

doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org

Minister.SOLGEN@ontario.ca

melanie.milczynski@ontario.ca

victoria.Crocker@ontario.ca

-----

Re: Welfare Concerns, Unpaid Barn Rental, and Custodian Liability

To Animal Welfare Services (PAWS),

My name is ---- . I am the owner of a privately owned barn located at the address listed below. I am writing to formally request an **animal welfare assessment and direction** under the **Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019**, regarding **two horses currently being kept on my property**.

#### Property owner information

**Name:**

**Phone:**

**Property address:**

#### Animals and location

Two horses currently owned by **Stephanie Redlick and/or Sammy Redlick** are presently housed in my barn at the above address.

#### Nature of the arrangement

- The barn was rented on a **self-board / space-only** basis
- **No services are provided by me**  
(no feed, no water, no mucking, no care, no supervision)

- This is **not a boarding arrangement**
- As no services are provided, I understand that the **Innkeepers Act does not apply** to this situation

### **Breach of agreement**

- The agreed-upon rent for the barn space has **not been paid**
- I have **repeatedly requested payment and/or removal of the horses**
- The agreement has been **breached**
- I have **revoked permission in writing** for the horses to remain on my property
- Despite this, the horses **have not been removed**

### **Welfare and liability concerns**

I am increasingly concerned about:

- The **welfare of the horses**
- My **legal exposure** under Ontario law
- Being deemed a **custodian** under the **Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act**

I understand that under **Section 1(1) of PAWS**, a custodian includes a person who has **control over the place where an animal is kept**, and under **Section 15**, custodians have a **duty of care** and must not permit animals to be in distress.

I am **not the owner of these horses**, and I am **not able or willing to assume responsibility for their care**. I am concerned that allowing the horses to remain on my property without resolution places both the animals and myself at risk.

## Request to PAWS

I am respectfully requesting that PAWS:

- Attend my property to **assess the welfare of the horses**
- Determine whether this situation constitutes **neglect, abandonment, or risk of distress**
- Issue any **orders** deemed appropriate
- Provide direction regarding **removal or seizure** if compliance is not achieved
- Clarify **custodial responsibility** so that I am not left in legal uncertainty

The horses are effectively being used to **force continued access to my private property** after rent has not been paid and permission has been revoked.

## Documentation available

I can provide:

- Proof of property ownership
- Records showing unpaid rent
- Written notice revoking permission to keep horses on the property
- Communications requesting removal of the horses
- Photos or videos of the barn and current conditions

## Closing

This request is made in good faith to ensure:

- The **health and welfare of the horses**
- **Compliance with PAWS**

- Protection of myself as the property owner from unintended legal liability

Please advise on next steps or attend the property as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,