



From Disaster to a Happy Ending

At the tender age of five, Isabelle, a German shepherd, did not expect her whole world to get turned upside down. A car struck her and she was found alone in a ditch, terribly injured and in awful pain. The collision shattered her pelvis and shredded her paws. She was carried into the OHS on a stretcher, whimpering the whole way.

As bad as this may seem, you made sure Isabelle had somewhere safe to go to get the care she urgently needed.

She was immediately given pain medication to help her feel more comfortable. A collision with a car can cause a lot of damage. Our clinic team carefully examined and X-rayed her. X-rays revealed her broken pelvis and the possibility for another condition known



as pneumothorax, where air is trapped between the lungs and the wall of the chest — making it difficult to breathe. We carefully monitored for the condition, and thankfully she was breathing normally, but she still had a long road to recovery.

Thanks to you, Isabelle was able to receive surgery to mend her broken pelvis and the care she needed to heal her wounded paws. You made sure there was somewhere she could rest, recover and regain her strength.

Isabelle still has a ways to go, but she is getting better each day. Once she has fully recovered, she will start the search for her new, loving forever home. And none of her incredible journey would have been possible without you.

Kicked to the Curb

The outdoors is no place for a cat. Even more so when the cat doesn't have a place or a family to call home. Peanut, a sweet four-year-old cat, was found lost and all alone in a parking lot. But that wasn't her only trouble. When she arrived at the OHS, we found some unusual bruising on her stomach. We don't know for sure what caused it, but it was too localized to be from a collision with a car.

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

From the President and CEO's Desk

The Next Chapter

The last few months have been a whirlwind as I have taken on my new role at the Ottawa Humane Society. A happy whirlwind, mostly, thanks to the great work done by my predecessor, our very talented and committed team of staff and, most importantly, our dedicated community of volunteers and supporters who want nothing but the best for Ottawa's animals.



been a part of the building of our current home on West Hunt Club, and to have helped our Mobile Spay/Neuter Services roll into the community. And, even as we were faced with a global pandemic, to have experienced our community's support as we launched more programs to keep animals safe.

Of course, the OHS is not new to me — this role follows 19 years of working at the OHS in various capacities, and many years prior to that as a volunteer. But my first experience with the OHS came before all of that, and was what inspired me to be where I am today. As a student, I biked to the old shelter on Champagne Avenue to look for our missing family cat. I was overwhelmed by the sick cats and overcrowding, the dogs housed in dilapidated kennels, and small animals frozen and fearful in too-small cages in between. Despite many visits, I never found my cat, but I found something else.

From walking dogs to fostering and helping to raise money for the animals, I knew where my heart belonged.

Today, I can't believe what together, as a community, we have achieved for the animals — both those in our care, and those in our community. Our previous leader had a fierce vision: to provide better sheltering services by creating a new, improved facility where animals could be cared for, and to support the community with services to prevent suffering and help keep families together. I'll admit that those seemed at first like lofty goals. I am honoured to have

Now that I've seen how much we can achieve together, lofty goals no longer daunt me. They inspire me. In late November, we held our first-ever Community Cat Summit, bringing together Ottawa's most active stakeholders in protecting cats. We have some grand ideas about finally ending cat overpopulation in Ottawa. In early December, we held our first in-house sterilization clinic for one of our community partners, a dog placement group. We plan to host many more.

The next frontier? We are reaching even further into our community to achieve our mission. We are addressing the barriers to being a good pet owner by providing the right support in the right places, and we are working with others who are better able to help us understand how to do that.

Microsoft CEO, Satya Nadella, said that "the best work happens when you know that it's not just work, but something that will improve people's lives." At the OHS, we are constantly striving to do our best work. For the sake of the animals, and the people who love them. Thanks to your support, their future is bright.

Here's to lofty goals.

Sharon Miko
 President & CEO

Progress YOU Made Possible

As we look ahead to 2023, we wanted to take a moment to look back at 2022 and the great work you made possible for Ottawa's animals and how you have helped build a caring and compassionate community.

Mobile Spay/Neuter Services and Microchip Clinics

After being on hold since the onset of the public health crisis, subsidized spay/neuter surgeries for cats and microchips returned for families in the community who would not typically be able to access these services. You help reduce the number of homeless pets in our community, help lost pets find their way home and help keep families together.



Providing Even More Care for the Animals

You are helping even more animals receive incredible care. It may not seem glamorous, but last year we were able to expand our care to include diagnosing and treating animals with bladder stones. Thanks to you, the level of treatment available for Ottawa's animals is constantly expanding.



Building the Next Generation

Camps for summer vacation, March break, and PD days returned last year — showing 363 children how to be responsible pet owners and how to be compassionate towards animals — and brand new programs for children and youth launched as well. You made the Youth Pet Sitting Course possible, ensuring that the next generation of our community knows how to look out for animals in need and builds an early interest in animal-related careers.



