



PETA

**PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS**

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November 1, 2007

Barbara Sondag, Interim Town Manager
230 Main St., Ste. 208
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Dear Ms. Sondag:

I am writing on behalf of PETA and our more than 1.8 million members and supporters regarding Brattleboro's proposed ban on public nudity following a demonstration in which PETA members stood naked in the town center for a "Bare Skin, Don't Wear Skin" demonstration. Instead of banning nudity, the best way to keep animal rights protesters at bay would be to ban the sale of fur.

While most people are happy to see naked men and women, they are opposed to wearing fur. And while baring one's own skin doesn't hurt anyone, wearing an animal's skin causes suffering that will shock the conscience of any kind person.

Animals trapped in the wild for fur may suffer for days in steel-jaw traps before dying of exposure, frostbite, shock, blood loss, infection, or attacks by predators. Mothers desperate to return to their young often chew off their caught legs trying to free themselves. Survivors are strangled, stomped, or bludgeoned to death.

On fur farms, animals spend their lives confined to cramped, filthy wire cages, where they are exposed to all weather conditions. Many of them go insane, pacing endlessly or mutilating themselves. They are killed by suffocation, electrocution, or poisoning. Many animals are electrocuted by having rods inserted into their rectums and 240 volts sent through their bodies. The animals convulse, shake, and often cry out before they have heart attacks and die. These crude killing methods aren't always effective, and sometimes animals "wake up" while they are being skinned.

I have enclosed a DVD that documents the cruel treatment of animals in the fur industry. Please take a few minutes to watch the footage so that you can see for yourself the suffering that makes the fur trade a disgrace.

Brattleboro's decision to ban the sale of fur would be forward-thinking and moral, would bring your town positive attention, and would keep PETA's naked protesters away. And when Brattleboro bans the sale of fur, PETA would be happy to send our furry-animal-costumed emissaries to host a champagne celebration at town hall or another venue of your choosing. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Matt Rice
Senior Campaign Coordinator

AN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION DEDICATED
TO PROTECTING
THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS