

ONTARIO SPCA

AND HUMANE SOCIETY

Ontario's animal charity since 1873.



2018

Annual Report
to Communities

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ontariospca.ca

Mission

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's mission is to facilitate and provide for province-wide leadership on matters relating to the prevention of cruelty to animals and the promotion of animal welfare.

Vision

The vision of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society is to be the recognized authority on animal welfare issues and to make a measurable difference for animals. The Ontario SPCA is an integral part of each community, promoting mutually beneficial human-animal interactions, and is viewed as a desirable organization for volunteerism and support.

The Ontario SPCA is working to create a future where:

- All Ontarians respect and appreciate animals
- No animals are victims of abuse or homelessness

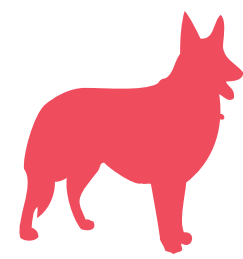
Goal

The Society's goal is to be a strong, unified and collaborative organization dedicated to the cultivation of a compassionate Ontario for all animals.



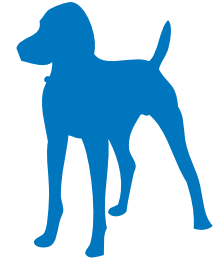
A Year in Numbers:

2018 Spay/Neuter Procedure Totals



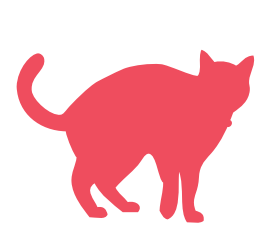
1,594

Female dogs spayed



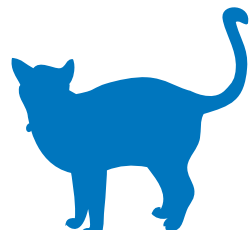
2,640

Male dogs neutered



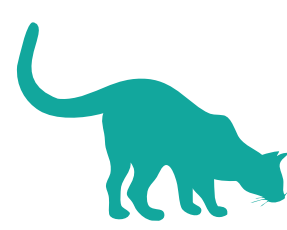
3,601

Female cats spayed



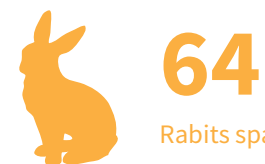
3,143

Male cats neutered



320

feral cats



64

Rabbits spayed / neutered

Total procedures: **11,362**

2018 Animal Welfare Adoption Totals*

*Ontario SPCA animal centres only



4,290

cats



1,132

dogs



680

small animals



131

birds



20

other

Total number of adoptions: **6,253**

Northern Animals Transported



2018 Provincial Animal Welfare Legislation Enforcement Results

32

Criminal charges

499

Provincial charges

3,630

Orders issued

14,203

Complaints investigated

1,142

Animals removed as a result of an investigation

62

Total zoos identified

125

Total zoo inspections

49

Number of zoos on registry*

*All 62 zoos are inspected twice a year, 49 are participants in the Province of Ontario's voluntary registry

ONTARIO SPCA AND HUMANE SOCIETY

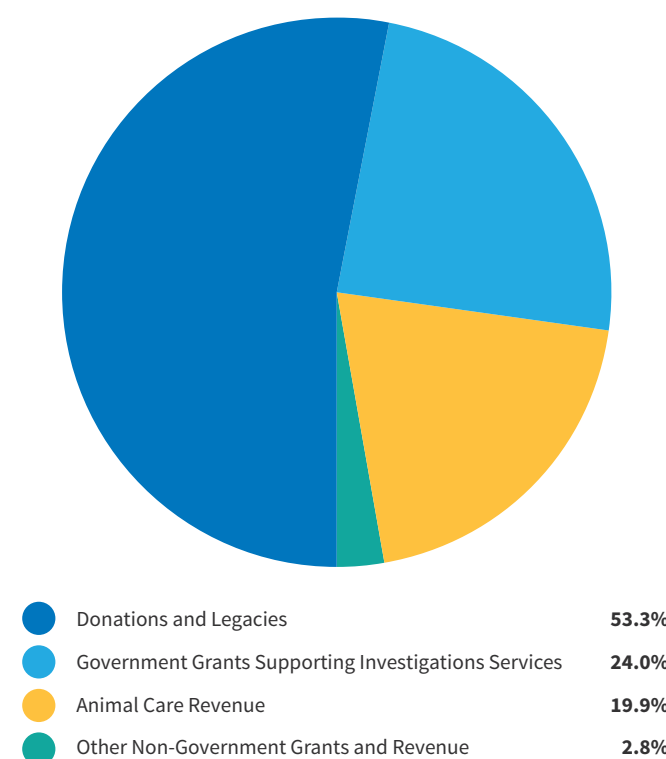
2018 Financial Report

Statement of Financial Position

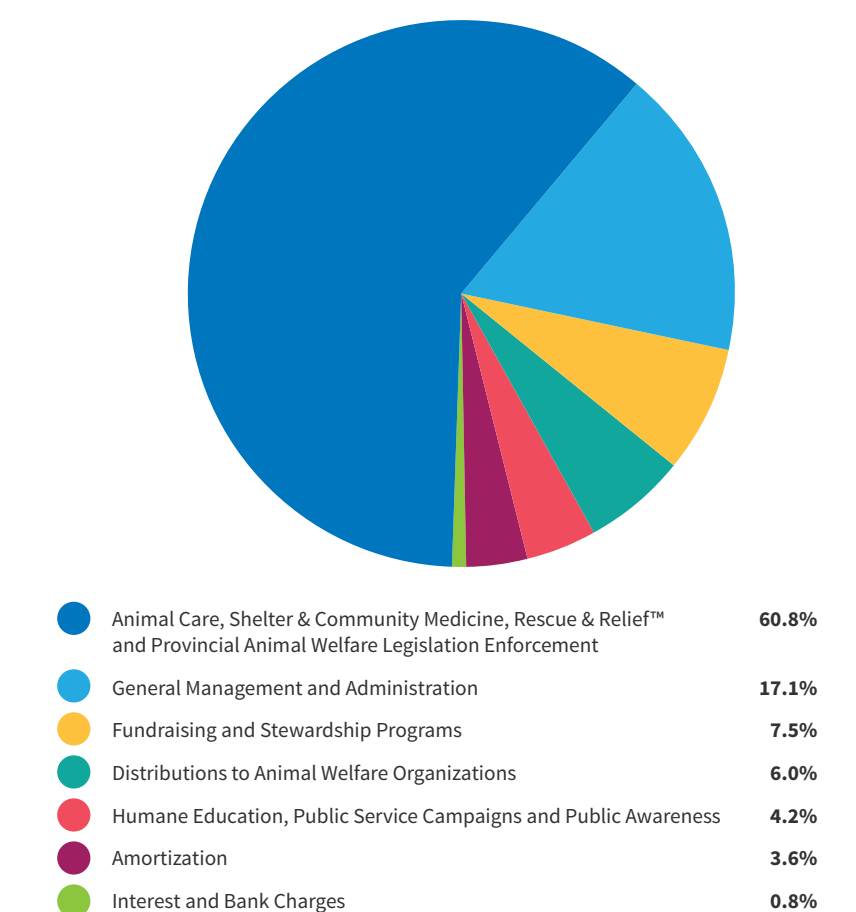
December 31, 2018, with comparative information for 2017

