



## Thanks to *You*, Stella Received Life-Saving Emergency Surgery at the OHS

**S**tella, a sweet two-year-old tabby, was near death when she arrived at the OHS in early January. In pain and unable to eat, Stella was suffering from an intestinal blockage after having ingested a piece of insulation. If left untreated, an intestinal blockage can quite quickly become life-threatening.

As soon as she arrived at the OHS Clinic, Stella underwent emergency surgery where a veterinarian removed several small pieces of insulation from her stomach. Following her successful surgery, Stella was treated with antibiotics and pain medication to keep her comfortable. She received treatment for an ulcer on her eye.

Happily, Stella has made a speedy recovery in the OHS Critical Care Unit. Within days of her surgery, she was once again eating normally and happily purring in her kennel. This friendly girl was ready for adoption by mid-January.

It is because of you that Stella was able to receive the urgent care she so desperately needed. Help give the next animal like Stella a second chance. 🐾



Stella before surgery



Stella relaxing in the Adoption Centre while she waits to find her new family



## Contact Numbers

**Main** 613-725-3166  
**Emergency** 613-725-1532  
**Lost & Found** 613-725-9998  
**Fax** 613-725-5674  
**Dispatch/General Info** ext. 221

## Departmental Extensions

**Adoption Centre** ext. 258  
**Lost & Found** 223  
**Fostering** 255  
**Administrative Assistant** 233  
**Executive Director** 232  
**Tax Receipts & Donations** 252  
**Community Events** 263  
**Programs** 298  
**Humane Education** 235  
**Shelter Operations** 226  
**Volunteering** 231  
**Legacy Giving** 268  
**PAW Monthly Giving** 254  
**Media** 261

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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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## From the Executive Director's Desk

# You Made It Happen! Our Strategic Plan After Two Years



Admittedly, I can be pretty ambitious; not so much personally, but for the Ottawa Humane Society as a whole, and what we can achieve

for the animals and our community. The OHS five-year strategic plan that was launched in April 2016 is an example of this ambition. This plan was, and remains, a very determined endeavour.

If you are familiar with the plan, in addition to enhancing our core, much of the direction has been divided into six main themes. Within these themes, I wish to share some of the highlights of our accomplishments as we near the plan's two year mark.

### "Building a better future for pets by creating better future pet owners" (Investment in the Next Generation)

We believe that real and sustainable change for animals will happen by way of the next generation. To this end, we have increased our focus on children and youth as the best hope for a more humane community. We have introduced youth tours, school field trips, and a youth counsellor in training program. This is all in addition to significant new efforts and growth in the school humane education program to more than 12,000 students in just two years.

To become more inclusive, we introduced humane education in schools in French, along with camps for French-speaking

youth. Our French translation is actually ahead of schedule. Beyond our expansion into Canada's other official language, we have consulted with and begun our outreach to newcomers to Canada, to help them experience the joy of animals in their new adoptive country.

### "Pets belong in homes, not shelters" (Pets in the Community)

In order to truly help all animals, we have to move beyond just the care we provide here at the shelter. There are a lot of animals that need us, and not all of them under our roof.

We are very proud to have worked with our partners to convince the city that the time of animals for sale in pet stores is over. Ultimately, the agreement dictates that only rescue animals would be allowed to be adopted in retail establishments starting in 2021.

Our first forays into community-based programs: microchip clinics and our Pet Savvy adult education program have reached hundreds of low-income adults with pets and is improving the welfare of the animals in their homes.

### "Good Policies Save Lives" (Ensuring Animal Sheltering Best Practices)

I have always believed that our animal care decisions need to be based on the best research available. Fortunately, in the last few years, animal sheltering research and best practices have become more readily available, and are proving to be very valuable resources. Key among the available materials has been animal care guidelines as issued by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. A major accomplishment of ours has been the implementation of many hundreds of their recommendations for animal care in shelters.



