



Our Best Friends

OHS Helps Rehome 22 Animals from First Nation Community

On September 17, the OHS welcomed 22 homeless animals into its shelter. Five kittens, eight cats, seven dogs and two puppies arrived from the Obedjiwan reserve, a First Nation community in Northern Quebec. These animals were some of about 150 others, primarily street dogs, that were being removed by the animal welfare group Chiots Nordiques.

With limited veterinary services and resources for animals in Canada's northern communities, many of these homeless animals are left unsterilized, without food or access to basic care. Humane Society International, working with Chiots Nordiques, asked the OHS to help them rescue and rehome these Northern beauties. The OHS gladly stepped up and offered its support and resources.

When resources permit, the OHS accepts the transfer of animals into its care in order to help other communities. The OHS has rigorous protocols in place to safeguard the health of the transferred animals. In preparation



OHS Clinic Staff with Northern puppies.



Dakota getting comfortable with a leash.

for the arrival of the Northern animals, OHS staff prepared isolation rooms to quarantine the incoming animals from the general population. Fortunately, all of the dogs and cats that arrived were healthy—and friendly! The dogs in particular were well socialized from living among people on the reserve. After their arrival, OHS staff immediately began providing the medical attention the animals needed to prepare them for adoption. One mother dog was placed in foster care with her two puppies. Over the following three weeks, OHS clinic staff provided the dogs with flea treatments and deworming, vaccines, microchipping, sterilization, and for some of the dogs, dental procedures. Because the dogs are not accustomed to being inside (or on a leash!), OHS staff and volunteers have been working tirelessly with them to help them make a confident transition into a loving adoptive home.

The OHS is happy to share that the first dog from the Northern transfer was adopted last week, and the rest are not far behind. 🐾

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

Departmental Extensions

Adoption Centre ext. 258
Lost & Found 223
Fostering 255
Administrative Assistant 233
President and CEO 232
Tax Receipts & Donations 299
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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

From the President and CEO's Desk

Why do you care?



A long time ago, when I made the transition from human services to animal welfare, some of my colleagues and acquaintances were surprised. Some even appeared annoyed. I remember one woman telling me that she would never support an animal charity: "Not until all the children in the world are fed," she harrumphed. Really? I thought about asking her what she was doing to feed all the world's children, but of course I didn't.

I also think that it was misguided of her to assume that someone who supports animal welfare is not doing anything to feed the world's children. I know many, many people who do both. In fact, my experience is that people who care about animals care deeply about them and widely about the bigger world.

I think there are a lot of reasons for this. As humans, we—or most of us, at least—have an urge to protect the vulnerable. Animals are vulnerable and pets are totally dependent on us. Likely that brings out something in us: an urge to protect them, and an outrage at their mistreatment. All suffering is bad, but the suffering of the defenseless feels worse.

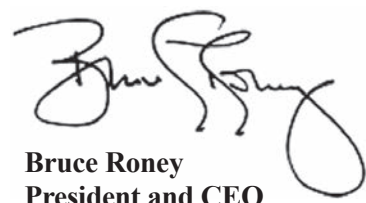
Helping an animal feels *good*. And moreover, it feels *manageable*. I read about so much strife in the world: war, disasters, hatred. For me, it's often overwhelming. But helping an injured dog is on a scale that I can comprehend and respond to. And I can see the

results. There are few things that make me happier than seeing the change in an animal, once discarded, now loved and cared for.

Let's not forget too, how much animals do for us. Over my years at the OHS, I have heard many amazing stories from people grateful for their pets. Many people tell me that the animal they rescued, actually rescued them: from loneliness, from isolation, from despair. A supporter once told me that her dog saved her from sexual assault. When I worked in human services, one of my chronically depressed clients told me that his cats were his only reason to live, and that he would assuredly have killed himself without them.

Beyond the individual, I also think that animals, pets at least, are a symbol, or perhaps a measure. Our own OHS 1888 Legacy Society wall—which honours those that remembered the animals in their will—quotes Gandhi: "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way in which its animals are treated." That just feels *right*. How could we lay claim to being morally progressive or in any way great if we failed to help other creatures that were suffering?

Do I ever miss human services? Occasionally. But I often share with our staff and volunteers, what I truly believe: there is no higher calling than caring for the sick, the weak and the homeless. And it doesn't matter if they are humans or animals. 🐾



Bruce Roney
President and CEO

Sarah and Marley go to College

Forever friends defying the odds together

In May 2016, Armand and his daughter Sarah visited the OHS Adoption Centre with plans to adopt a dog. This is no ordinary story. This visit turned out to be a turning point in Sarah's life.

At an early age, Sarah was diagnosed with high anxiety and mild autism spectrum disorder. Not only was she coping with her diagnosis, but she was also missing her mother who passed away when she was only six years old. She was struggling in school. Sarah's father Armand admits there were times he wasn't sure his daughter would ever complete school. Little did he know that a dog was about to change his daughter's life.

When they walked into the OHS Adoption Centre in May 2016, Sarah was a high school senior. She had her mind set on adopting a Siberian husky. But that idea faded the minute she set her eyes on a pure bred German shepherd named Marley. A few hours

later, Armand and Sarah took Marley home.