	2018	2017
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$6,957,337	\$3,139,199
Short-term investments	7,063,872	5,115,999
Accounts receivable	1,985,453	4,985,459
Inventory	56,420	39,800
Prepaid expenses	610,834	436,564
	16,673,916	13,717,021
Investments	3,731,441	3,795,241
Capital assets	13,652,967	13,838,789
	\$34,058,324	\$31,351,051
Liabilities and Fund Balances		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$2,181,545	\$2,191,044
Deferred revenue	208,837	63,916
	2,390,382	2,254,960
Fund balances:		
Provincial	31,667,942	29,096,091
	\$34,058,324	\$31,351,051

How you support animal welfare:



Your dollars at work:



Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances

Year ended December 31, 2018, with comparative information for 2017

	2018	2017
Revenue:		
Donations and fundraising	\$6,953,547	\$7,060,737
Provincial grants	5,806,990	5,649,718
Shelter and veterinary	2,650,705	2,144,474
Municipal contract fees	2,149,818	2,368,030
Other	476,857	576,924
Investments	188,537	431,019
	18,226,454	18,230,902
Expenses:		
Animal care and protection	13,109,181	13,957,282
General	3,694,489	3,456,057
Fundraising	1,618,450	1,672,277
Amortization	764,650	798,033
Communication and education services	909,565	861,058
Interest and bank charges	165,869	151,798
	20,262,204	20,896,505
Distributions:		
Grants to Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Affiliates and SPCAs/Humane Societies in other provinces	1,306,187	750,111
Deficiency of revenue over expenses and distributions before legacies	(3,341,937)	(3,415,714)
Legacies	5,913,788	4,933,178
Excess of revenue over expenses and distributions	2,571,851	1,517,464
Fund balances, beginning of year	29,096,091	27,578,627
Fund balances, end of year	\$31,667,942	\$29,096,091

Ontario SPCA and Humane Society to roll out new programs and services in 2019

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society is proud and excited to introduce its new Ontario SPCA Animal Rescue program. This new initiative provides crisis intervention services to respond to the needs of vulnerable animals in urgent situations such as fires, floods or hurricanes and, on a local level, in situations of hoarding.

“The Ontario SPCA has the expertise to assist in times of crisis to protect animal life,” says Daryl Vaillancourt, Chief, Humane Programs & Community Outreach, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “Ontario SPCA Animal Rescue is designed to be a support service to ensure animals receive the necessary care during urgent and crisis situations.”

Ontario SPCA Animal Rescue is a new program with a focused approach and a dedicated team, but the work of rescuing animals is not new to the Society. Since 1873, the Ontario SPCA has been providing care and shelter for tens of thousands of animals each year.



Ontario SPCA Animal Rescue provides crisis intervention services to respond to the needs of vulnerable animals in urgent situations.

The Society is focused on preventing cruelty to animals, promoting animal advocacy, providing humane education, sheltering, fostering and adoptions, crisis intervention, mobile veterinary services and animal rescue.

Also new for 2019 is a mobile spay/neuter unit operated by the Ontario SPCA. Through this new mobile surgical hospital, the Ontario SPCA can deliver spay/neuter procedures where they are needed most. The goal of the Society is to give pet owners access to spay/neuter services by removing many of the barriers that prevent them from having their pets spayed or neutered.

“Through our new mobile surgical hospital we will reach even more animals,” says Vaillancourt, “which will help reduce pet overpopulation and create healthier communities for animals and people.”



AnimalSmart™ lessons empower youth to become informed, respectful and compassionate.

AnimalSmart™ lesson plans teach kids compassion for animals

Imagine a future where all people in Ontario respect and appreciate animals. That’s the vision of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, which is using education to prevent animal cruelty.

The Ontario SPCA’s dynamic, educational AnimalSmart™ series was introduced in 2018 to empower youth to become a more informed, respectful and compassionate generation. This inquiry-led, play-based learning model addresses a variety of the Ontario Ministry of Education’s curriculum expectations.

“AnimalSmart was developed to foster compassion and develop healthy relationships between animals and people,” says Amanda McKibbin, Director, Affiliate & Community Outreach, Ontario

SPCA and Humane Society. “Today’s children are our future pet parents and future community leaders, which is why it’s critical that we instill in them knowledge of, and appreciation for, animals.”

AnimalSmart lesson plans develop and maintain positive relationships with pets by helping children develop the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and skills needed to become responsible pet caregivers. The plans also foster positive relationships with pets to enhance children’s social and emotional development. In addition, the series highlights the importance of safety and the prevention of pet related injuries, such as bites.

To learn more, or to download lesson plans, visit animalsmart.ca



Students in Whitefish Bay laugh as Ontario SPCA presenters pretend to be a dog interacting with a student. The role playing showed children at the school how to safely interact with strange dogs.

Close to 2,000 kilometres separates the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society from Nootkamegwanning First Nation (Whitefish Bay), but the connection they share over animal wellness makes them neighbours and friends.

In many Northern communities, access to animal wellness services, such as veterinarians and spay/neuter services, are often limited. As a result, there is an abundance of dogs in Northern Canada who need resources and support.

Since 2015, the Ontario SPCA has been partnering with Whitefish Bay, located near the Ontario-Manitoba border, to support community dogs and provide resources such as spay/neuter services. When the Ontario SPCA returned to the community in October 2018 to transfer dogs, the Society was invited to participate in cultural ceremonies and also worked alongside community leaders to develop a community animal management strategy.

“It was an amazing experience to be invited to Whitefish Bay,” says Kristy Kirk, Animal Care Attendant and Volunteer Coordinator, Ontario SPCA Muskoka Animal Centre. “It was really special to be invited to a ceremony and have the opportunity to listen to the stories of the community members.”

One of the highlights of that trip was speaking at a local school. Giggles erupted when Ontario SPCA presenters did a role-playing

Indigenous partnerships create healthy communities for animals and people

exercise where they pretended to be a dog interacting with a student. The exercise showed students how to interact with strange dogs and may have kept one student safe.

“We learned from a community member not long after we left that a young person had been in such a situation and, recalling what she had learned, was able to stay safe,” says Judi Cannon, Director, Partnerships & Community Outreach, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “This is a perfect example of the positive impact humane education can have on a community. It gives people the tools they need to feel empowered and better equipped to understand and interact with animals.”

Whitefish Bay is one of over 20 Indigenous communities the Ontario SPCA worked alongside in 2018, through its Year of the Northern Dog program. With its partners, the Ontario SPCA developed a network of individuals, organizations and communities aimed at bringing awareness to the issue and working alongside Northern communities with a common goal – to change lives. Thanks to the dedication of volunteers, the vision of partners and the compassion of Northern communities, over 550 animals were transported South in 2018 to find new homes.

To learn how you can get involved, visit northernanimals.ca



Wartime contributions of animals remembered through commemorative pins

The wartime contributions of animals are being recognized through a series of commemorative pins unveiled by the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society.

In 2018, a new pin was added to the collection, this time featuring a dog. Over 1,600 pins were worn proudly last year for Remembrance Day by animal lovers across the province. For each pin sold, \$1 is donated to the Royal Canadian Legion to support veterans.

“One of our customers shared that she would wear this pin with pride as her great-great-grandfather rode a horse during the war,” says Carol Beard, Manager, Ontario SPCA Orillia Animal Centre. “She couldn’t think of a better way to honour him.”



A cheque is presented from the Ontario SPCA to Royal Canadian Legion Branch 459 in Stouffville.

