

## COMMUNITY

# Rabies vaccination clinics open after raccoon found positive

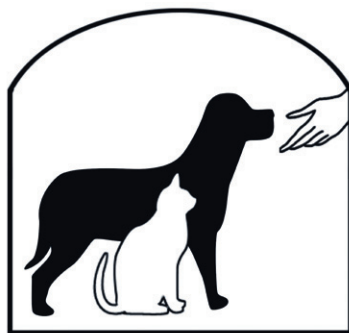
There have been no cases of raccoon rabies in southern Ontario since 2005.

Cases have been reported in skunks, foxes and bats, but not raccoons. This has been attributed to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) program of dropping bait with an oral vaccine along the U.S./Canada border to prevent the spread of raccoon rabies from New York state.

And it has worked—until a few weeks ago, when a raccoon that was picked up by Hamilton Animal Control was found to be positive for rabies. This unfortunate situation was complicated by the fact that this raccoon attacked two dogs that were in the van with it and neither dog was up-to-date on rabies vaccine.

Since that incident four other raccoons have tested positive for rabies and

more cases are feared. Raccoons, as we all know, are everywhere and often enter backyards. Public Health officials recommend keeping your pets and yourself away from wild animals. They also strongly recommend that dogs and cats be current with their rabies vaccine.



**UPPER CREDIT HUMANE SOCIETY**

In view of the current situation, the Upper Credit Humane Society and Bold Canine in Erin have joined forces to provide a rabies vaccination clinic for cats and dogs at Bold Canine's facilities in Erin. This clinic is sponsored by a local veterinarian and will be held on Sunday, Jan. 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information on the clinic contact Bold Canine or the Upper Credit Humane Society.

For information on rabies exposure contact your local Public Health unit.



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**Parents and community invited to provide input on delivery model of English and FSL programming**

Parents/guardians and community members are invited to provide input regarding the delivery model of English and French as a Second Language (FSL) programming.

From January 6 to 29, 2016 an online questionnaire will be available on the Halton District School Board website at **www.hdsb.ca**

To learn more about the Halton District School Board's current challenges concerning this issue, refer to the information posted on the website.



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