Additionally, we have introduced enhanced cat enrichment to the shelter and have launched a number of behavior interventions for felines with issues such as house-soiling. We have also developed and launched an orphan kitten program to improve survival rates in this highly vulnerable group. Lastly, we also began to adopt cats and kittens who are FIV+ along with the education and support for adopters taking on these compromised but still loveable felines.

**"Too many cats will live wretched lives as long as there are too many cats" (Reducing Cat Overpopulation)**

To address this heat-breaking problem, the OHS launched our biggest single initiative since the construction of the West Hunt Club shelter: our Mobile Spay Neuter program. To date, the program has sterilized more than 1,800 felines.

**"We cannot continue to accept canine suffering because they act out" (Dog Behaviour Intervention)**

In 2017, we launched our new behaviour assessment regime and initiated enhanced enrichment for all the dogs in our care. As part of this, we completely revamped our dog walking program, relaunching it as canine enrichment, and adding levels of training for volunteers to provide behavioural intervention for more challenging dogs. At the same time, we launched intervention plans for dogs with specific problematic behaviours, such as food guarding.

**"Doing more with less because we are doing it together" (Partnerships and Leverage)**

We believe that we can accomplish so much more in partnership than alone, and that our support for national, provincial and local partners makes a difference. To this end, we are much more engaged with our national counterpart, the Canadian Federation of

Humane Societies and I have joined the board of the Association of Animal Shelter Administrators of Ontario.

We also believe that animals will benefit across the board by actively sharing our knowledge and expertise with other groups. We have a lot to give, and we have given a lot over the past two years. We believe animals will be better off because of the work we have done for groups such as Ottawa Therapy Dogs, the Rideau Valley Wildlife Sanctuary and other, smaller humane societies.

**"Ottawa's animals need us to ask for them as much as they need us to speak for them" (Investment in Growth)**

We have expanded our "business" lines which raise much-needed funds and further animal welfare: more public seminars, more microchip clinics, more and varied camps.

Ultimately, it is not ourselves that make all of these accomplishments possible; it is you, our donors and supporters who provide the funds that make it all possible. We are learning to tell our story to inspire both you and our community to help animals in need.

To this end, we have made major investments in our PAW monthly giving program, and to tell that story of why animals are important to all of us, and how they are a part of a compassionate and kind community that benefits us all.

Thank you for supporting this ambitious plan. I hope you are proud of what *you* have accomplished. 🐾



**Bruce Roney, Executive Director**



**National Cupcake Day**  
Feb. 26, 2018

*Cupcakes to the rescue*

**THIS WINTER BAKE CUPCAKES, RAISE FUNDS AND HELP INNOCENT ANIMALS! MONDAY, FEB. 26 IS NATIONAL CUPCAKE DAY.**

**REGISTER NOW AT: [OTTAWAHUMANE.CA/NATIONALCUPCAKEDAY](http://OTTAWAHUMANE.CA/NATIONALCUPCAKEDAY)**

Ottawa HUMANE SOCIETY S.P.A. Ottawa

# Heartwarming Adoption Story

When we think about adopting an animal, the focus is usually how much we are changing the lives of the animals we bring home. It's more than fair to say that the addition of a new animal to your home will undoubtedly change up your daily routine.

For one family, in particular, adopting a dog from the Ottawa Humane Society wonderfully showcases how our lives can be enriched by animals.

At the beginning of March last year, Andrew and Steffen fell in love with a 2 year old, Old English Bulldog, named Dolly. All it took was one look into her big, brown eyes and Dolly had her new dads wrapped around her little paw. With this began a year of fishing trips, naps, Senators games (she barks at Leafs fans), naps, obedience classes, naps and well, a few more naps just to make sure this category was well covered.

While Andrew and Steffen were helping Dolly adjust to her new life in their home by taking her for walks, involving her in their hobbies and helping her with her fear issues, Dolly was covertly weaving her own magic on her new family.