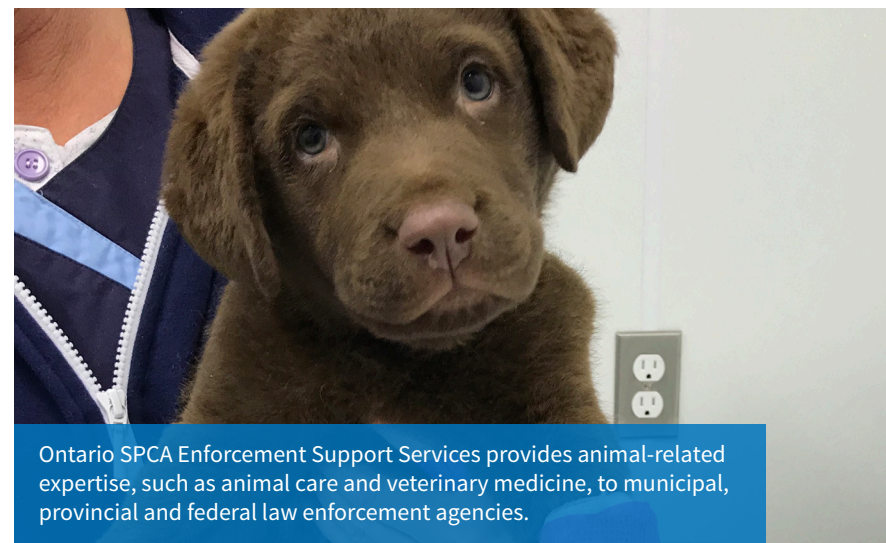
A variety of animals have served in wartime. Mules carried artillery, horses transported troops and hauled field guns, pigeons delivered crucial messages and dogs served as messengers, medical assistants, bomb detectors and search and rescue workers.

The Animals in War pin is available online at pawsandgive.ca and at Ontario SPCA animal centres across the province, leading up to Remembrance Day.

Ontario SPCA Enforcement Support Services provides key resources to help protect animals

To better serve animals across the province, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society has introduced a new operational model to supply animal-related expertise as a support service to enforcement agencies, similar to the models of the ASPCA and HSUS in the United States.

Ontario SPCA Enforcement Support Services provides animal-related expertise to municipal, provincial and federal law enforcement agencies. These services include collecting and processing forensic evidence to help build cases against animal abusers, on-site support providing animal care, including veterinary medicine, animal transportation, animal sheltering and the placement of rescued animals in homes or other suitable environments.



Ontario SPCA Enforcement Support Services provides animal-related expertise, such as animal care and veterinary medicine, to municipal, provincial and federal law enforcement agencies.

Just as we have done since 1873, the Ontario SPCA will continue to provide animal protection services in the areas of animal rescue, animal sheltering and care, mobile veterinary services, animal advocacy and humane education.

“We want to see a system in place that provides maximum protection for animals. The Ontario SPCA has been Ontario’s animal charity for over 140 years,” says Kate MacDonald, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “Our expertise, working as a support service to enforcement agencies, will be a powerful combination and we believe the right combination to best protect animals.”

First Northern Ontario Animal Summit shares collaborative solutions

experiences, and possible solutions, on how to best support Northern communities.

An exciting new concept was also introduced at the Northern Animal Summit that has the potential to revolutionize veterinary care in remote communities. Healthy Pets is Canada’s first solution for text and video-based medicine in veterinary care. The Healthy Pets program simplifies access to pet care through a convenient, on-demand and affordable tool that connects pet parents online to a trusted network of local veterinarians.

A transfer from Northern Reach of 37 dogs and one cat arrived at the Ontario SPCA Sudbury & District Animal Centre during the summit. Delegates had the opportunity to observe the intake process and learn about transfers and how animals are safely transported.

“There is so much great work being done in the North and it was truly inspiring to bring everyone together to discuss challenges, solutions and the future,” says Judi Cannon, Director, Partnerships & Community Outreach, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “Everyone has a role to play in creating healthy communities for animals and people.”



A panel at the Northern Animal Summit discusses challenges faced by Northern communities.

To identify challenges faced by Northern communities and work together to find solutions, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society brought together a diverse group of animal advocates in Sudbury for the first Northern Animal Summit.

Held at Collège Boréal in October, the two-day event brought together thought leaders and influencers.

Delegates listened to a panel discussion featuring Bruno Henry, a volunteer of the Wiky Rez Dog Volunteers; Hichem Rabie Anabi, Manager of the Veterinary Technician Program at Collège Boréal; Jennifer Farr, Medical Director and surgeon for the Welland & District SPCA Mobile Hospital; Magdalena Smrdelj, Chief Veterinary Officer at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society; Nikki Burns, founding president of the Northern Spay Neuter Program; Judi Cannon, Director of Partnership & Community Outreach at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society; Kirby Paul and Chelsea Chandler from Naotkamegwaning First Nation (Whitefish Bay); Kristen Ferguson, Associate Professor of Education at the Schulich School of Education in North Bay and a lead collaborator of the AnimalSmart™ education series; and Kevin MacKenzie, Senior Manager for Leadership Giving at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. These experts shared their

Friends come together to walk for animals in need



Enjoying the Friends for Life! Walk™ at the Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District Animal Centre.

Every August and September for the past 25 years, Lee Duguid has gone door-to-door to thousands of houses in communities surrounding Sudbury, and canvassed outside stores, to raise critical funds for animals in need.

“A lot wait for me; they expect me,” says Duguid. “I’ve got a rapport with people now. I’m always smiling and joking and laughing. I’m very fortunate that I’ve made friends along the way; friends that I look forward to seeing every year.”

Raising just under \$100,000 to date, Duguid has been the top fundraiser in the province for the past 10 years for the Friends for Life! Walk™. The event raises funds for programs and services provided by Ontario SPCA and Humane Society animal centres and participating humane societies.

“There are so many people who love animals, but nobody has ever gone to them and said, ‘Hey, would you like to donate?’” says Duguid. “This is my opportunity to give them the opportunity to donate.”



Top Friends for Life! Walk fundraiser Lee Duguid and her fur family.

Duguid has three cats, two dogs, a parrot and a teddy bear hamster. She says she feels good knowing that her fundraising efforts are helping other animals.

“Hopefully I’ll be remembered as the lady that had the heart for the Ontario SPCA,” she says. “Animals do so much for us.”

Duguid wasn’t alone when she walked for animals on the weekend of September 22–23, 2018. Over 1,000 participants came together in 13 communities across the province, raising over \$300,000 to support animal wellness programs and services. More than just a fundraising walk, the Friends for Life! Walk is a fun-filled day that offers something for everyone.

“Thanks to the generous support of animal welfare champions, vulnerable animals are given the second chance they deserve,” says Jennifer Hughes, Manager, Ontario SPCA Sudbury & District Animal Centre. “By fundraising for the Friends for Life! Walk, you’re making life-saving work possible.” For more information, visit friendsforlifewalk.ca.



iAdopt for the Holidays helps thousands of animals find loving homes

Over 3,600 animals from participating SPCAs and Humane Societies across Canada found their forever homes during the 2018 iAdopt for the Holidays campaign, and were able to spend the holiday season with their new families. At Ontario SPCA animal centres across the province, close to 1,300 animals found their forever homes during the campaign.

