

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE **PROTECTION** of Fur-Bearing Animals

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'About time' MNR considers trapping regulation changes, says advocacy group Simple notifications for dog owners, reporting of trapped dogs, little to ask

HAMILTON - A national animal advocacy group is urging Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Bill Mauro to take immediate action to protect the majority of trail users from traps.

In a recent statement, MPP Mauro noted he would look at trapping regulations following the death of a Labrador retriever. But Mr. Mauro may not understand the true scope of the issue.

"We have no idea how many dogs are killed in traps each year," says Michael Howie, spokesperson for The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers). "Mr. Mauro has no idea. The trappers associations have no idea. We only learn of these incidents when they're reported in the media."

There are no requirements or incentives to report non-target catch, be it companion animals or other fur-bearers. There is no system in place to track this kind of data, nor is there even a central repository for reporting.

"Ms. Strain went through a horrific experience, one that others across Canada unfortunately experience," Howie says. "What she is asking for is a reasonable concession, particularly when it's acknowledged that the vast majority of trail users are recreational – and not trappers.

"Mr. Mauro has long ignored the animal advocacy community – but it appears he's willing to listen now. So we're saying this, loud and clear: it's about time that these archaic regulations be updated with the true majority of Canadians at heart, not the minority made up of trappers."

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Since 1953, The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals has worked with landowners and municipalities to find humane, non-lethal solutions to wildlife conflict, as well as raising awareness about the truth of the fur industry. With thousands of members and tens of thousands of supporters through social media, The Fur-Bearers have shown that humane alternatives work – and will continue to work.

CONTACT

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