

FNIHB- OR Nursing Policy and Procedure

Section: **Administration** Policy Number: **I-15**
Subject: **Pets in Government Vehicles** Issued: **March 31, 2015**
Revised:
Distribution: **All Nursing Facilities**

1. POLICY:

- 1.1 Pets are not permitted in Government Vehicles. The only exception would be that of a service animal.
- 1.2 If a service animal is transported in a government vehicle the service animal must be accompanied by its handler at all times. Management must also be aware and approve the accommodation.

2. PRINCIPLES:

- 2.1 Government vehicles need to be used by many individuals. Need to consider those individuals who suffer from pet allergies.
- 2.2 FNIHB-OR faces increased costs for maintaining and cleaning vehicle interiors when pets are permitted to stay in nurses residences or transported in government vehicles.
- 2.3 The requirement to share vehicles, and/or another staff member's allergies (who would use the vehicle at a later date) prohibits transient staff from bringing a pet with them in a government vehicle when on an assignment.

3. DEFINITIONS

Government Vehicles: vehicles owned and maintained by the Health Canada

Nurse: Registered Nurses, Registered Practical Nurses, and Nurse Practitioners

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 If the service animal fails to control its bodily eliminations, the handler is responsible for immediately and properly cleaning up and disposing of the waste. This applies to vehicles and accommodations, whether indoors or outdoors.
- 4.2 The handler of the service animal is responsible for keeping the interior of the vehicle in a clean and odourless condition. All vehicles will be inspected prior to the end date.
- 4.3 The handler of the service animal is responsible for the cost of any extra cleaning or repairs that become necessary because of the service animal.

5. RELATED POLICIES:

FNIHB-OR Policy: Animals in Health Centres, I-03

Approved by:	Effective Date: March 31, 2015
Director of Nursing, Ontario Region Date:	
Regional Executive, Ontario Region Date:	