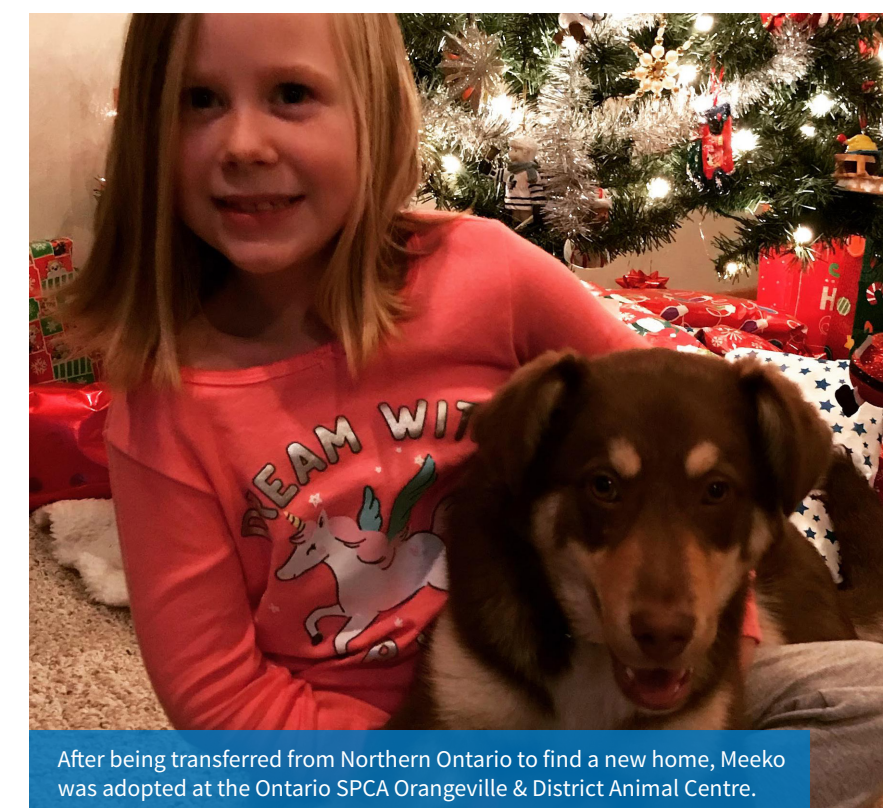
iAdopt for the Holidays, supported by Royal Canin®, kicks off each year on November 1 and runs until December 31 at participating SPCAs, Humane Societies and rescue groups nationwide. The goal is to place as many animals as possible into loving homes.

Everyone who adopted a pet from a participating organization was entered into a contest to win free pet food for a year, courtesy of Royal Canin® Canada. The lucky winner was Melissa St. Louis from Ingleside. Her cat, Luna, is enjoying her prize!

“Nothing brings joy to a home like the love of an adopted animal who has found a family to call their own,” says Elizabeth Westover, Manager, Ontario SPCA Provincial Education & Animal Centre. “With people having time off from work and being home together as a family, the holidays are a great time to welcome a new furry companion and help them get settled.”

For more information, visit iadopt.ca.

WATCH VIDEO



After being transferred from Northern Ontario to find a new home, Meeko was adopted at the Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District Animal Centre.

Disease surveillance protected shelter animals during H3N2 outbreak



A vaccination program protects dogs from the H3N2 canine influenza.

When the highly contagious H3N2 canine influenza entered Ontario in December 2017, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society responded quickly, establishing a vaccination program to protect the dogs in its care.

The H3N2 canine influenza virus was a “novel virus,” meaning it was not previously seen in Canada. There was no natural protection in the province’s dog populations.

Heightened screening was put in place at Ontario SPCA animal centres and a vaccination policy was implemented. The information was shared with Affiliates and municipalities, using shelterhealthpro.com as a source for information. In areas of the province where the virus had been reported, all dogs coming into Ontario SPCA animal centres were, and continue to be, vaccinated against H3N2.

“This situation is an example of how our higher level disease protection protocols work. We stay vigilant; we’re proactive,” says Dr. Magdalena Smrdelj, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “Vigilance is so important and so valuable to protect our animal friends. After all, shelter medicine is about preventative care.”

Got a Pet? Get a Vet!™ campaign celebrates veterinarians

If you have a pet, get a vet! That’s the message the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society is sharing with pet owners.

Got a Pet? Get a Vet!™ was launched in 2015 by the Ontario SPCA, in association with the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) and participating SPCAs and Humane Societies across Canada.

Building a relationship with a veterinarian, and taking your pets for a checkup each year, can help protect against a variety of potentially

life-threatening diseases, detect health problems sooner and help you avoid unexpected costs.

Congratulations to the 2018 Got a Pet? Get a Vet! Award recipient, Dr. Renne Ferguson of the Mountain View Veterinary Hospital in Langley, BC. Nominated by the public, Dr. Ferguson received 1,700 votes!

Animal wellness is a team effort, and your veterinarian plays a critical role in your pet’s well-being. For more information, or to find a vet in your area, visit gotapetgetavet.ca.

Ontario SPCA spay/neuter services celebrating 10th anniversary and close to 117,000 procedures



Cuddling a warming sock, a cat recovers from surgery through the Ontario SPCA’s spay/neuter services.

With over 11,000 animals coming through the doors in 2018, and a 10-year anniversary on the horizon, there’s plenty to celebrate at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society’s spay/neuter services.

In 2019, the Ontario SPCA’s spay/neuter locations will celebrate their 10th anniversary. On the eve of that anniversary, close to 117,000 animals will have been spayed or neutered. These high-volume, self-sustaining operations are open to the public, shelters and rescue groups, regardless of geography or income level.

“Animals deserve a better life than wandering homeless on the street,” says Judith Aubin, Senior Manager, Spay/Neuter Services, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “We’re asking the community to help us end pet overpopulation by spaying and neutering their pets. Book an appointment with your veterinarian, register at the Ontario SPCA’s spay/neuter services or make a donation to help ensure animals in need, who come into our care, won’t be contributing to the issue of homeless pets.”

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

For more information, visit ontariospca.ca/spayneuter.



Take Action!

Help shape new animal welfare legislation.

Change begins with you. Be the voice for animals.

Visit changeformanimals.ca

**ONTARIO SPCA
AND HUMANE SOCIETY**
Ontario's animal charity since 1892

Cupcake champions bake a difference for animals in need

Two sleepless days and more than 1,000 cupcakes later, Jessica Burton was ready for National Cupcake Day™. Her kitchen floor was covered in enough sprinkles that she had to wear slippers, but that didn't faze her.

"I feel it's important to get involved. Not only is the Ontario SPCA a cause I believe in, animals depend on us – especially those in need," says Burton, who is a "fur mom" to two cats and a 17-year-old dog. "Baking a cupcake, donating time, giving money; it all adds up."

Burton has been participating in National Cupcake Day since 2013, raising over \$16,500 to date. She sells her intricate designs at a bar she operates in Brockville. From pigs and flamingos to cupcake hamburgers and fish with colourful candy scales, her designs are far from ordinary.

Burton credits her community for supporting her National Cupcake Day efforts, as well as friends far and wide who make donations online. Two of her staff also got on board, donating their tips for the day.



Blake Doyle was the top Mini-Cupcakeateer fundraiser in 2019, raising \$2,150.

"When family and friends and the community help out, the feeling is unreal," says Burton, who raises funds for her local Ontario SPCA, the Leeds & Grenville Animal Centre. "It makes you feel good knowing you're 'baking' a difference."

Now in its seventh year, National Cupcake Day took place on February 25, 2019. Presented by the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, the collaborative fundraising effort supports animal charities across Canada. A total of over \$345,000 was raised to help our furry friends, big and small, who have been abused, abandoned, neglected or are no longer wanted.

