

### **Important Notice to Incoming 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Students Regarding Pets**

The Housing Department has noticed two emerging trends with regards to pets. The first is that more and more students are desirous of bringing their pets with them when they come to Dominica than previously obtained; as such the demand for accommodation allowing pets has increased. The second is that increasingly landlords are unwilling to accommodate pets; which means that concurrently the supply of housing accommodating pets has decreased, presenting an obvious dilemma.

Those landlords that previously accepted pets are changing their policy and most of the new landlords have prohibited pets from the outset. Additionally, those landlords that do permit pets may or may not specify conditions for pet occupation, such as charging an additional cleaning and maintenance fee or imposing limits in terms of size, weight or even type of animal; for example, a cat may be acceptable whereas a large dog may not. More importantly, those landlords that do accept pets tend to be located further away from the main campus.

These recent developments have resulted in limited housing options for persons wishing to bring their pets with them. With this in mind, we in the Housing Department would like to suggest that, unless absolutely necessary, you leave your pet(s) at home. However, where this is not possible, we would recommend that you contact the Housing Office as soon as possible so that we may advise you further on your options and work with you to achieve the most viable solution.