Supporting Animals Throughout Ottawa

Not only does your generous support save animals at the OHS, but you are also helping out animals with OHS placement partners! Last year, you helped provide spay/neuter services for XXX animals in the care of our partners.

It's possible she may have fallen on a fence or something similar.

Or it could also be possible that someone had kicked her.

It's hard to imagine someone could be so cruel to an innocent creature, callous enough to hurt a poor animal who is already lost, alone and fighting for her life. No matter how she was injured, we're glad that there are caring people like you looking out for Peanut and animals like her.

Thanks to you, Peanut was able to receive pain medication to ensure she could rest and recover from her injury. But our veterinary team made a worrying discovery: Peanut wasn't standing on her hind legs. A thorough examination revealed that she would need a femoral head and neck ostectomy — a surgery that removes the head of her femur.

Peanut has gone through many ordeals and still needs close monitoring and tender care, but thanks to you, she is looking forward to brighter days ahead. Thank you for making happy endings possible for Ottawa's animals.

DONOR PROFILE

James Ito's Legacy: Giving a Voice to Those in Need

When Andrew Hasegawa went to his Uncle Jimmy's Centretown apartment to help move him into a care home, he was shocked and touched by the former senior military official's extensive collection of cat mementos and Ottawa Humane Society keepsakes. Andrew discovered that not only was his uncle a protector of Canadians, he was also a dedicated protector of cats.

During the Second World War, as a Japanese Canadian, James was forced into an internment camp. Once he was freed from the camp, James was separated from his parents when they returned to Japan, and he remained in Canada as a young teenager.

James found family in the Canadian Army, where he served for 35 years and earned the rank of Master Warrant Officer. The position suited James' protective nature since he was responsible for ensuring those on the frontlines had the supplies and ammunition they needed to complete their missions. Because of his military career, James never had any pets of his own.

Later in life, James suffered a stroke and lost the ability to communicate. Despite this, his love of cats became apparent to Andrew. First through the discovery of James' extensive collection of cat and OHS keepsakes. And when Andrew became James' primary caregiver, James' face would light up whenever he saw Andrew's cats Lola, Sosuke and Suki.

Upon James' passing, Andrew became his estate executor. He learned that on top of



A portrait of James Ito with maneki-neko (beckoning cat) a Japanese figurine which is believed to bring good luck to the owner.

the legacy gifts James left in his will for various military organizations, he also left a generous donation to the OHS.

“The fact that Uncle Jimmy left the Ottawa Humane Society in his will truly shows his dedication to cats... The two things he loved most in life, other than his wife, were the military and cats,” Andrew explained. James was inspired to care for Ottawa's homeless cats and left a legacy gift to protect those who don't have a voice of their own.

To learn more about how you can leave a gift in your will to the animals, like James Ito, please contact Braydin Frizell at braydinf@ottawahumane.ca or 613-725-3166 ext. 268.

A Life-Saving Spay

February is Spay/Neuter Awareness Month — a time to promote the importance of this essential surgery. Tink, a sweet senior cat, is a sad reminder of just how necessary it is to spay/neuter pets. She came to the OHS thin, dehydrated and with symptoms that pointed towards an infection in her uterus known as pyometra.

Thanks to you, Tink was able to receive urgent surgery to remove her uterus and save her life. You also made sure that she could receive antibiotics and pain medication to speed along her recovery.

Tink is 10 years old, and nearly lost her life because she wasn't spayed. Spaying/neutering helps set up pets for a lifetime of good health and helps to prevent pet overpopulation. Because of you, all homeless cats, dogs and rabbits who come to the OHS receive this surgery before finding their forever home.



Thank you so much for helping Tink and so many more animals live healthy, happy lives.

Newcomers Program Returns

Families new to Canada might face many challenges when they first arrive such as cultural differences and navigating services that may be very different from what they know.

Thanks to you, families who are new to Canada can learn more about the role of pets in our community, what to expect from urban wildlife, and where to go for help with their pets through the OHS's Newcomers Program.

This program was on pause during the public health crisis, but it made a return this year. In partnership with Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization and the Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre, the program has helped 118 people.

Thank you for making this program possible and for helping to build a humane and compassionate community.



Photo Credit: OCCSC Volunteer - Riley Wang

My Pets Are My World

By Taegan Ferguson (she/they)

Taegan enrolled their four pets (dogs Farley and Chica, cats Maya and Rumfer) in the OHS's Pet Stewardship Program in May 2022

What do you do when your pets are your world, but you have no one to trust them with?

That's what happened to me when I came out to my family. I was instantly rejected, but honestly the worst part about it was that I lost my safety net. It's a strange feeling to suddenly not have a soul you could call on. Or rather, that your lawyer could call on, should the need arise.

I adopted a retired racer a few years ago, and she and I have been working together as a service dog team. She's absolutely brilliant at it, but it has taken us a long time to get used to each other. It's taken a lot of work to get her to be comfortable off the track. I love her like she's a piece of my soul.

