

December 11, 2009

Dear Commissioners and Councillors:

Re: Petting Zoo Farmyards Not Educational

I ask would it not be reasonable to assume that in order to provide a truthful education program all the relevant issues must be provided – the whole story?

There are those who want to change the petting zoo focus and claim that this could also help preserve farmland and farming practises. The Farmland Defence League has told me that part of their plan would include showing any city chicken farmers how to treat them. They also claim that people don't know that "milk comes from a cow not a container"?

First, Stanley Park is obviously not farmland. If needed, community gardens could be used for agriculture education - not animals and parkland. The City of Vancouver was to prepare rules about proper care and housing re: backyard chickens. Teaching respect for animals can come from nature walks and volunteer work at animal sanctuaries.

Secondly, will people be shown milking practises? Will cows be confined for milking exhibits? Will they show the chaining and isolation of calves taken from their moms so people can drink their milk? Will they tell all about the unwanted male calves sold for a buck or two at auctions (if they don't die en route)? In addition, there is the plight of animals in battery cages, gestation crates, farrowing stalls and more. This is all part of the cruelty that is inherent in the dairy and meat industries.

After looking at the following plight of these animals, I ask you can there be any true farm animal education program without showing these issues? How could people make humane and healthy food choices without knowing how the animals are treated, the human health hazards and the environmental degradation (that causes over 30% of Global Warming)?

As you look at what they must endure please keep in mind that approximately one million calves alone are born annually in Canada with an approximate 8 to 10 % mortality rate within 24 hours called "stillbirths" (Canwest DHI). Approximately 50% of the remainder are mainly unwanted males. They are confined and/or sent to auctions.

The Pro-Zoo Facebook administrator said that it is "gruesome" and would not support showing it. The Farmyard Defence League spokesperson said that he thinks the public should see it. On one hand there must be the whole truth and on the other hand that would not be a fun park attraction. The City must not permit vested interest groups and businesses to make these decisions. The petting zoo "farmyard" should be closed.

We hope that they City of Vancouver will develop an improved Stanley Park Ecology Centre with wildlife education and adventures. There is a diversity of free wildlife treasures in Stanley Park. We must not miss this opportunity to promote Stanley Park and other Vancouver park ecosystems.

Thank you,

Peter Hamilton
Lifeforce Founding Director
(604)649-5258
lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com
www.lifeforcefoundation.org

Please take a look at these posters (Note: The inherent industry cruelty applies to both traditional and “organic” dairy industries)

Chaining a Dog is Animal Abuse.



BC Dairy Industry calves are kept for months on 3 foot chains.

**So Why Be
Cruel to These Little
Doggies?**

Stop the Suffering! Drink Soya Milk.

www.LifeforceFoundation.org

Milk Special: \$1 Calves

Milk Industry Byproducts



Be Kind to Animals:
Drink Soya Milk!



lifeforcefoundation.org
Copyrighted Lifeforce/Peter Hamilton

“Bob Veal” is Animal Abuse.



**Days old calves are taken from their moms. Many die.
They are sold at auctions for slaughter.**

**Stop the Suffering!
Eat Veggie Burgers.**

www.LifeforceFoundation.org

Dairy & Veal is Animal Abuse.



Females chained for months on 3 foot chains and males sold to auction.



Confined in filth. This BC farm is an Avalon "organic" milk supplier.



Stop the Suffering! Eat Veggie Burgers.

www.LifeforceFoundation.org



No Holiday for These “Hams”



BC Pork Industry keeps pigs chained and confined for life.

**Stop the Suffering and Eat Healthy!
Eat Vegetarian!**

www.LifeforceFoundation.org



Please read the leaflet: Milk Not So Delicious

<http://lifeforcefoundation.org/files/MilkNotSoDelicious.pdf>

Please see videos: "Little Doggies" and "Milk Machines"

Little Doggies

An inside look at a Canadian dairy factory farm. A look at calves taken from their moms and kept on 3 foot chains for months. Chaining dogs like this is illegal so why be cruel to these little doggies.

http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=41

Milk Machines

A look inside the Dairy Industry in Canada. Animals treated as "Milk Machines". (Note: the farmer saying that cows DO NOT like being milked.)

http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=43

Calf slaughter video/ A little bit of veal is in every glass of milk

<http://www.straight.com/article-270661/vancouver/glenn-gaetz-little-bit-veal-every-glass-milk>



Lifeforce's Save Our Species Global Warning Logo.