

## Brent Larmer

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**From:** M. Michelle Nadon  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 10:14 AM  
**To:** Brent Larmer  
**Subject:** Commodification of Animals

Dear Cobourg Town Council:

I have a deep concern and I'd like my comments to be read aloud in the Town Council public setting. To wit:

It has come to my attention through Facebook that the Cobourg Community Centre plans to host a "baby animal exhibit" February 9th through 11th.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind Town Council that it is 2018. It is becoming increasingly unacceptable to use animals for entertainment, and I really want to encourage the Town to take a bold stance and stop this "exhibit". Petting Zoos such as the likes of "Little Ray's Reptile Zoo" are known to be highly under-regulated. They should not be encouraged. The only "setting" that would be appropriate for these animals is a "species-specific sanctuary setting", which I guarantee you, Little Ray's is not.

Further, there is the question of moral agency. Animals are not objects placed on this earth for our enjoyment. Each is a sentient creature, with a destiny of their own. Baby animals belong with their mothers in safe, natural environments, with as little human exposure as possible.

And please don't even bother trying to take the "it's educational" route with me. That's what the internet is for, and/or books. Would you expose your own baby for "people to enjoy at their leisure", in a "family-friendly, hands-on environment"? This is barbaric. Freak-show-ish.

I ask you, in the name of all that is humane, to practice compassion for animals, and to please not let this event go forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

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M. Michelle Nadon

**Domestic animals require a lifetime commitment. Farm animals need empathy and understanding. Wildlife needs to be respected and protected. Marine mammals deserve their freedom. Please practice compassion for all animals.**

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