While completing the adoption paperwork, OHS adoption staff told them Marley had canine anxiety syndrome and was on medication to help ease the symptoms. What a coincidence – and the story of this perfect match does not end here.

Over the past two years, not only did Marley slowly but surely rely less and less on his anxiety meds, but so did Sarah. Now neither of them relies on medication to help their anxiety — they rely on one another.

It truly is amazing how the human-animal bond can help spur positive change. Marley turned out to be a gift of comfort, confidence and companionship for Sarah — and vice versa.

Sarah started to excel in school and is currently enrolled in her first semester at



college. But that's not all. Marley is also attending college! He was successfully trained as a service dog and is faithfully accompanying Sarah day-to-day as she pursues her post-secondary education.

Armand admits he was worried about his daughter when it came to her schooling. Going to the OHS Adoption Centre that fateful day in May was the best decision they ever made.

"Without this dog Marley, my daughter would have never gone to college, I'm so proud because she has gone through so much. I'm so proud of her achievements. She will be able to do what she dreams." 🐾

Need a Great Holiday Gift Idea?

Warm Hearts Raffle Tickets Are Available Now!

Warm a furry friend's heart this year and give back over the holidays to family, co-workers and friends by supporting the OHS Warm Hearts Raffle! Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20.

Prizes include: 1st prize – \$5,000, 2nd prize – \$3,000, 3rd prize – \$2,000. Additionally, if you purchase tickets before 4 p.m. January 13, 2019, you will qualify for the early bird draw and a chance to win an Apple iPad Mini 4 and Apple Watch – a value of \$1,000!

Grand prize draws will take place on February 14, 2019. Buy your tickets

today so that you don't miss out on this exciting raffle!

How to purchase tickets:

In person: Visit the OHS Buddy & Belle Boutique during business hours

By phone: 613-725-3166 ext: 299

By email: donations@ottawahumane.ca

**WARM:
HEARTS** 



Adoption Celebrations!

These fab four found their forever family

Dorito

Dorito arrived at the OHS in July and stole the hearts of many an OHS staff and volunteer. He needed a lot of medical attention and TLC to help him get back on his feet again both emotionally and physically. When he was ready for adoption, it didn't take long for this cutie to meet his match. On September 19, Dorito met his forever family and was welcomed to his new home. Congratulations, Dorito!



Love at first sight



Mephisto

This past July, a lovely cat named Mephisto came into OHS care. After receiving a full medical check-up and a lot of attention from OHS staff and volunteers, he was ready for adoption. He was eager to meet his perfect match. In September, his forever family arrived and took him home. Now Mephisto is getting all the love and cuddles he was so longing for. Congratulations, Mephisto!



Our first family photo

Toby

Toby arrived at the OHS in September. After successfully completing the standard behavioural assessment, he was ready for adoption. In October, a wonderful family came to the OHS Adoption Centre, they took one look at Toby, and it was love at first sight. Congratulations, Toby!



Adopted is my favourite breed



Simon

When Simon arrived at the OHS in August, the OHS veterinary team gave him a full medical check-up. After a few weeks, Simon was ready to meet his perfect match. In September, he met a loving family and is now happy and thriving in his new forever home. Congratulations, Simon!

Happy Holidays from the Ottawa Humane Society!



Have you heard about our Holiday Delivery Program?

Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, well maybe an OHS mouse. The OHS is looking for families who would like to have OHS volunteer elves stop by during Hanukkah or Christmas morning to deliver their new furry family member. Be it a cat or dog, bird or guinea pig, rabbit or hamster, the OHS wants to help families create an unforgettable holiday memory. Regular adoption procedures still apply. For more information on the OHS Holiday Delivery Program, please call the OHS Adoption Centre at 6130-725-3166, ext. 258.



Billy (A209779) is adventurous and loads of fun! He is looking for a home that has a lot of space for him to explore.



Molly (A211267) may be shy at first, but she'll be as affectionate as they come once she gets used to you. She is looking for a quiet home where she can be your best friend.



Prince (A215480) is looking for an adult home. He's hoping his new best friend will want to play and exercise with him daily.



Max (A202547) is affectionate and loves to make new friends. He is looking for a forever home where he will get a lot of attention.



Callie (A215705) loves to run around and have fun with lasers. She's looking for a family to give her attention when she's playful.



Polly (A206931) is looking for a home where she can get belly rubs and perch along a nice window sill.

Meet Santa Paws

Did you know the OHS hosts a festive, family tradition each holiday season? Santa Pet Pics is an annual event primarily run by OHS volunteers. Members of the public are invited to have their pet's photo taken with Santa Paws. This



event is very popular and many of the same attendees return each year, dressed in their most festive gear, to take a holiday photo with their beloved pet. Last year, this event raised more than \$15,000 for the animals in OHS care.

Although many volunteers return year after year to generously give their time to ensure event success, Santa Pet Pics would not be possible without OHS volunteer, Chris Jones, who for last number of years has taken on the role of the "Big Guy" himself, Santa Paws.

