



How Your Gifts Gave River Help and Hope

From Frostbite on the Rideau to Warmth With a Family

A one-year-old male cat, which the Ottawa Humane Society (OHS) named River, had a horrible day during a bitter cold snap in January. Somehow he ended up on the frozen Rideau River, with his face, paws and tail wounded.

Thankfully, the Ottawa Fire Services were able to rescue River and rush him to a nearby animal hospital. This poor kitty was soaking wet and suffering from hypothermia. He received immediate treatment to warm and dry him off before he was transferred to the OHS.

River was in sad shape. Underweight and dehydrated, he had an oozing, pus-filled abscess on his forehead. His paws were sore and swollen, and he had a severe wound on his tail, both injuries from frostbite. Despite his harrowing ordeal and wounds, he had many purrs and greatly enjoyed his food!

He was given subcutaneous fluids to help him hydrate, pain medication to keep him comfortable, and antibiotics to treat his abscess. Unfortunately, one-third of his tail had to be amputated at the same time he was neutered. Despite his ordeal, River continued to purr loudly as his healing continued.

River, while still under the care of the OHS, went home as a Foster-Me-First adoption, where his new foster family cared for him while he finished up his required medical treatment, prior to his official adoption. Because of you, we are glad to report that River is living happily and is healthy in his new forever home. All this accomplished because of you.



THE DIFFERENCE YOU'RE MAKING FOR ANIMALS IN NEED

Contact Numbers

Main **613-725-3166**
Lost & Found 613-725-9998
Fax 613-725-5674
Client Services/General Info ext. 221

Departmental Extensions

Adoption Centre	ext. 258
Lost & Found	223
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If you have a story idea or comment, please contact ohs@ottawahumane.ca via e-mail or by mail to the OHS Newsletter Editor. Submissions of pictures and articles are welcome; however, they may not necessarily be used. Articles may be edited for length and content.

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Charitable registration # 123264715 RR0001

To lead Ottawa in building a humane and compassionate community for all animals.

From the President and CEO's Desk

Uncertainty for Animal Cruelty Investigations in Ontario



In March, with just a few weeks' notice, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA)

announced it would no longer enforce animal cruelty investigations in Ontario and set a hard deadline for the end of June. The OSPCA refused the province's request to extend the work until new legislation could be introduced early next year.

Following the OSPCA announcement in March, the Ottawa Humane Society Board met to discuss the long-term implications of this issue. The board declined to make a specific recommendation as to what body should take over animal cruelty investigations, but did generate a long list of requirements that should be a part of any new system and corresponded with the Solicitor General with their conclusions. An honest look at this list effectively ruled out the OHS from returning to the investigative work it performed for well over 100 years. The OHS continues to care for animals, including those who are abused and neglected, but as long as our donors are called upon to pay for the law enforcement, resources will never be adequate to address increasing

numbers and complexity of crimes against animals.

In the short term, OHS senior staff met with local police and the city about the transition and worked with the city to develop a training program for police—at no cost to the police.

Without OSPCA support, to transition to a new model, the Solicitor General's office announced that local humane societies would be empowered to continue enforcement. But according to a release from the Solicitor General's office, "...the OSPCA has attempted to block these helpful affiliates by contravening existing legislation. This is extremely disappointing. Frankly, it puts animals in harm's way."

That the OSPCA, with its animal welfare mandate, would stand in the way of a viable transition to a new model to protect animals is inexplicable. Then, former OSPCA chair, Rob Godfrey, penned an editorial in the Toronto Sun, alleging an answer: that the OSPCA's interest is in money and power, not animal welfare. According to Godfrey, "The OSPCA believes the government will have no choice but to download animal cruelty enforcement to local police and in turn, the local police will have no choice but to purchase the services of the OSPCA. In the end, abused and neglected animals lose and the taxpayer pays a hefty price."

The Solicitor General took the extraordinary action of introducing amendments to the OSPCA Act to

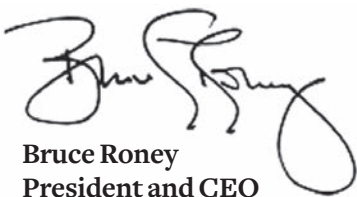


circumvent the OSPCA in order to protect animals. The legislature passed the amendments in days with the support of all parties.

So, let's be clear: the Ontario legislature passed emergency legislation to block the OSPCA in its attempt to block humane societies from protecting animals. Let that sink in.

On June 28, the day of the deadline, the province announced an interim animal protection plan with a 24-hour hotline that triages cruelty complaints to the best available local responder—from a small number of temporary inspectors it has had appointed, to local police or other agencies.