Andrew notes that, "then an interesting thing happened. Steff and I started taking Dolly on family walks together. Instead of staring at our phones, we started swapping pictures we had taken of the



dog. After-work grumbling turned into outrageous 'You would not believe what your girl did/ate/pooped out today' stories. We get out of the house more now, and have met new people because, 'Dolly needs to socialize.'

He adds, "Somehow this dog found a Dolly sized hole in our lives that we didn't even know was there, and bullied her way right into it. In doing so, she brought our little furever family so much closer together. Truthfully, I'm not sure who rescued who."

The term 'rescued' is often reserved for highly intense situations like being saved from a house fire, yet all of us that have adopted an animal have, in some way, been rescued in ways similar to Andrew and Steffen. It may not be overly dramatic, but our animals provide unconditional companionship, love and laughter. They are an endless source of stories and photos and even help us in making new friends, with our own social lives, lessening our stress and even improving our overall well-being.

So, next time you look at your pet, thank him or her for rescuing *you* and providing selfless and immeasurable enrichment to your life. If you don't yet have a pet, or are looking to bring another pet into your life, why not stop by the OHS Adoption Centre and see if there is a cat, dog, rabbit, small animal or bird there who is waiting to rescue you! 🐾

## How to Get Help for an Animal in Need

As of January 5, 2018, the City of Ottawa Bylaw Services is now transporting injured stray domestic pets and wildlife, rather than the OHS. Ottawa residents should now call 311 for help with injured stray animals and wildlife. Animals will continue to be brought to the OHS for care.

We created this infographic to help our community know who to call for animal welfare services going forward.

### GET HELP FOR AN ANIMAL IN NEED

			
<b>SICK OR INJURED WILDLIFE</b>	<b>SICK OR INJURED STRAY PETS</b>	<b>ANIMAL IN IMMEDIATE DANGER</b>	<b>ANIMAL CRUELTY OR NEGLECT</b>
CALL CITY OF OTTAWA 311	CALL CITY OF OTTAWA 311	CALL OTTAWA POLICE 911	CALL ONTARIO SPCA 310-SPCA

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





# Great Cats ... Super Mom!

Batman and Zina are Siamese cats that were who were both recently patients at our Mobile Spay / Neuter clinic. These two lovely creatures' owner is Dominique, who we first met in the fall when Batman visited us for a scheduled appointment. In keeping with there never being a dull moment at the OHS, we experienced unforeseen technical difficulties with our equipment and, as a result, had to cancel his patient appointment for the day.

Dominique graciously accepted the news of Batman's appointment postponement and quickly rescheduled another appointment for him. In addition to Dominique's understanding of this situation, she always arrives early for her appointments and regularly helps us with other clients when we don't have an available volunteer! With all due respect to Batman, we think that Dominique is the real Superhero here.

Dominique also had her female cat Zina spayed with our program just last month. Since their respective surgeries, Dominique says both cats Batman and Zina are much calmer and she's finding Dominique is now sleeping better without all of the excessive meowing.

Dominique herself faces mental health challenges and, having Batman and Zina, has been really good for her recovery and her overall mental health.

Without access to our Mobile Spay / Neuter Clinic, Dominique could not have had her cats sterilized. She says, "It's a valuable service to those couldn't otherwise afford to have their cat spayed or neutered".

We are so pleased that our Mobile Spay / Neuter clinic has served more than 1,200 qualified clients, sterilizing close to 1,900 cats since last fall, and we continue to visit locations across the City of Ottawa, from Britannia to Vanier, to our newest location in Hunt Club Park. 🐾





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**HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR PET UPON YOUR DEATH OR DISABILITY?**  
SOME PEOPLE MAKE INFORMAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY. OTHERS MAY NEED TO CONSIDER NEW OPTIONS AS PART OF THEIR ESTATE PLAN. THIS MAY INVOLVE MAKING SPECIFIC PROVISIONS IN YOUR WILL AND/OR POWERS OF ATTORNEY, REQUIRING LEGAL ADVICE. FEEL FREE TO CALL OR SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH BRAD EVANS TO DISCUSS THIS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF YOUR ESTATE PLAN.

