

Good morning,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding neighbourhood fireworks displays throughout Oakville. I live in [REDACTED] Oakville, where a house on the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] puts on an extended fireworks display during all holidays. The fireworks are extremely loud and go on for several minutes. I have two dogs, one is elderly and the sounds terrify him. I have resorted to giving him strong medications from the vet, but since he is older, the drugs are not a great solution for his long term health. If this is the impact on my dogs, I cannot imagine the PTSD caused to new Canadians who have come from areas of conflict.

Another concern with the fireworks is the coyotes who run the streets, most likely disturbed by the loud noises as well. We already have to be on high alert for coyotes throughout the day, this is just another situation where coyotes prevent us from leaving the house with our dogs. My dog was attacked and bitten by a coyote a few years ago (Hixon and Woodhaven Park Drive, reported to Town) and the coyote population has grown since then.

Celebrations such as Canada Day and Victoria Day have left us sheltering in our basements, windows and doors closed in order to “ride out” the fireworks celebrations. For my family, neighbourhood fireworks displays are not a safety concern, but a mental health one.

I have no issue with fireworks in areas such as Bronte Park, run by city-approved professionals but I ask that you please consider banning fireworks for purchase and use in residential neighbourhoods.

Thank You,

Erin Craig