

# **CANADIAN RELOCATION SYSTEMS PETS IN RENTAL PROPERTIES**

## **"Sorry no pets"**

If you want your dog, cat, fish, bird, or other pet with you in your new apartment, these words are disappointing. Here are some things you can do to have the best chance of keeping Fido, Fluffy, or Polly with you. We have listed some places that will help you find more information about this sensitive issue. Ontario is currently the only provinces in Canada that has a landlord tenancy act that allows pets.

## **Be a Responsible Pet Owner**

Make sure your pet gets all shots required by law and has regular check-ups at the vet, and keep your pet's medical records together.

## **Get Letters of Reference**

A letter of reference from your current or previous landlord can be quite useful, as can one from your veterinarian. Why not put together a pet resume (you can check out a sample resume from the Humane Society for ideas)?

## **Carry Pictures**

Carry pictures of your pet with you when you're looking for your new home? Make sure the pictures are clear and show your pet in his or her best light. The personal touch can win over many people -- and landlords are people, too.

## **Make Your Case**

You can introduce your pet to the potential landlord using your portfolio and some handy pictures. Highlight your responsibility, your previous landlord's comments, and your willingness to pay a deposit or slightly higher rent. Which leads us to...

## **Be Prepared to Pay More**

Many properties where pets are allowed require an extra security deposit or charge a monthly rent for the pet. This is the landlord's prerogative. They see animals as potentially destructive and want to be covered in case of damage. If a potential landlord seems hesitant about letting your pet stay, offer to pay an extra deposit or a little more in rent each month.

## **Shipping your Pet**

<http://relocatecanada.com/petcarriers.html>

As you begin making arrangements for your move, the answers to your many questions about relocating your family pet will depend upon many factors and you can find some answers here.

## **The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies**

<http://www.cfhs.ca>

Is the national voice on animal welfare. A good place to start by checking out your local SPCA and see if they have any "Pet Friendly" rental listings.

**OSPCA**

<http://www.ospca.on.ca/>

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