## In Memory of Connie Coote

Connie Coote was a compassionate, beloved friend and supporter of the OHS. Since 2002, Connie was an active member of the Critter Crafters group, a local group that works tirelessly to create and sell quality hand-made crafts at various OHS events and external locations, all of which benefit Ottawa's animals with proceeds donated to the OHS.

In addition to all of her efforts and generous support of the OHS throughout the past many years, Connie also left a gift to the OHS in her Will. By way of her generous legacy gift, Connie's legacy of kindness and compassion will live on in the animals helped in our community. 🐾



## Our Wonderful Foster Volunteers

Do you ever wonder how the Ottawa Humane Society manages to provide the necessary care and attention that helpless and highly vulnerable kittens and puppies require in order to have bright and healthy futures?

OHS trained foster volunteers are the key to providing our most defenceless animals with a second chance. Recently, the OHS received several puppies in need of medical and behavioural support. Thanks to our dedicated foster volunteers, all puppies were quickly placed into loving foster homes until they were ready for adoption.

In this case, our wonderful foster volunteers provided round the clock attention, ensuring all puppies were fed, socialized, exercised and cared for on a daily basis. Stacy and Dan are one such team of volunteers, whose caring made a huge difference to mummy Avery and her 5 pups.

Huge thanks also go to Kelly for caring for 2 pups, Orit for caring for 3 pups, Yavniely for caring for 3 pups and Heather for caring for 2 pups. These Pups now have their second chance. Thank you OHS foster volunteers for continuing to help us help more animals - we could not do it without your ongoing gift of time and love.

Are you interested in offering animals a second chance for a happy and healthy future? Please contact our Foster Team today to get started on this truly rewarding and life-saving adventure: 613-725-3166 ext. 255 or via email at [foster@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:foster@ottawahumane.ca). 🐾



Avery and her five puppies in their foster home



## Cool Kids and Community Kudos



### Mila & Madden

This Humane Hero duo collected and donated food, treats, training pads and blankets for Ottawa's animals! Thank you very much for your hard work and support!



### Tula, Kaia, Matthias & Lukas

These Humane Heroes put together a talent show every year to raise money for local charities. This year's talent show was extra special because they chose to donate all of the proceeds to Ottawa's animals. Thank you so much guys, what a fun way to raise money! The animals sure are lucky to have your support.



### Sunday School Students of Epiphany Anglican Church

These really cool kids hosted a bake sale to raise money for Ottawa's animals. From all of your furry and human friends at the OHS, thank you so much for taking the time to host this amazing fundraiser! You are all Humane Heroes and your amazing work is truly appreciated. Thank you for all that you do!



### Thomas

This cool kid really wanted to help the animals, so he donated money that he was given at his birthday party to the OHS. Thanks for such a thoughtful gesture, Thomas. Your support is greatly appreciated!

To see other humane heroes who have helped the animals at the Ottawa Humane Society, please visit [www.ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos](http://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](http://www.ottawahumane.ca/paw)




**You make it  
PAW-sible!**

## Events Calendar

-  National Cupcake Day: February 26th
-  World Spay Day: February 27th
-  Hoppy Easter Event: March 24th
-  OHS Garden Party: May 16th
-  Tamarack Ottawa Race Weekend Charity Challenge: May 26th & 27th

Visit our website at [www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca) for more information



### In this issue

Thanks to You, Stella Received Life-Saving Emergency Surgery.....	1
From the Executive Director's Desk .....	2
Heartwarming Adoption Story .....	4
Great Cats ... Super Mom! .....	5
In Memory of Connie Coote.....	6
Our Wonderful Foster Volunteers .....	6
Cool Kids & Community Kudos.....	7