So what does all of this mean for animals right now? We think Ottawa is lucky. We have an excellent police service that, since before the June deadline, started taking over many of the more serious crimes against animals in OSPCA's absence. To report cruelty or neglect, the 24-hour provincial hotline is 1-833-9ANIMAL (1-833-264-4625). But if an animal's life is in immediate danger, such as a dog trapped in an overheated vehicle, calling 911 and police services is how to get immediate help. Stay tuned.


Bruce Roney
 President and CEO

The OHS is Adopting Out Working Cats

Finding Homes for Cats that Can't Live Inside With Families

Thanks to donors like you, in May, the OHS began placing cats not suited for a traditional home environment for behaviour reasons into safe alternative environments through a program called the Working Whiskers Cat Program. While the majority of cats can easily live as indoor pets, some cats in the care of the OHS are unsuitable for homes, but will flourish independently in other locations, keeping busy controlling rat and mouse populations. For the small cost of a bowl of cat food and water daily, along with veterinary care, they're ready to get to work.

The OHS is looking for individuals who own and/or operate a heated barn, stable, auto repair shop, wood working shop, winery, brewery greenhouse garden centre, storage facility, warehouse or similar structure. Because these cats will already be spayed/neutered at the OHS, the adopter won't have to worry about endless litters of kittens. Working whisker cats have also been tested for feline leukemia and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV).

For more information on this program, call the OHS at (613) 725-3166 ext. 258. There are no adoption fees for working whisker cats.



Thanks to YOU, Nala is Smiling, Happy and Healthy Again

Nala Arrived at the Ottawa Humane Society Covered in a Terrible Rash

Nala, a black Labrador retriever mix, is one of the innocent animals who was given a second chance thanks to you. She arrived at the OHS barely two-months-old covered in a rash that left her itchy and sore.

Tests showed that she suffered from “juvenile cellulitis”, an uncommon skin condition that affects young puppies. The condition leaves dogs lethargic with decreased energy levels if left untreated. As the disease progresses, the rash on the skin becomes worse, and a dog’s lymph nodes will swell and may rupture.

Nala’s treatment relied on steroids, antibiotics, and anti-itch medications. She needed to be quarantined in a foster volunteer’s home as she could not have vaccinations until her treatment was complete. During her care, she had ten veterinary visits to monitor her journey to healing. Unfortunately, the cost of her medications alone was almost \$2,000.

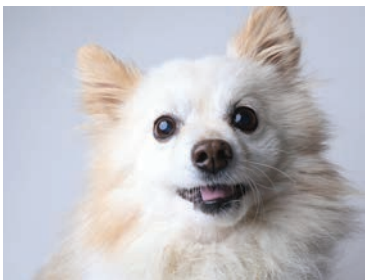
Nala spent two months in the care of the OHS, before being spayed and finding her new forever home. Thanks to your



generous support and ongoing commitment to the animals in our care, Nala received the treatment she needed to heal.

It’s because of you that Ottawa’s injured and neglected animals like Nala receive medical treatment, tender care, and hope.

Because of YOU, These Two Are Healthy and Have Forever Homes



Ti-Lou, a ten-year-old pomeranian, arrived at the OHS in rough shape. His fur was matted and dirty, his teeth were in terrible shape, and it was clear he was long overdue for veterinary care. Ti-Lou was x-rayed and the veterinary team cleaned his teeth. Unfortunately, a lot of his teeth were already missing or in very poor condition, so they needed to be removed. Now in tip-top shape, it didn’t take very long for someone to notice Ti-Lou in the Shirley Kearns Adoption Centre and fall in love — thanks to you.

Diesel, six-month-old domestic shorthair, arrived at the OHS with a severe eye infection, in terrible discomfort — requiring surgery and extensive medical care. It was determined that it was in the best interest of Diesel’s health and comfort, that his eye be removed. After a couple of weeks this sweet boy made a full recovery and was ready to find his new forever home — thanks to you.



Leaving Behind a Gift for the Animals

1888 Legacy Society Reception

On Sunday, May 5, a select group of caring individuals were celebrated at the Ottawa Humane Society. These people made a decision to ensure a brighter future for Ottawa's animals by leaving a gift to the animals in their wills.