And then, I had to write instructions for her care for OHS to enrol her in the OHS's Pet Stewardship Program should something happen to me.

Everyone at OHS was more than accommodating with my feelings around this. They ensured that Chica would indeed be a good fit for the program, by both being patient with me basically



Chica with Taegan at their volunteering position at Gananoque Arts Network, being an Art Hound.

freaking out during the process, and by contacting her vet and getting more information about her health. I was going through a lot at the time, as it was a heck of a thing to have to confront, right after my family rejected me. The staff at the OHS were kind and understanding.

It's really hard to describe my experience. I don't quite have words for the peace of mind the OHS has given me. The thought that she wouldn't be cared for if something happened to me literally kept me up at night. Far more than losing my family. Far more than anything else. I had night terrors about it.

Chica is my baby.

Thank you for letting me get back to sleep. Thank you for taking care of us.

A woman with grey hair and a pink scarf is hugging a dog. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor setting.

It's a hard question:
**What if my pet
outlives me?**

**Plan for Your
Pet's Future**

Learn more about Pet Stewardship
ottawahumane.ca/stewardship

Community Kudos

Ottawa cares about animals! Here are a few of the incredible people in our community who went above and beyond for the animals. There were many lemonade entrepreneurs this summer.



Ella

This Humane Hero has hosted two silent auctions to raise money for animals in our community. Thank you very much for being so generous, Ella!

Lemonade Stands for the Animals

Last summer, many aspiring lemonade entrepreneurs got to work to help Ottawa's animals. A big thank you to Grace and her two friends, Callie and Clare, Brianna and Logan, Josh, Kai, and the 7A girls from Abraar secondary school for selling lemonade for the animals!



Madi, Grace, Hannah, and Lyla

These rock stars hosted a garage sale and a bake sale! The animals are so lucky to have caring heroes like you.

Bruce

A big thank you to Bruce for hosting a garage sale and raising funds for Ottawa's homeless animals. Thank you for your amazing support!

To see other OHS heroes, visit ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos.

Temporary Homes for Animals in Need

You ensure that Ottawa's animals have somewhere safe to go in their time of need and that they can receive tender love and care while they stay in the shelter. But some animals do not adjust well to life at the OHS — the strange noises and smells, and the constant comings and goings of animals and people can be stressful for some animals.

Thanks to you, these animals can stay with OHS foster volunteers, who provide a temporary home for animals who need to rest and recover to restore their health, who need one-on-one attention to improve their behaviour, or who just need a quiet, home environment while they wait to find their forever home.

Since January 2022, you gave 982 animals temporary homes with loving foster volunteers. Your support provided the meals, supplies, toys, medication and training that makes this program possible.

Thank you for making incredible care a reality for Ottawa's homeless animals.



Become a PAW Monthly Donor!

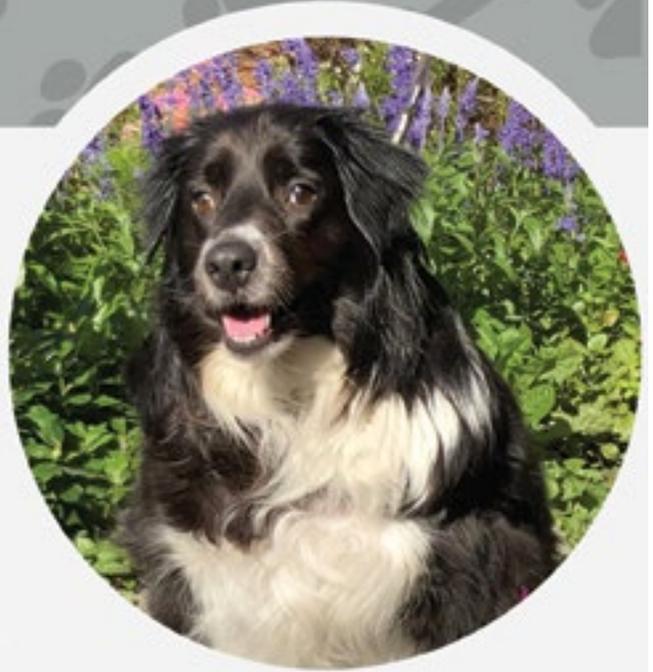
Animals like Nikita are counting on you to provide them with a new start at life and get them into loving forever homes.

Nikita is just one of the many animals in the care of the Ottawa Humane Society. This five-year-old border collie had ligament injuries in both of her knees. She needed major orthopedic surgery to improve the stability of both her knees. Thanks to PAW monthly donors, Nikita had somewhere safe to heal and recover.

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

ottawahumane.ca/paw

613-725-3166 ext. 254



PAW 

monthly giving saves lives

February is
Spay/Neuter Awareness Month

THANK YOU
for making these essential surgeries possible for thousands of animals each year.



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