For more information, visit nationalcupcakeday.ca

Corporate volunteer program makes it easy for companies to help animals

Other corporations are also taking a less conventional approach to volunteering. Mars Petcare has been a long-time supporter of the Ontario SPCA as the provider of Royal Canin® food for animals awaiting adoption. In 2018, employees from their Bolton office and factory built scratch posts for cats in Ontario SPCA adoption centres. Over 20 people constructed 50 scratch posts.

"Associates at Mars are passionate about making a difference for pets," says Leslie Brams-Baker, Director of Corporate and Consumer Affairs with Mars Canada. "We have found that associates who give their time to improve the lives of pets are more engaged with what they do every day."

Interested in corporate volunteering?
Email cmay-mcquillan@ospca.on.ca to learn more.



Mars Petcare staff built 50 scratch posts for cats in Ontario SPCA adoption centres.

The face of corporate philanthropy is changing, as more companies are looking for meaningful ways to have a positive impact on their communities.

Sigma Promotions first got involved with the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society when Lisa Karjala, who looks after service and sales for the Aurora-based business, adopted a dog from her local Ontario SPCA animal centre.

"She is such a large part of my life," says Karjala. "I wanted the Ontario SPCA to be a part of our commitment to giving back."

Ontario SPCA staff visited Sigma's office over a lunch break and guided staff on how to make "snuffle mats." These enrichment tools are made by weaving pieces of fabric together to create a thick mat where treats can be hidden. Scents can also be applied to keep things interesting for the animals.

Collège Boréal and Ontario SPCA sign 10-year animal wellness agreement



Joined by students, officials with the Ontario SPCA and Collège Boréal sign a 10-year agreement.

Collège Boréal and the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society signed a milestone 10-year agreement to renew a partnership that gives students hands-on animal wellness learning and provides a home base for the Ontario SPCA Sudbury & District Animal Centre.

The agreement marks the first time Collège Boréal has made a commitment for a period of 10 years. In support of future generations of animal wellness advocates, the Ontario SPCA also announced its intent to provide funding support to benefit a Francophone Indigenous student accepted into Collège Boréal's two-year accredited Veterinary Technician Program.

"We have forged a strong relationship with Collège Boréal that will help shape the future of animal wellness," says Kate MacDonald, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. "Animals in the local community, as well as remote Northern communities served through our Animal North Network, benefit from this unique partnership. We look forward to the next 10 years and beyond."

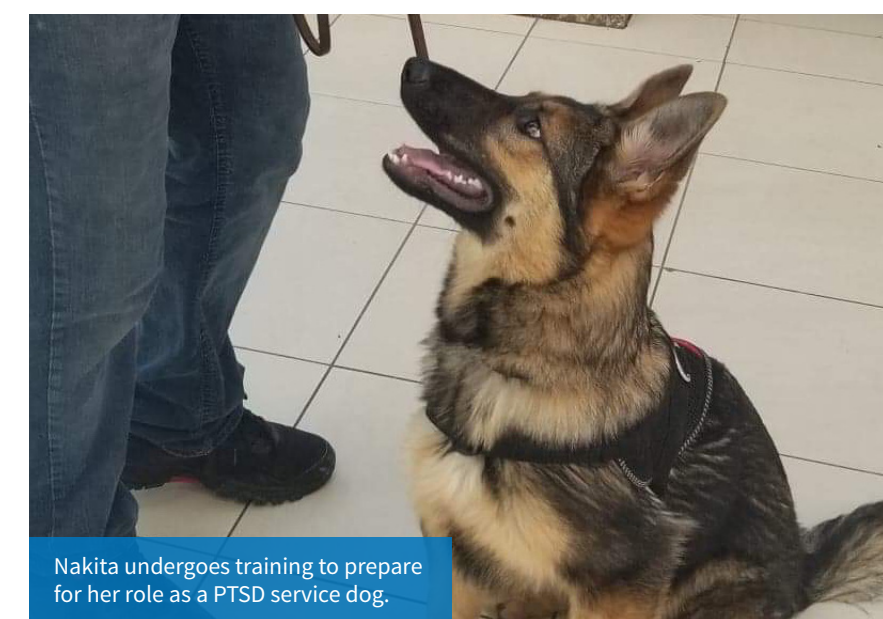
As part of the official opening of the new veterinary wing of Collège Boréal's Sudbury campus in 2013, the Ontario SPCA and Collège Boréal forged an innovative partnership to facilitate the sharing

of resources and knowledge. The five-year agreement resulted in Collège Boréal becoming the first Canadian college to teach shelter medicine, the creation of a new Ontario SPCA Sudbury & District Animal Centre and the joint use of Collège Boréal's veterinary wing.

"The last five years have proven that sharing complementary resources to offer excellent college-level training in veterinary care is a success," says Daniel Giroux, President, Collège Boréal. "In addition, the generous offer of a bursary for a Francophone Indigenous student to study in our Veterinary Technician Program at our Sudbury campus just goes to show what an incredible partner and friend the Ontario SPCA is to Collège Boréal."

"The benefits for the program and our students of this innovative partnership with the Ontario SPCA have surpassed expectations: sharing of certifications, courses and manuals, student bursaries, provincial conference participation, networking opportunities, access to a multitude of placements throughout Ontario, week-long internships at the Ontario SPCA's provincial office in Stouffville and employment across the province, if not the country," says Kim Morris, Dean, Collège Boréal. "Merci, Ontario SPCA!"

Partners come together to fund PTSD service dog



Nakita undergoes training to prepare for her role as a PTSD service dog.

One by one, hands went up across the room at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's 2018 Educational Conference, as delegates pledged their support to donate towards the training of a service dog for someone in need. In a matter of minutes, thousands of dollars had been raised.

The inspiration behind this powerful show of solidarity was Shawn Fougere, a police officer coping with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). After hearing Fougere's story, animal welfare partners in attendance came together to pledge their contribution to fund a service dog to give someone else this same life-changing opportunity.

With that promise of support, the Ontario SPCA reached out to Shai Perlmutter and Peter Lood of In Canis Speramus in Ottawa. They train personal protection dogs and taught Fougere's dog, Kal, to be a service dog. They found the perfect candidate for the job – a Shepherd puppy named Nakita.

Nakita has progressed well through her training and has been matched with someone coping with PTSD. For people diagnosed and living with PTSD, the struggle is real, and this dog will help this deserving individual.

Special thanks to the Brant County SPCA, Don Cherry Pet Rescue Foundation, Georgian Triangle Humane Society, North Bay and District Humane Society, Peterborough Humane Society, Quinte Humane Society, Royal Canin, Welland & District Humane Society, the Wiki Rez Dogs Group, Ontario SPCA Board member Kari Wilson and the Ontario SPCA for making this life-changing initiative possible.

Planes, trains and automobiles deliver over 28,000 lbs of donated pet food to the North

Imagine running out of dog or cat food, but there are no stores in your community that have any. If you can find it, the cost could be as much as \$90 for a small bag. For many remote Northern communities, this is the struggle.

To give pet owners access to much-needed food, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, the Feeding Program for Northern Dogs, CN Rail, North Star Air Ltd. and Rolf C. Hagen Inc. came together in 2018 to deliver a shipment of over 28,000 lbs of pet food to Northern communities.



CN Rail prepares to ship a donation of over 28,000 lbs of pet food headed to Northern communities.

