



Position Statement

Maximum number of dogs permitted in the care of a member of the All Canadian Pet Services Network.

Responsible pet care means providing quality care to all clients and pets in the custody of the professional. ACPSN, as a professional organization, must impose limitations on the maximum number of dogs in the care of the member.

In considering the limits to impose, ACPSN has sought guidance from other dog walking associations worldwide, municipal bylaws, recommendations from brokers providing insurance for care, custody and control, and recommendations of our members.

Policy:

A member of the All Canadian Pet Services Network who provides dog walking services shall have no more than six (6) dogs in their custody at any one time during provision of services.

During the provision of off-leash walks, the member will not leave any dogs in a vehicle during provision of services to other dogs (i.e. rotating the dogs permitted in the off leash area)

Exceptions:

Where the bylaws of the municipality in which they are conducting business specify a number less than six (6), the member shall abide by the municipal bylaw

Where dog walking services are to be provided on the client's private property, and the client has more than six (6) dogs, the member will exercise caution in providing care to the larger number, and shall keep them restrained to the client's property through use of a leash or fenced in yard.

Where the dogs in question are miniature or toy breeds, the member will consider all factors including behaviour, aggression and socialization before considering an increase in the number of dogs in their care. In such instances, the member will have no more than eight (8) dogs in their custody at any one time. The member will not provide off leash walks to any more than six (6) dogs at any one time.

Where the dogs in question are larger breeds, the member will consider all factors including behaviour, aggression, socialization and combined weight.