



# A Transformation that will Bring You to Tears



Dirty. Matted. Lost. Alone. That's what Emily, a sweet, senior Maltese, was before you saved her. She arrived at the OHS as a tangle of hair. The poor dear hadn't been groomed or cared for in far too long. Her coat was a wild mess, streaked with dirt and tied in endless knots.

No dog deserves to spend their senior years discarded with no one to care for them, no one to love them. Emily's coat was causing her so much pain and just a look in her eyes showed how badly she needed help.

Thankfully, you answered her call.

Emily received the care she so desperately needed. Layer upon layer of dirty fur was shaved away, finally revealing the beautiful senior dog who was trapped in her painfully neglected coat for so long. Her transformation was breathtaking.

But Emily's journey wasn't over. A mass was discovered on Emily's mammary glands, and was cause for great concern. We took a sample of the mass and sent it for testing. The OHS clinic team held a collective breath waiting for the results to return.

The results came back. The mass was benign, harmless. Emily was going to be OK.

Emily received the final medical care she needed and soon began her search for her forever family.

Because of you, Emily found her storybook ending in a new, loving home. You make second chances possible for animals like Emily. Thank you so much for everything you do.



**THE DIFFERENCE YOU'RE MAKING FOR ANIMALS IN NEED**



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 Fostering 255  
 Administrative Assistant 297  
 President & CEO 232  
 Tax Receipts & Donations 299  
 Community Events 263  
 Outreach Programs 298  
 Humane Education 235  
 Shelter Operations 226  
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If you have a story idea or comment, please contact ohs@ottawahumane.ca via email 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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*To lead Ottawa in building a humane and compassionate community for all animals.*

# From the President and CEO's Desk

## Thank You

As you may know, I have made the difficult decision to retire from my position at the Ottawa Humane Society after more than 22 years.

I'll admit to being a bit wistful about my decision. I will miss the work and I will miss the people. I have always worked in not-for-profit and couldn't imagine what my life would have been like at either a for-profit or in government. Working to help others is the best career I could have imagined, especially working for an organization like the OHS.

The OHS has come a very long way in 22 years. I know that many people credit me with this, but it's not true. Progress made at the OHS has, and always will be, the result of the collective efforts of many. You are among those many. There is nothing more powerful than working together with other committed people for a cause we all believe in and I am grateful for your steadfast support. I am honoured to have worked with, and for you all these years.

Though I know I am just one part of the OHS's proud 134-year history, I will lay claim to one thing. Throughout my time at the OHS, I have had the unwavering belief that the OHS could be and should be much more than what we think of as a traditional humane society. Caring for lost, injured and homeless animals is important and worthwhile and that calling is essential to any caring community. But there is an opportunity to be more. A humane society can and ought to set its sights higher — to change the world, or at least our small part of it. We are in the



compassion business as much as we are in the animal care business. By bringing people — especially young people — together with animals in a meaningful way, we can do our part to create a more caring future for both people and animals. I often think of the words of the great anthropologist Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Thank you for 22 years of working together to change the world.

**Bruce Roney**  
 President & CEO

# YOU Save Animals in Their Darkest Hours



## Metu

Metu, a two-year-old, black and white cat, arrived at the OHS with a broken leg. Unfortunately Metu's leg was beyond repair and needed to be removed. After his surgery, he needed close monitoring, pain medication and lots of rest.

Because he has you, an incredible friend to the animals, looking out for him, Metu is doing well and is hoping to soon start the search for his forever home.



## Benny

Benny, a two-year-old Bernese mountain dog, was found lost and alone with a painful condition in his eyes. Thanks to you, this gentle giant had somewhere safe to go to receive the care he needed.

Benny underwent an entropion repair — removing a piece of the eyelid to prevent his eyelashes from irritating his eye and providing him much needed relief. After recovering from his surgery, Benny was ready to find his forever home, and it didn't take him long to meet his perfect match.

## Sully

Imagine the pain of having a broken jaw. Poor Sully, a one-year-old cat, lived through it. Sully was found at the bottom of a six-foot deep window well. It's likely the fall broke his jaw and he was trapped in the window well not knowing if anyone would come to save him.

Thankfully you came to save him. Because of you, Sully was able to receive the care he needed to fix his jaw and to escape the window well. Best of all, Sully has found his forever home and is living comfortably with his new family.

# You Are There for the Animals When They Need You Most

If there's anything the past two years have taught us, it's that it is nearly impossible to predict emergencies and exactly what kind of challenges we will face. Few imagined that Canada would still be feeling the ripples of the public health crisis more than two years after it was declared an emergency. No one predicted that a derecho would tear through Ottawa and leave thousands without power for more than a week. At the OHS, we didn't foresee the explosion of our rabbit population and a drought of foster volunteers.

But, through it all, the animals haven't suffered. We have you and your incredible generosity to thank for that.

Because of you, no animal was ever turned away throughout the public health crisis. You ensured there

were resources available for animals in need and that the OHS never had to close our doors. When May's storm plunged the OHS into darkness, you made sure there was light for animals in need, and you made sure they could continue to safely receive incredible care throughout the emergency. Even as we see a historic number of rabbits in our care and an ongoing drought of available foster homes, you make sure there is always care available for these animals and more.

At the OHS, we dedicate a lot of effort to planning. We make plans for all kinds of emergencies, shortages, and anything else that could affect our capacity to care for animals in need. A common thread among all these plans is that without your support, none of them would be possible.