“In remote Northern communities, resources and access to animal wellness services are often limited or non-existent and getting supplies to many of these communities comes with obstacles, as many are accessed by air only,” says Judi Cannon, Director, Partnerships & Community Outreach, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society.

This donation of dog and cat food by Rolf C. Hagen Inc. is one of the largest in-kind donations in the history of the Ontario SPCA.

“Hagen has continually contributed to and supported many animal welfare organizations over the years; but always with a strong focus in Canada, where the company was founded, and is still currently headquartered,” says Katherine Bosina, Manager, Dog & Cat Consumables with Rolf C. Hagen Inc. “We are fortunate enough to be able to help offset some of the tremendous costs the Ontario SPCA incurs to protect and care for animals in need; in all areas of Ontario, including the remote Northern communities. We hope this donation will bring attention to their important work in these areas.”

The 29 pallets of cat and dog food were shipped by CN rail from the GTA to Winnipeg where the food was then trucked to Pickle Lake, located approximately 500 kilometres north of Thunder Bay. The shipment of food arrived at North Star Air’s Pickle Lake base on May 4, 2018 and was then distributed by plane to the various remote communities North Star Air serves.

“Part of what we do at CN is support our neighbours and the communities where we operate,” says Daniel Salvatore, Manager, Public Affairs Ontario, CN. “Railroaders have big hearts and are good at getting things done; this project was no exception. CN employees involved in transporting the donated goods by truck and train on our network from Mississauga, Brampton, Winnipeg, and Thunder Bay were proud to be of assistance.”

Celebrating the life-saving work of volunteers

Day in and day out, volunteers across the province make a difference as dog walkers, animal transport drivers and everything in between. Over 850 community-minded people volunteer for the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society for one simple reason: to help animals.

In celebration of National Volunteer Week, two volunteers are selected by the animal centre they serve for their outstanding volunteer service. Congratulations to Spencer Moore and Kristin Sowerby, the 2018 Outstanding Volunteer Service Award Winners!

Spencer is an active community member, yet he still finds time to come into the Leeds & Grenville Animal Centre almost every week to walk dogs, transport animals, or lend a hand at events. Spencer has logged over 50 volunteer hours and has walked more than 120 dogs. He also donates supplies and recently adopted a 12-year-old senior cat named Green Tea.

Kristin has been a volunteer at the Ontario SPCA Midland & District Animal Centre since September 2016. Although Kristin works full time and cares for her own crew of furry friends at home, she manages to find the time to give back. After falling in love with a dog at the centre, she now walks the dogs on a regular basis. Her goal is to see every animal in a forever home.



Thank you to Spencer and Kristen, and all our volunteers! Your hard work and dedication is changing lives! For information on volunteering, visit ontariospca.ca/volunteer

WATCH VIDEO



Animals need you.

Join the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society as a monthly donor today and help animals 365 days a year.



Sign-up today at operationpetrescue.ca

Mobile spay/neuter services help vulnerable pets

The Welland & District SPCA rolled into the communities of Cornwall and Pembroke in October 2018 to host a mobile spay/neuter clinic for vulnerable pets.

The mobile clinic was stationed in each community for two days, performing 71 spay/neuter procedures and 61 wellness examinations in Pembroke, and 69 spay/neuter procedures and 29 wellness examinations in Cornwall. An entire day was devoted to spaying and neutering cats in Cornwall – a community that struggles with an overpopulation of cats.

“It was a huge success,” says John Greer, Executive Director, Welland & District SPCA. “I think the people of Cornwall, in particular, were relieved that they were getting the help they’ve been asking for to address their issue with cat overpopulation.”

The mobile clinics were made possible through a collaborative effort between the Welland & District SPCA, the Ontario SPCA Renfrew County Animal Centre and the Ontario SPCA Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry (SD&G) Animal Centre.

“We had such positive responses from the communities,” says Amanda Eckersley, Manager, Ontario SPCA Renfrew County Animal Centre. “Owners were so grateful and we filled up appointments very quickly.”



A cat undergoes surgery inside the Welland & District SPCA's mobile spay/neuter unit, which went to Pembroke and Cornwall.

Community partners played a critical role in the clinics, including local food banks and social support services, which registered pet owners. The Pembroke Legion and Cornwall Civic Complex graciously hosted, inviting the mobile spay/neuter unit to operate at their locations.

Carol Link, Manager, Ontario SPCA SD&G Animal Centre, sees first-hand the number of homeless animals arriving at the animal centre. Controlling pet overpopulation, she says, begins with spaying or neutering pets.

“The only long-term solution for pet overpopulation is prevention,” says Link. “Everyone has a role to play in creating healthy communities for pets and people.”



Humane Society London & Middlesex Board member Michael DeLornzi and Executive Director Steve Ryall with Corey Dubeau, VP Northern Commerce.

London Humane Society celebrates 120 years with a new name and look

After close to 120 years of service, London Humane Society unveiled a new name and look in 2018 to encompass everything it has to offer the London and Middlesex communities.

Now known as Humane Society London & Middlesex, it received a complete rebrand, including a new logo, brand identity, website and marketing assets.

The digital overhaul was possible thanks to a partnership with Northern Commerce, which is a London-based digital agency. After discovering Humane Society London & Middlesex received no outside funding, Northern Commerce donated \$150,000 worth of services.

“This partnership has given us access to the resources we need to expand our presence, both online and within the community,” says Steve Ryall, Executive Director, Humane Society London & Middlesex.

“We now have a platform to better communicate with the community and ultimately serve them in the most effective way possible.”

With the new website, Humane Society London & Middlesex visitors can easily learn how to get involved and see pets available for adoption. Since the website launch, overall traffic to the site has increased by over 180%, social traffic has increased by over 1500%, and mobile traffic has increased by 3000%.

The organization also updated and changed various procedures, including how adoptions are handled. A new streamlined model allows for more personal interactions between people and the animals they want to adopt, dramatically reducing adoption times.

Now in its 120th year of operation, Humane Society London & Middlesex is working on several exciting projects to celebrate this milestone year.



An artist's rendering offers a glimpse of what the Peterborough Humane Society's new Adoption and Education Centre will look like when complete.

The campaign to build the Peterborough Humane Society's new Animal Care Centre has a fresh identity and renewed momentum as it enters the community phase to raise the \$10 million needed for the integrated facility.

Our Pet Project is the campaign's new brand designed to showcase how the Peterborough Animal Care Centre will connect pets and people in Peterborough and throughout the county. Over \$6.4 million has been raised to date.

Our Pet Project campaign chair Chris White, who also serves as treasurer on the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's Board of Directors, is leading a dedicated group of volunteers and influencers to raise the remaining \$4.6 million to reach their \$10 million goal.

The Peterborough Humane Society has purchased equipment needed for the high-volume regional spay/neuter clinic that will be a part of the new centre. These vital services will help reduce pet overpopulation by making spay/neuter procedures accessible to people in Eastern, Central and Northern Ontario. The Society

Our Pet Project launches community phase of Peterborough Humane Society's campaign

received a \$161,000 grant from PetSmart Charities of Canada as well as a \$50,000 matching grant from the Peterborough Community Futures Development Corporation.

The 24,000 sq. ft. facility will also be home to the Peterborough Humane Society's Adoption and Education Centre. The new space will have the capacity to rehome 2,000 animals each year.

