

FNIHB- OR Nursing Policy and Procedure

Section: **Administration** Policy Number: **XXX – XX**
Subject: **Pets in Government Vehicles and Accommodations** Issued:
Revised:
Distribution: **All Nursing Facilities**

1. POLICY:

- 1.1 Pets are not permitted in Government Vehicles or Accommodations. The only exception would be that of a service animal.
- 1.2 If a service animal is transported in a government vehicle or cared for in a government accommodation, the service animal must be accompanied by its handler at all times.

2. PRINCIPLES:

- 2.1 Government vehicles and accommodations 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 accommodations, furniture and vehicle interiors when pets are permitted to stay in nurses residences or transported in government vehicles.
- 2.3 The requirement to share accommodations, common ventilation systems in a block of units, and/or another staff member's allergies prohibit transient staff from bringing a pet with them when on an assignment. Similarly, pets are not allowed to visit or be "pet-sat" in a nursing residence.
- 2.4 Pets outside of the clinic or accommodations may frighten some clients and staff.

3. PROCEDURE:

- 3.1 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, whether indoors or outdoors.
- 3.2 The handler of the service animal is responsible for keeping the interior and exterior of the accommodation in a clean condition. Exterior waste must be disposed of promptly and in a proper manner.

3.3 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.

3.4 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.

4. REFERENCES:

Approved by:		Effective Date:
Ontario Regional Nursing Officer	Date:	
Regional Director Ontario Region	Date	