Thank you for being there, when the animals need you most.



Staff providing daily care by lamplight during the power outage.

**TURN YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING INTO LIFE-SAVING CARE FOR THE ANIMALS**

A photograph of a woman with glasses and a red sweater petting a grey dog. Another person is wrapping a gift in red paper with green patterns. There are other wrapped gifts and a Christmas tree in the background.

When you pay with your BMO OHS Mastercard, BMO will make a contribution to the animals at no cost to you.

 

Visit [Ottawahumane.ca/bmo](https://ottawahumane.ca/bmo) to learn more

# Donna Oates-Belisle

Donna Oates-Belisle, who recently sponsored our Cat Adoption Room, has been a supporter of Ottawa's animals for many years.

She first became aware of our services when she brought her two kittens, Minnie and Max, to an OHS-sponsored spay/neuter clinic more than 25 years ago. Since then, she's made it a priority to help the animals any way she can.

"Animal welfare is my charitable focus. I have always loved animals, and I have received so much from them in return. While there are many worthy causes in the world, not many organizations are devoted to creating a better world for animals, and to the welfare of individual pets and animals." said Donna.

Knowing that OHS events make a huge difference for the animals, she has always tried to attend or volunteer whenever she can. From the Garden Party to the Fur Ball to the Wiggle Waggle Walk & Run, her philosophy is "If we can have fun and support a good cause at the same time, I'm in!"

Donna is also a PAW monthly donor, but recently she has wanted to do even more.

"I already had a bequest for the OHS in my will, but the reality is that the need is great right now. So making a larger donation sooner rather than later became a priority for me."

Donna decided to dedicate the Cat Adoption Room to her kittens, Minnie and Max, who gave her great joy for 21 and 18 years respectively. Although they are now gone, the love they left behind still warms her heart. By sponsoring a room



Minnie and Max as kittens.

where other cats and kittens will meet their forever families, Donna is paying that love forward.

Thank you, Donna, for being an incredible friend to the animals and making a lifetime of love possible for so many deserving creatures.



## Community Kudos

Ottawa cares about animals! Here are a few of the incredible people in our community who went the extra mile for the animals.

### Goulbourn Middle School

These incredible students raised funds to help the homeless and sick animals in Ottawa. Thank you for your amazing support! You are humane heroes!

### Ava and Dylan

These two amazing heroes held a perennial plant sale to raise funds for Ottawa's animals! Thank you, Ava and Dylan, for your amazing contribution!



To see other OHS heroes, visit [ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos](http://ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos).

# Going the Extra Mile for Dogs in Need

Thanks to you, more can be done for animals beyond healing their injuries and providing day-to-day care. With your support, animals with challenging behaviours can receive the care they need to adapt to living in their forever home, and their families can access resources to help manage their animal's behaviour.

Our canine behaviour intervention volunteers are an important part of helping dogs who have challenging behaviours. These volunteers work one-on-one with dogs to provide training that helps the dog adjust to life in the shelter and find their forever family even faster.

As more dogs with increasingly complex needs come to the OHS, canine behaviour intervention volunteers are needed more than ever before. Will you join this essential team? Visit [ottawahumane.ca](http://ottawahumane.ca) to learn more.



# Services for Our Community

Because of you, more can be done for our community. You help keep families together and ensure that people have what they need to care for their pets. The OHS is here to shelter any animal whose owner can no longer keep them, but we prefer keeping families together whenever possible. Here are some of the ways you make it happen.

## Mobile Spay/Neuter Service and Microchip Clinics

Thanks to you, income-qualified cat owners in Ottawa can access subsidized spay/neuter services for their pets. This helps prevent pet overpopulation and helps address some common behavioural challenges. You also provide subsidized microchip clinics for low-income families. A microchip ensures that if a pet ever becomes lost, they can quickly return home.

Both of these services returned earlier this year and have provided service for hundreds of animals.



## Pet Savvy Program

The Pet Savvy Program offers workshops to underserved communities in Ottawa and provides essential pet care tips like proper grooming, how to protect a pet from parasites, what foods are toxic to animals, and more. The program also provides attendees with takeaway resources for pet care and some essential supplies like tick removers, toothbrushes, nail clippers, treats and toys.

Thanks to you, pet care supplies and information are easily available to everyone in our community — bolstering pet health and keeping families together.



Luna enjoying a pup-sicle made by Shelter Buddies participants

## Shelter Buddies

Through Shelter Buddies, we partner with organizations who serve vulnerable youth in Ottawa to empower these youth. Over the course of a week, participants get to work with and learn about animals. The program has many benefits for the participants including learning more about animals and their well-being, developing self-confidence, and a feeling of accomplishment.

The animals, of course, love the company and get an extra opportunity for enrichment.

# Become a PAW Monthly Donor!

Animals like Bea are counting on you to provide them with a new start at life and get them into loving forever homes.

Bea is just one of the many animals in the care of the Ottawa Humane Society. This two-year-old Chihuahua had a injured leg that has to be removed surgically. Thanks to PAW monthly donors, Bea had somewhere safe to heal and recover.

Will you help Bea and other animals just like her by becoming a PAW monthly donor?

[ottawahumane.ca/paw](http://ottawahumane.ca/paw)

613-725-3166 ext. 254



# PAW

monthly giving saves lives



## Save the Date!

Santa Pet Pics

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21



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