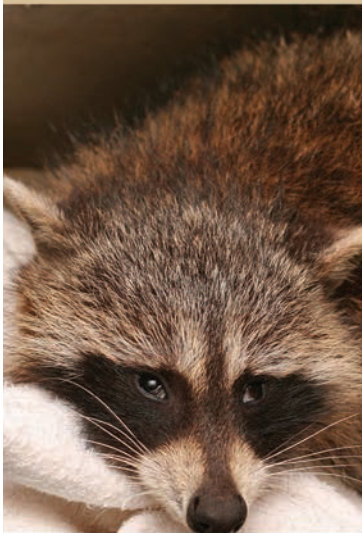
Legacy gifts from individuals have a lasting impact in the lives of today's and tomorrow's animals. They helped build our shelter, which provides Ottawa's homeless animals with the care they need, they helped purchase major medical equipment such as x-ray machines, and in the future will continue to help save the lives of animals from neglect, abuse, and illness.

Each year, the OHS is humbled by those who, through their dedication to a compassionate and humane community for all animals, leave legacy gifts. When you tell the OHS that you intend to remember the animals in your will, the



OHS honours your kindness with a special place in the *OHS 1888 Legacy Society*. Your name appears on the *legacy donor wall* and are invited to take part in this very special recognition ceremony.

GET HELP FOR AN ANIMAL IN NEED



**SICK OR INJURED
WILDLIFE**
CALL CITY OF OTTAWA
311



**SICK OR INJURED
STRAY PETS**
CALL CITY OF OTTAWA
311



**ANIMAL IN
IMMEDIATE DANGER**
CALL OTTAWA POLICE
911



**ANIMAL CRUELTY
OR NEGLECT**
CALL ONTARIO ANIMAL
PROTECTION CALL CENTRE
1-833-9ANIMAL

The Ottawa Humane Society will continue to provide emergency care for animals once they arrive at the shelter.



There May Be a Way to Double Your Gift

Your gifts have helped save the lives of countless animals at the OHS. Does your employer do the same?

If you have five minutes to spare, you may be able to double your gift to the Ottawa Humane Society through a matching gift program. Many employers sponsor matching gift programs to match charitable donations made by their employees.

Visit ottawahumane.ca/matchinggifts to see if your employer is listed, or check with your company's human resources department.

Shirley Kearns Memorial Adoption Centre

This past winter our adoption centre was dedicated to and renamed the Shirley Kearns Memorial Adoption Centre to recognize the life of a life-long animal lover from our community. Shirley was a federal civil servant with a strong love of cats who consistently donated generously to animal related causes in our community, including the OHS.



Her beloved cats, Brat, Little Bits and Scamper were doted upon because Shirley knew that animals need the same kind of love and care as people do. In her lifetime, Shirley chose to support animal causes noting that there were many fewer organizations that focused on animal welfare than the ones supporting causes related to human health and human welfare. After her passing in 2018, her husband initiated the renaming of the adoption centre to praise Shirley's tremendous love and loyalty to animals. It seems fitting that her life should be honoured in this way. Today we are very grateful to Shirley for her generous support of Ottawa's animals. Many animals will find their forever families thanks to her very generous final gift. Thank you.

Your Support and Advocacy is Having an Impact

Two Legislative Wins for the Animals in Canada

In June, the House of Commons passed bills S-203 and C-84, with third readings, paving the way for the legislations to receive Royal Assent and become law.

- Bill S-203 will ban whale and dolphin captivity.
- Bill C-84 will amend the criminal code to expand the definition of bestiality.

Thousands of you took action when this bill was under threat. You spoke up for our animals when they needed you most. Thank you for helping!





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Buddy & Belle Awards

Thank You! Your Generosity Warms Hearts and Saves Lives



This year's annual Buddy & Belle Awards were held on Sunday, June 2 for hundreds of special youth who helped make a difference in the lives of animals in our community. From bake sales to birthday parties, these children have hosted every event imaginable to raise funds to ensure that Ottawa's animals are taken care of today and in the future.

At the Ottawa Humane Society, no animal is ever turned away.

Only you can help rehabilitate, reunite and rehome the close to 10,000 animals that receive care by the OHS each year. PAW monthly giving saves lives!

The OHS depends on the support of foster volunteers to provide temporary, in home care for animals not ready for adoption.

Over 300 volunteers gave 1,311 animals a second chance through the Ottawa Humane Society foster program last year. Thank you!

Ottawa's animals
need you.

Become a PAW
monthly donor
today!





ottawahumane.ca/paw

PAW

monthly giving saves lives

Join us!

-  OHS Microchip Clinics – August 11 and September 8
-  Capital Pride Parade – August 25
-  Wiggle Waggle Walk & Run, presented by Hill's Pet Nutrition – September 8 at Lansdowne Great Lawn
-  OHS Auxiliary Craft & Bake Sale – September 28 at the OHS
-  Bingo – every Sunday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Overbrook Bingo Palace

For more details, check out the Events Calendar on the OHS website at www.ottawahumane.ca.



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