“We've done a lot behind the scenes, not only in terms of the campaign, but also with regards to the organization,” says Shawn Morey, Executive Director, Peterborough Humane Society. “We are working hard to make sure the foundation of the Peterborough Humane Society is extremely strong and ready to take on this next chapter.”

The facility will also be home to the Ontario SPCA Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Centre, a first-of-its-kind in Canada. Using the latest evidence-based research, animal behaviour specialists will create customized rehabilitation plans for dogs that need more support and individualized care because of abuse, neglect or trauma.

To learn more visit ourpetproject.ca

New hospital will allow Georgian Triangle Humane Society to help more animals

Transporting animals from the Georgian Triangle Humane Society to veterinary appointments is a thing of the past with the opening of a new companion animal hospital at the Collingwood shelter.

In addition to being able to perform spay/neuter procedures on shelter pets, the Georgian Triangle Humane Society Animal Hospital has diagnostic capabilities and a surgical suite. Medications are available on site through the hospital pharmacy.

An estimated 1,300 animals are expected to come through the shelter in 2019, with more than 200 community cats expected to be spayed or neutered.

“We're going to be able to help more animals because there's not going to be a lag waiting for surgery times,” says Sonya Reichel, Executive Director, Georgian Triangle Humane Society. “We're going to see a reduction in our length of stay, an increase in their



The Georgian Triangle Humane Society will be able to offer on-site care for shelter pets with its new companion animal hospital.

overall welfare because they're not being transported back and forth to veterinary clinics and, because they're going to get adopted more quickly, we're going to be able to help more animals.”

The \$400,000 needed was raised through a “family campaign” made possible thanks to the generosity of donors and a grant through PetSmart Charities.

“It's just another step towards our long-lasting impact on pet overpopulation and increasing the well-being of animals in need,” says Reichel.

Pet Valu Animal Rescue Express hits the road in North Bay

When the North Bay and District Humane Society gets a call about a partner humane society or rescue organization at capacity, it's now in a position to hitch up and head out to help.

The Pet Valu Animal Rescue Express rolled out in April 2018. The North Bay and District Humane Society soon began fielding calls from humane societies and rescue groups in Northern Ontario that were at capacity. From Thunder Bay to Toronto, and everywhere in between, the Pet Valu Animal Express has been relocating animals to shelters for adoption.

The truck and trailer were made possible through a grant from Pet Valu. In 2018, over 300 animals were transported to find new homes.



Representatives from Pet Valu Canada and the North Bay and District Humane Society officially launch the Pet Valu Animal Rescue Express with a cheque presentation at the Ontario SPCA Educational Conference.

"We are working on transferring pets out of communities where they don't necessarily have a chance at adoption, to larger centres where they can have a chance at a second home," says Liam Cullin, Executive Director, North Bay and District Humane Society. "It has been a great experience to build relationships with other organizations, and similarly minded people, and just be able to help each other out."

Over 1,000 pets brought to Sarnia & District Humane Society's first free wellness clinic

With the help of a PetSmart Charities Grant, the Sarnia & District Humane Society held its first free wellness clinic in late 2018.

The clinic took place on November 9 at the Inn of the Good Shepherd, a local not-for-profit organization that provides services to those who are in need of food, shelter and other essentials. Close to 1,000 animals received the care they needed.

The Inn of the Good Shepherd was instrumental in getting the word out about the free wellness clinic, while volunteers, staff

and Board members worked together to keep the very busy day on schedule. Dr. Rodger Griffiths of Bright's Grove Animal Hospital generously brought extra supplies to ensure the clinic had the resources needed.

"It was truly a community effort," says Donna Pyette, Executive Director, Sarnia & District Humane Society. "The many people who came through the clinic were so grateful to be given an opportunity to do something for their pets, who bring so much to their lives."

Microchip initiative aims to reduce unclaimed strays at Timmins shelter

To help unite more lost pets with their families, the Timmins & District Humane Society has started offering microchipping services to the public.

"Before we started the chipping, we always ran the microchip scanner past them and would be completely surprised if they had one," says Alicia Santamaria, Executive Director, Timmins & District Humane Society.

Microchipping was offered on a trial basis in 2018, inviting members from the public to bring their dogs or cats to get microchipped. It was so well received that plans are now underway for a stand-alone microchip clinic. Adopters can also choose to have their new pet microchipped before bringing them home.



Erin Brulé from the Timmins & District Humane Society with Princess. To help reunite lost pets, the humane society is offering microchipping services.

"At times, especially in the spring months, we see a lot of strays come in. It's difficult on the animals and it can get stressful for staff and volunteers because the shelter gets so full," says Santamaria. "We know it's going to take a bit of time before we get to the point where the bulk of our strays coming in are chipped, but we're hoping to get there."

Stratford-Perth Humane Society opens spay/neuter services to the public

To do its part to help control pet overpopulation, the Stratford-Perth Humane Society has opened a public high-volume, self-sustaining spay/neuter clinic.

The new spay/neuter services are offered on site at Stratford-Perth Humane Society, which has had its own program in place since 2016 to "fix" shelter animals before they were placed up for adoption. Now those services are open to the public and rescue groups, regardless of geography or income level. The clinic will offer vaccines, flea treatment and microchip services with spay/neuter procedures for cats and dogs.

"With it being primarily a rural community, we recognize that there's a higher population of un-spayed un-neutered pets, beyond even feral animals," says Kathrin Delutis, Executive Director of the



A cat is examined at the Stratford-Perth Humane Society's new public high-volume, self-sustaining spay/neuter clinic.

Humane Society of Kitchener-Waterloo and Stratford-Perth, two sister societies. "We really felt this is something that would allow us to make an impact in our community."

Thanks to funding by PetSmart Charities, the spay/neuter services will also include a trap, neuter, return program (TNR) for those who care for feral cats.

Gala raises \$97,000 for the Humane Society of Durham Region



Guests enjoy themselves at the Humane Society of Durham Region's Wine & Whiskers Gala.

The Humane Society of Durham Region knows how to throw a party – raising \$97,000 in the process to help animals in need.

Celebrating its third year, the Society's 2018 Wine & Whiskers Gala was bigger and better than ever before. Over 150 guests came out to the James Bond Casino Royale-themed event, which was held in October at the Ajax Convention Centre.

The real action of the evening was when the humane society revealed its plan to build an animal hospital at their shelter. In just a short time, the audience donated \$27,000 towards an x-ray machine. Once built, the animal hospital will allow shelter animals to receive medical care on site.

Karen Koene, co-chair of the event and Director of the Humane Society of Durham Region Board of Directors, attributes the success of the event to the dedicated volunteers – including humane society staff who donate their time – and community supporters who make it possible.

"It is necessary to have volunteers who are as passionate as you are," says Koene. "When you work with incredible people you get great results."

Introducing Niagara SPCA and Humane Society

In a move designed to help more animals, the Welland & District SPCA and the Niagara Falls Humane Society have amalgamated to become the Niagara SPCA and Humane Society.

The process of merging began in August 2018, uniting the two organizations, which are located about 25 kilometres apart. The move makes the Niagara SPCA and Humane Society the first regional animal welfare charity in the province.

"That two large charities are coming together as one, for the wellness of animals, allows us to stay ahead of the curve," says John Greer, Executive Director, Niagara SPCA and Humane Society. "With our combined resources, we will be able to serve our communities more

effectively and efficiently, resulting in better outcomes for animals."



The two shelters will have greater access to veterinary and shelter medicine, including spay/neuter services. The Director of Veterinary Medicine at the Welland SPCA companion animal hospital will now be able to provide care to the shelter animals at the Niagara location.

