

# Some people are legally exempt from wearing belts

By Dave Chmara

By law, everyone in Ontario is required to wear a seat belt (or, for children, be secured in a child safety seat).

However, in certain very specific circumstances, some individuals are exempt from this law. Although they are legally exempt at certain times, they place themselves at greater risk by not wearing their seat belt.

## Who is exempt, when and why

**Taxi Cab drivers**, when carrying passengers for hire, are exempt as an added measure of protection from potentially dangerous passengers.

**Police Officers**, when transporting someone in custody, are exempt to help protect themselves from potentially dangerous passengers. The person in custody is also exempt.

**Employees or Agents of Canada Post Corp.** when performing rural mail delivery are exempt as this enables the driver to deposit mail in the boxes freely.

**Delivery Route Drivers** in the drop-off zone are exempt if the delivery driving speed does not exceed 40 km/h and the driver is frequently getting in and out of the vehicle. This allows for easier, more efficient delivery.

**Fire-fighters** when conducting specific work activities when occupying a seated position behind the driver's cab (but not if they are in the cab). Some types of work, necessary when travelling, can make it difficult to wear a seat belt (i.e. rolling up a hose).

**People with certain medical problems** in possession of a medical certificate stating that due to their size, build, or other physical characteristics or for other medical

reasons they cannot wear seat belts. They are exempt because of their health related reasons.

**Ambulance Attendants** conducting specific work activities when riding in the rear compartment of an ambulance are exempt because this allows the attendant to respond to emergencies within the vehicle.

**All drivers** when driving in reverse are exempt because some seat belts do not allow freedom of movement.

Some drivers are exempt from the responsibility of securing small children. Although this exposes children to additional risk, alternate solutions should be made where possible to provide the child with the maximum amount of safety under the circumstances.

**Taxi drivers** when transporting children under 18 kg (40 lbs.) are exempt because of the difficulty in supplying and installing suitable child safety belts.

**Ambulance drivers** are also exempt when transporting children under 18 kg (40 lbs.) for the reasons stated above.

**Drivers of vehicles** transporting children under 18 kg (40 lbs.) in a vehicle leased on a short term basis (i.e. less than 3 months) or in vehicles registered in another jurisdiction are also exempt for reasons stated above.

All other drivers, when seated in positions with seat belts, must use the complete seat belt assembly provided (i.e. lap and shoulder belt). The belt must be worn properly.

If five people travel in a four seater vehicle, one person may legally travel unrestrained.

**Children under 23 kg (50 lbs.)** can have shoulder belts tucked behind them and just wear lap belts. This is to prevent the shoulder belt from cutting across their necks.

**Toddlers**, or children between 9-18 kg (20 to 40 lbs.), must be in a child safety seat in their parent's or legal guardian's vehicle. In another person's vehicle they can use a lap belt. At this age, a child is safer in a child safety seat, however, it is not always possible to install the seat in another vehicle.

**Infants** between birth and 9 kg (20 lbs.) cannot sit up alone so there is no safe alternative to a child safety seat; therefore, they must always travel in a rear-facing child safety seat.

The driver is responsible for all passengers under the age of 16 years travelling in the vehicle.

The fine for not wearing an appropriate restraint system, or not wearing it correctly, can be anywhere from \$40 to \$200, although it is usually \$53.

All child safety seats must meet the Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213, and must be used according to the manufacturer's instructions.

If a school bus is equipped with seat belts for each passenger they must be worn. However, because of the structure of the vehicle and the compartmentalization of the seats, excellent passive protection is offered in post-1981 school buses without the use of seat belts.

Experimental buses, with lap belts and rear-facing seats, have been tested by Transport Canada and discussion on the outcome will soon be made public.

# Massage therapy for pets

By Alice Scott

One of the best ways to relieve stress is to have a massage. This can apply to your dog or cat, in fact it may be just what the doctor ordered.

Older pets benefit from the stroking and plying of bones and muscles. A good rub down could also ease the pain that arthritic cats and dogs suffer.

Age isn't a barrier when it comes to a massage. You pet can sometimes over exert himself, or if he has been hunting or to a dog show, develop stiff muscles.

A kind touch and word can mean more than toys or food to any pet.

There are a few basic guidelines to follow.

Stay away from the spinal cord. Dogs and cats have very sensitive back areas.

Do not exert unnecessary pressure, but work your pets muscles lightly and gently in a circular pattern.

While massaging your pet check for any sores or lumps. This may be the only time you will discover these things on your pet which may prevent any serious health problems.

Your pet should be completely relaxed after a massage, so now is a good time to brush him, clean ears or cut his nails.

Your pet will look forward to this quality time and feel healthy and happy.



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## PUBLIC NOTICE Township of Schreiber

Take notice that the Municipal Council of the Township of Schreiber, will take into consideration the passing of, and if approved, will pass at its meeting to be held on the 14th day of November 1989, or at an adjourned meeting thereof, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the afternoon, at the Council Chambers, Municipal Office, 608 Winnipeg Street.

