for any damage, injury or other harm caused by the pet.

Any cleaning or sanitation costs will be the responsibility of the owner.

## **Enforcement**

Department and school managers may implement site-specific guidelines for their work areas.

The Director, Safety, Security and Emergency Management (or his/her delegate) is responsible for responding to complaints relating to issues covered by these guidelines. Any concerns are to be brought to the attention of the Director, Safety, Security and Emergency Management.

Situations of aggressive pet behavior may be investigated by SSEM to determine the cause for the aggression.

## **Relevant Documents and Legislation**

- British Columbia *Human Rights Code*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 210 (as may be amended from time to time)
- WorkSafeBC *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* (as may be amended from time to time)
- British Columbia *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act*, S.B.C. 2015, c. 17 (as may be amended from time to time)
- British Columbia *Guide Dog and Service Dog Regulation* B.C. Reg. 58/2017 (as may be amended from time to time)
- Burnaby and CARI Campus – City of Burnaby, Animal Control Bylaw 1991 (as may be amended from time to time)
- Aerospace Technology Campus – City of Richmond, Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7932 (as may be amended from time to time)
- Annacis Island Campus – Corporation of Delta, Animal Control Bylaw No. 6893, 2010 (as may be amended from time to time)
- Marine Campus – City of North Vancouver, Dog Tax and Regulation Bylaw, 2010, No. 8113 (as may be amended from time to time)
- Downtown Campus – City of Vancouver, Animal Control Bylaw 9150 (as may be amended from time to time)