

\$100-million lawsuit filed against Menu Foods

Saturday, March 24, 2007

By: Shauna Hunt and 680 News staff

Toronto-A \$100-million class action lawsuit has been filed against Menu Foods after the company discovered that some of the pet food it sold was tainted with rat poison.

Several dogs and cats across North America have died or fallen ill, including some in the GTA.

The lawsuit also named Loblaws and Sobeys, two of many outlets that sold the tainted products under brand names.

This is the third lawsuit that has been filed against Menu Foods in Ontario.

According to an article in the Toronto Sun, lawyer Ted Charney said his law office was contacted yesterday by four people who have lost at least 10 cats between them said “the pet body count is just the tip of the iceberg.”

He told 680News that there have been a number of people who have lost their pets and added he is already representing one man who lost three of his cats this month of kidney failure.

“He purchased the food, at least a substantial amount of the food that was fed to the cats before they died, at either Loblaws and Sobeys, under the President’s Choice and Compliments label,” he said.

Menu foods is pledging to compensate pet owners for any vet bills caused by the tainted food.

Charney said it’s a good idea to hold on to the recalled products if you still have them.

“They can be rested to establish a relationship between what happened to their pet and the food in question,” he told 680News.

He is also advising those who were feeding their animals any of the recalled products to get blood work done on their pets, even if they are not showing symptoms.

Menu foods – based in Streetsville – had recalled about 60 million cans and pouches of pet food sold under 91 brand names last week after pets began to die of kidney failure.

On Friday, the U.S. State Department of Agriculture and Markets said rodent poison was found in the tainted pet food that sparked the international recall last week.