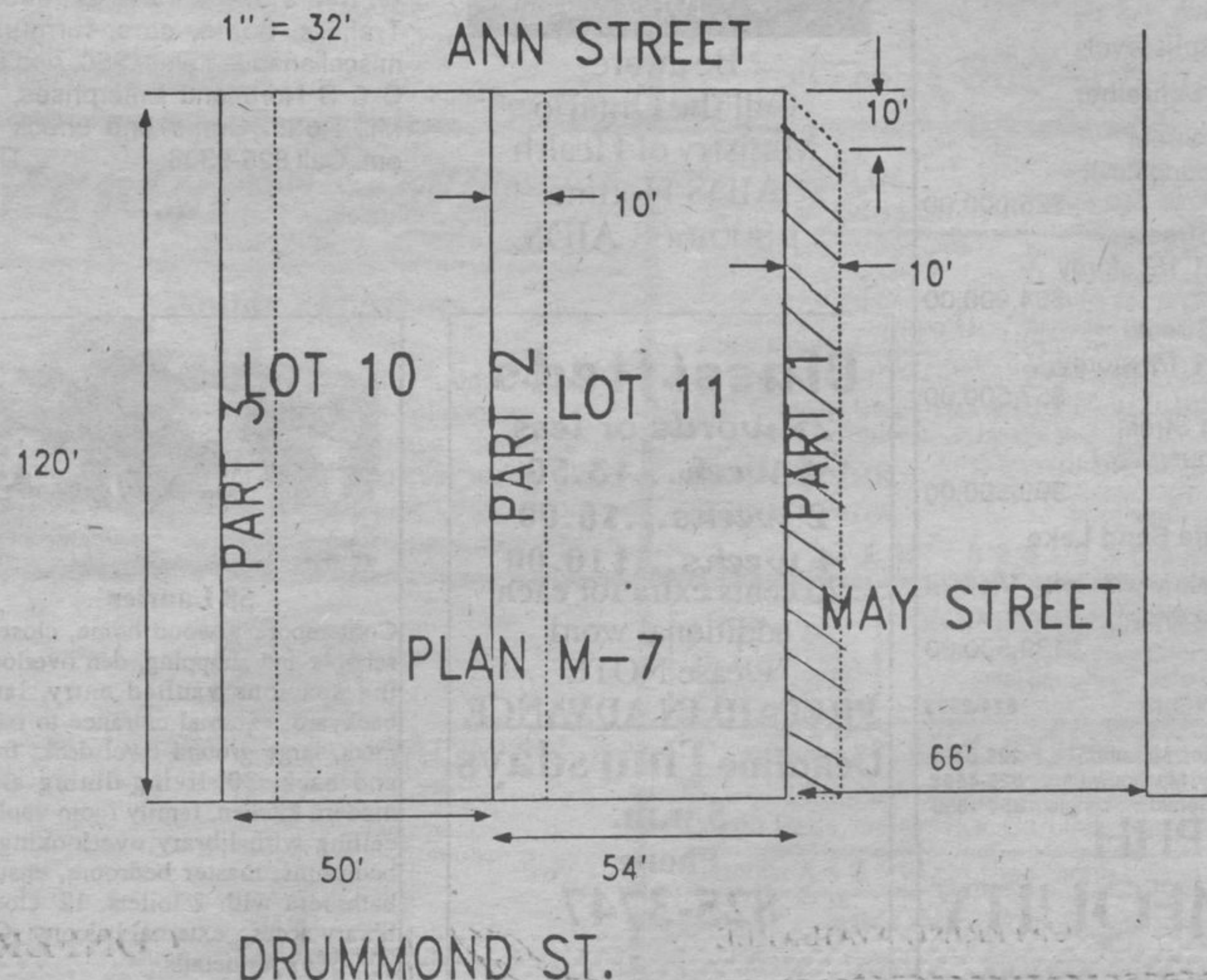
A By-Law to stop and close part of a public street or highway more particularly described as follows;

All and singular, that certain parcel or tract of land and premises lying, being in the Township of Schreiber, in the District of Thunder Bay, and the Province of Ontario, and being composed of part of MAY Street, such part being situate on the Westerly side of May Street and being immediately adjacent to the east lot line of Lot 11, Plan M-7, Drummond Street, and such part of May Street to be closed, being 120' x 10' x 110' x 14.14'.

And take further notice, that the said Council will at the time and place above mentioned, hear any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected by the said By-Law, and who applied to be heard. The said By-Law may be inspected during business hours or by any interested party at the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, Township Municipal Office, 608 Winnipeg Street, Schreiber, Ontario prior, to the passing thereof.

Dated at Schreiber, this 4th day of October, 1989.

A.J. Gauthier Clerk-Treasurer



## Free Foot Care Clinic

The McCausland Hospital will be offering a free foot care clinic for nail cutting and packing, and advice on foot care. This procedure will be done at the Hospital on Tuesday, October 24, 1989 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Hospital Emergency Department, and on Wednesday, October 25, and Thursday, October 26, 1989 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Schreiber Medical Centre.

For appointments, please call the Hospital at 825-3273, Ext. 130

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<b>TERRACE BAY OFFICE</b>	<b>THUNDER BAY OFFICE</b>
7 Simcoe Plaza (Lower Level)	Suite 410 The Chapple Building
Terrace Bay, Ont. P0T 2W0	101 N. Syndicate Ave.
Telephone (807) 825-9379	Thunder Bay, Ont. P7C 3V4
(807) 825-9395	Telephone (807) 623-7961
Facsimile (807) 825-9506	Facsimile (807) 623-4417

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