The region will also have access to a new mobile spay/neuter clinic and mobile health unit, thanks to a Pet Valu grant. The health unit will be outfitted with equipment to perform x-rays and dental surgeries, making these critical wellness services available to pet owners who may not otherwise have access to that care.

Brant County SPCA helps people and pets

Imagine walking kilometres to the grocery store. You can only afford to go once per month, but your pet's food is always at the top of your list.

It's a struggle the Brant County SPCA in Brantford is working to solve through Pets for Life. A program of the Humane Society of the United States, Pets for Life reaches underserved communities to offer pet care resources, services and information.

"These people love their animals, but have trouble providing resources such as spay/neuter, proper food or vaccinations," says Robin Kuchma, Executive Director, Brant County SPCA. "They have barriers; some are financial, but it could be transportation or their proximity to vet clinics and other resources."

Pets for Life is still in its infancy in the County of Brant, but is already changing lives.

"We have identified what is important is making sure no animals go hungry, so we have set up food pantries in several social housing units," says Kuchma, who is working closely with the municipality.



Randy Roberts poses with Cash and Bindi. Resources available through Pets for Life help him care for his dogs.

"By providing on-site food and litter supplies, residents don't have to worry if they get low on supplies or have none."

Local resident Randy Roberts is thankful for the help. His two dogs – Cash and Bindi – serve as emotional supports to ease his depression. Roberts, who relies on the Ontario Disability Support Program, says he finds it difficult to make ends meet.

"I had to put most of my money into their food," he says. "Then I'd have to go to food banks. I'd make sure they were taken care of, and then I'd kind of supplement my food."

The Brant County SPCA is also hosting rabies and microchip clinics. A mobile spay/neuter clinic, in partnership with the Welland & District SPCA, is planned and wellness clinics are also in the works. The ultimate goal is to assist underserved members of the community with veterinary care.

"Pets for Life is better for animals and people," Kuchma says. "By breaking down barriers, animals will live a healthier, longer, more comfortable life."

Quinte plans new shelter

The Quinte Humane Society is edging closer to a new \$10 million animal shelter that will revolutionize care for homeless animals in the area.

The most recent show of support came from Quinte West council, which committed \$250,000 over four years.

Plans for the 17,000 sq. ft. facility include comfortable living space for 64 cats and 28 dogs, a spay/neuter clinic, as well as a dedicated meet and greet space and a grooming room. A 6.2-acre property has been purchased for the new shelter and is centrally situated between Quinte West and Belleville. Trails will be constructed throughout the wooded property for shelter dogs.



The Quinte Humane Society is fundraising to build a 17,000 sq. ft. animal shelter, shown in this artist's rendering.

"We've got a really well-thought-out building and, for the size, it's going to be very efficient," says Frank Rockett, Executive Director, Quinte Humane Society.

Thunder Bay spay/neuter clinic tackles local pet overpopulation

To address the issue of pet overpopulation, the Thunder Bay & District Humane Society opened a high-volume spay/neuter clinic to the public.

The Thunder Bay & District Humane Society Veterinary Clinic opened in the fall of 2018 and began by spaying and neutering animals at the shelter to prepare them for adoption. Two months later, it began offering spay/neuter services to the public.

The response was overwhelming. After only three days of the registration being open to the public, the Thunder Bay & District

Humane Society saw 600 pet owners register their animals. In only three months, over 1,000 animals had been spayed or neutered, approximately half of which were mature pets.

"Every rescue in Thunder Bay is always filled with animals, so we're trying to find a solution to the problem rather than a Band-Aid fix of taking them into a shelter and adopting them out," says Dr. Randi Roberts, the veterinarian performing the spay/neuter procedures. "We're also providing the community with another option. Every pet owner should be able to access veterinary care."

Humane Society of Kawartha Lakes rehomes record number of animals

More than 800 animals found loving homes at the Humane Society of Kawartha Lakes in 2018, a milestone number for the shelter.

That number is up considerably from the approximately 300 animals adopted into new homes in 2012.

"We are out in the community and people are seeing what we do for the animals," says Henny Venus, Executive Director, Humane Society of Kawartha Lakes. "We're showing them that shelter animals are not broken animals and that they make great pets and deserve loving homes."



Tim was one of more than 800 animals adopted.

In addition to participating in adoption events, including iAdopt for the Holidays and PetSmart adoption days, the Humane Society of Kawartha Lakes raises attention – and critical funds – each year at its annual golf tournament. The tournament celebrated its 20th year on August 23, 2018 and was sold out for the third year in a row, with 140 golfers teeing off. It raised over \$12,000 for local animals in need and, in the process, raised awareness about the humane society and the life-saving work it does daily.

"We are filling the need in the Kawarthas," says Venus. "The Humane Society of Kawartha Lakes is better connected with its community and will continue to be a key player for animal welfare in the Kawarthas."

Mobile adoption unit brings pets to the people

You can't miss the new Lincoln County Humane Society mobile adoption unit. When a blue pickup truck – license plate "Adoption" – decked out in white dog bone graphics pulls up with a large blue trailer in tow, you'll know it has arrived.

Outfitted with 42 crates, the climate controlled unit features sides that lift up, revealing glass panes that allow potential adopters to view the animals inside. To date, over 200 animals have had their lives changed through the adoption unit.

"It has definitely had a positive impact on the animals. It's certainly meeting the mission of saving lives," says Kevin Strooband, Executive Director, Lincoln County Humane Society.



Potential adopters meet cats inside the Lincoln County Humane Society's mobile adoption unit.

Future plans include bringing the unit to non-animal related events to reach a wider range of potential adopters.

"We wanted to go where the people are," says Strooband. "It's nice to say, 'Come to the humane society,' and some people do, but to be able to bring the animals to them, it has just been so successful."

Mission Pawsible makes the impossible possible



Mission Pawsible participants raised \$30,000 to upgrade the dog kennels at the Oakville & Milton Humane Society.

Once in their kennels, participants were not released until they reached their fundraising goal. To help raise the funds needed to create a safer and more comfortable living space for the dogs, these "pets" made phone calls and posted on social media to raise pledges to meet their goal and be "adopted."

"The community came together to make this so successful," says Rick Perciante, Executive Director, Oakville & Milton Humane Society (OMHS). "That was my first week at OMHS and I felt so fortunate to witness the incredible enthusiasm and compassion from the community."

Racing against the clock to get pledges to help upgrade the kennels, community leaders spent time inside dog kennels at the Oakville & Milton Humane Society on May 5, 2018 for a fundraising initiative dubbed Mission Pawsible.

Thanks to participants and their supporters, \$30,000 was raised to upgrade the dog kennels and help the animals at the humane society. The event was such a success that the second annual Mission Pawsible is planned for June 2019.

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- Joanne Davey*
- Randi Young*

TOP 5 TEAMS

- Renfrew County Muffin Tops
- PEAC & Spay/Neuter Staff and Volunteers
- The Pupcake Crew
- Orillia Cupcakes
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*Raised funds for a participating Canadian humane society

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- **AnimalSmart™** – Educational series for students.
- **Mobile spay/neuter unit** – Bringing spay/neuter services to communities where it's needed to control pet overpopulation.
- **Changeforanimals.ca** – Advocacy campaign to set the stage for new legislation that reflects the need for greater protection and social justice for animals.
- **New website** – Ontariospca.ca has a fresh look and more animal wellness resources.

To receive news and updates from the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, sign up online.

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