Press Release: International Partnership for Dogs Calls for Collective Actions for Health and Welfare of Pedigree Dogs

This Press Release is available in Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, and Spanish.

The International Partnership for Dogs (IPFD) is calling on stakeholder groups – including dog show enthusiasts, kennel and breed clubs, legislators, dog owners, veterinarians, welfare advocates – from all regions and countries to come together to address issues currently impacting the health, welfare, and breeding of dogs.

Our article, <u>Reframing Current Challenges Around Pedigree Dogs: A Call for Respectful Dialogue, Collaboration and</u> <u>Collective Actions</u> (also available in Dutch, Finnish, French, German, and Spanish), responds to a wave of recent legislative actions, especially in Europe. Although primarily focused on brachycephalic (flat-faced) breeds, regulations may eventually impact all pedigree and non-pedigree dogs.

"This is a call for each one of us to examine how our personal attitudes, attachments, and beliefs impact these discussions, says Dr. Brenda Bonnett, CEO, IPFD. "And it is a call to work collectively for what is truly in the best interest of dogs and the people who care for them."

A key part of IPFD's mission is to encourage, initiate, and facilitate collaboration among key stakeholders in the dog world to enhance dog health, well-being and welfare, and support human-dog interactions. "IPFD is a multi-stakeholder, international organization," says Dr. Pekka Olson, IPFD Chair. "And it is perfectly positioned to encourage and facilitate open, respectful dialogue and collective actions in the best interest of both dogs and people." Many of today's challenges have been part of discussions at and actions from IPFD's International Dog Health Workshops. The new IPFD International Working Group on Extreme Conformation in Dogs is one such initiative.

IPFD has compiled extensive resources to advance the conversation called for in this article. Together with collaborators from various sectors, we are creating a roadmap for the future, i.e. to help us to <u>Think Globally, Act Locally.</u>

"While we understand and respect the differences in attitudes and realities in different regions and across stakeholder groups, we also know there is common ground and shared purpose," Bonnett adds. "Everyone who has any interest in dogs, pedigree dogs, and the world of 'dogs and people' is encouraged to become engaged in addressing challenges. This article and accompanying resources will support this process."

The International Partnership for Dogs (IPFD) is a non-profit organization leading a global, multi-stakeholder effort to address issues affecting dog health, well-being, and welfare. Our main platform is DogWellNet.com. Our people include a Board comprised of individuals with respected international reputations, and a small but committed team of consultants in several countries. Volunteers from our Partners and Collaborator organizations and a network of experts are integral to what we do.

Our Contributors, Partners, and Sponsors include national kennel clubs, international cynological organizations, groups with breed specific interests, educational/academic and professional organizations, and key players in the pet industry. Together we foster collaborative action to achieve our shared goals, support human-animal interactions, and benefit all dogs worldwide.

For More Information:

Follow developments and find further resources on **DogWellNet.com** and learn about the IPFD.

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