Chris is a dedicated OHS volunteer, supporting several programs and events, and has been participating in Santa Pet Pics since 2013. In 2014, he proudly took on the role of Santa Paws after seeing how much the volunteer department was struggling to fill the position. It's been four years and Chris has never looked back—except for some milk and cookies!

The OHS asked Chris why he continues to support this event each year. "Santa Pics raises money for the OHS. I look

forward to Santa Pet Pics all year long. Many people dress up their pets and themselves in Christmas attire. People in the photos are smiling, but I also have noticed they are often beaming when they watch their pets being photographed with Santa. Sometimes, there is hardly any room or no room for Santa because of all the family members and pets are crammed into Santa's big chair."

Also, the OHS asked Chris to recall one of his fondest memories of being Santa. "Santa Pet Pics is a Christmas tradition for some and they have been coming for as long as they have had their pet. One couple recounted to me last year that they had been coming for ten years, but this would be the last Santa Pic for their dog. I knew they would find some comfort in being able to look back at their Santa Pics. It made me realize how much this means to many people."

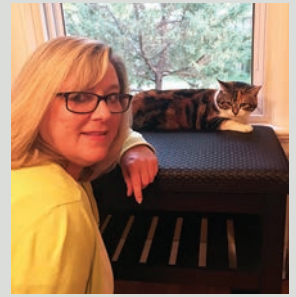
Chris, on behalf of the OHS staff, especially the animals in OHS care, thank you for your ongoing gift of time and for bringing the spirit of the holidays alive each year. 🐾

Schedule Your 2018 Santa Pet Pic!

Santa Paws is coming to town, so mark your calendars! Beginning on Saturday, December 1, furry friends and family members are invited have their portrait taken with Santa at the Ottawa Humane Society. All proceeds go directly to the animals in the care of the OHS. For a full list of dates and times, please visit: www.ottawahumane.ca/santapetpics

Proud PAW Donor Chantal Charlebois

Chantal Charlebois was always interested in animals and animal care. In 1996, she adopted her first cat named Princess. It never occurred to her that she was embarking on a long-term relationship with the Ottawa Humane Society.



"Once you have an animal, your heart goes out to them and you just want to do what you can to help. So I started donating to the Ottawa Humane Society. It was the only charitable organization in Ottawa that I was aware of at the time," she said. Chantal said her cat Princess lived to be 19 years old – so she was old enough to vote – a lighthearted family joke at the time.

After years of making donations in response to life events such as celebrating a new job, birthdays and holidays, Chantal learned about the PAW Monthly Donor Program upon receipt of an OHS newsletter. In 2003, Chantal became a PAW donor knowing that this type of donation would provide stable funding for the animals she cared about. "It's so much easier to donate this way, when the money comes out automatically every month, you don't miss it because it isn't a large amount."

In 2013, six months after she lost Princess, Chantal adopted another cat named Peanut, who she describes as being a very happy and spoiled kitty. Chantal and Peanut were lucky to have not been affected by the recent tornadoes that ripped through Ottawa in September. During the aftermath Chantal gave much thought to how some families and their pets were not so lucky. "Where there are displaced people there are organizations to take care of them, but I always think of the animals when disasters happen around the world, and this one was happening right here! I knew the animals would need help."

Chantal is proud of her role as a long-standing donor, "You do it because it helps make a difference in the community. This is my way of giving back."

Thank you Chantal for supporting Ottawa's animals for so many years. Because of you, OHS animals get a second chance. 🐾

Community Kudos



Movati Orleans

Movati Orleans hosted a fundraising spin class called *Sweats for Pets*. Participants paid for a song of their choice to be played during the class. They raised \$385 for Ottawa's animals! Sounds like a great way to stay in shape, raise money for a great cause, and have fun all at once. Thank you so much to everyone who took part in the class.



Jacob

This Humane Hero emptied his entire piggy bank and donated everything inside of it to Ottawa's animals. WOW! Thank you so much for doing that Jacob, the animals sure are lucky to have your support.



Chelsea

This Cool Kid created and sold treats, bandanas, zipper pulls and bracelets. She donated all of her proceeds to the OHS! Thank you so much for taking the time to host this amazing fundraiser! Chelsea, you are a Humane Hero.



St. George Catholic School

These Cool Cats hosted a cupcake sale at school and raised \$921 for Ottawa's animals. That's a lot of cupcakes! Thank you so much for your dedication, hard work and support. The animals are SUPER lucky to have friends like you.

To see other Ottawa Humane Society heroes, please visit www.ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos.

Saving Animals Every Single Day of the Year

By joining our PAW monthly giving program
YOU can ensure that Ottawa's vulnerable
animals get the life-saving care they need.

www.ottawahumane.ca/paw



You make it
PAW-sible!

Join us!



OHS Auxiliary Christmas Craft Sale – November 15 to 18
at Westgate Shopping Centre



OHS Online Holiday Auction – November 19 to December 10



OHS Auxiliary Craft & Bake Sale – December 1 at the OHS



Santa Pet Pics – December 1 to 23 at the OHS



Warm Hearts Raffle Early Bird Draw – January 19, 2019



Warm Hearts Raffle Grand Prize Draw – February 14, 2019

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



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