

This past weekend the Sudbury Animal Advocates participated in the 18th annual National Anti-Fur day. In honour of the day, a group of us handed out leaflets about the cruelty involved in the fur industry. Our message was, "Have a heart, don't buy fur."

Twenty-two other Canadian cities participated and large protests were held in cities such as Toronto.

Much of the fur on the market today comes from China, which is the world's largest exporter of fur. On Chinese fur farms, animals suffer from unimaginable cruelty.

Animals killed for their fur in Canada also suffer from extreme cruelty. When an animal is caught in a steel-jaw trap, they may suffer for days before trappers return and strangle, stomp or bludgeon them to death.

Many animals are raised for their fur. According to Statistics Canada's Fur Statistics as of Dec.31, 2005, there were 99 fox farms and 232 mink farms in Canada. On fur farms, animals spend their entire lives confined to cramped, filthy wire cages. The intensive confinement causes many of them to go insane. They are killed with the use of suffocation, electrocution, gassing, and poisoning. Many animals are electrocuted by having rods inserted into their rectums and 240 volts sent through their bodies. The animals convulse, shake and often cry out before they have heart attacks and die.

So the next time you are looking at a pair of boots with fur trim or a scarf with decorative fur balls, please think about how the animals have suffered.

For more information about what is wrong with the fur industry visit [www.furisdead.com](http://www.furisdead.com). To help stop animal cruelty please send an email to

Fur trimmed boots not necessary - Lara Friedrich [sudburyanimaladvocates@yahoo.ca](mailto:sudburyanimaladvocates@yahoo.ca) and ask to be added to our e-mail list.

Lara Friedrich Sudbury Animal Advocates, Sudbury

*Editor's Note: The Fur Council of Canada says, "Absolutely no endangered species are used (for Canadian fur products). In the Canadian fur trade, government wildlife officials and biologists ensure responsible use by establishing controlled hunting and trapping, harvest quotas, licensing, and training courses for trappers. Strict government regulations ensure these quotas and seasons are respected. Beaver and muskrat make up more than one-half of the wild furs used in the Canadian fur trade, and these species are as abundant as when Europeans first arrived in Canada. In many regions, raccoons, coyotes and foxes are more abundant than they have ever been."*