



# ONTARIO 2015 ANNUAL REPORT TO Communities

The mission of the Ontario SPCA 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.





The vision of the Ontario SPCA is to be seen as the recognized authority on animal welfare issues and making 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 goal of the Ontario SPCA is to be seen as a strong, unified and collaborative organization dedicated to the cultivation of a compassionate Ontario for all animals.



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# **ONTARIOSPCA.CA**

# NEWS UPDATES IN ANIMAL WELFARE

### Communities working together to help Animal Welfare

The Ontario SPCA is mandated to maintain and enforce Animal Welfare legislation across Ontario, but we cannot do it alone. With close to 30 Affiliate SPCAs and Humane Societies across the province, this network comes together to prevent animal cruelty and save animals' lives.

When a large removal of animals is required as part of an animal cruelty investigation, Ontario SPCA Communities will work together to help animals in need.

In 2015, the North Bay & District Humane Society managed an investigation in Trout

Creek, Ontario involving close to 75 dogs. The investigation was a major case in the province in 2015. The animals required specialized and ongoing care. The Ontario SPCA was very grateful for the professionalism, skills and dedication of the staff and volunteers of the North Bay & District Humane Society and many Ontario SPCA Communities gladly worked in partnership to support their efforts.

"The key concern for both the Ontario SPCA and the North Bay & District Humane Society was always to get immediate treatment and care for the dogs and to ensure that the ongoing needs of the dogs were met," said Senior Inspector Lynn Michaud, Ontario SPCA.



# Ontario Minister visits Ontario SPCA Educational Conference

We were delighted to have the Honourable Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, attend our 7th Annual Animal Welfare Educational Conference. Held in Rama, Ontario, the conference gathers Animal Welfare professionals and community representatives from across the province to share knowledge, best practices and current news about the Animal Welfare sector in general and within the province. The Ontario SPCA and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services are working together to provide enhanced protection for animals and service to communities, which includes 310-SPCA, a new 24-hour hotline to report animal cruelty, the development of a provincial zoo registry, the major case management team and animal wellness programs in partnership with First Nations Communities.

"Our government is focused on making sure our pets, and all animals, are protected," said the Honourable Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services. "The vital and valuable work the Ontario SPCA and their local affiliates do every day is a key part of those efforts. We are proud to support their efforts to ensure the welfare of animals and enforcing Ontario's strong rules to protect animals. Our strong partnership, and our \$5.5 million in annual funding, makes sure more cases of animal abuse can be reported, more animals are protected, and more animal abusers are brought to justice. We look forward to continuing to strengthen this partnership in the years to come."

# The Major Case Management Team

Major Case Management is a team of specialized Ontario SPCA Officers who are deployed across the province to support cases that require specialized or additional resources. Some of the cases involve unusual circumstances like dog fighting. The team was brought together, in part, through funding provided by the Government of Ontario. In 2015, the Major Case Management Team was deployed 13 times, supporting investigations across the province including the Bay of Quinte Region, Guelph, North Bay, Kingston and Kawartha Lakes. Throughout the year, the Major Case Management team worked a combined total of 8,763 hours on special cases alone. In addition to these efforts, the team travelled up to Northern Ontario to partner with Whitefish Bay First Nation and Beat the Heat Kenora to transfer 75 dogs to Central Ontario for adoption.



IMAL CRUELTY

# New Spay/Neuter Partnership for Sudbury Cats

To help reduce cat overpopulation in Sudbury, a new partnership has been formed

# Enforcement of legislation on First Nations Community





Sarnia & District HUMANE SOCIETY

In an enhancement of their commitment to Animal Welfare, the Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point First Nation will be utilizing the Ontario SPCA Act, Ontario's provincial Animal Welfare legislation, as a foundation to update the Animal Control By-Law within their community. The Kettle & Stony Point First Nation Council and their police will be aided by the Sarnia & District Humane Society to enforce the legislation. The Welland & District SPCA will also participate in this partnership by providing training on the Ontario SPCA Act. The benefits of this initiative include a decrease in roaming dogs, increased veterinary care such as spay/neutering for pets and rabies vaccinations, and an overall improvement in the care of the general animal population within the community. We are proud to be a part of this important initiative, and we thank the Kettle & Stony Point First Nation Council for leading this effort within their Community.

# First Nations Planning Session



Developing Animal Welfare programs in partnership with



between the Rainbow District Animal Control and Shelter Services, Small Things CATS, the Ontario SPCA, Sudbury & District Animal Centre and the North Bay & District Humane Society. The agencies are working together to transport cats to the spay/neuter clinic in North Bay, enabling a higher volume of cats to be spayed and neutered. After their procedures and short recoveries, the cats are ready to be returned to their Sudbury-based facilities to prepare for adoption and new homes! It is thanks to collaborative efforts between progressive organizations, such as the North Bay & District Humane Society, that broader access to spay/neuter services is made available.

### Renovations Completed at the Ontario SPCA Central Region Investigations Building

As one of our key facilities designed to house the most vulnerable animals that come into our care, including pets from large-scale investigations and removals, the Ontario SPCA Central Region Investigations Building was in need of facility enhancements. The Ontario SPCA reached out to our donors and they quickly responded with their generosity. Willa and Brock Napier have graciously extended their philanthropic leadership in support of this project, 20 additional kennels including oversized and isolation kennels, heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades, secure exterior play area, and more. These enhancements mean increased efficiency and streamlined care for animals in urgent and critical need. It was through the support of our donors and Willa and Brock Napier that we achieved a successful completion of the project for improved animal care!

First Nations Communities has been a recent focus for the Ontario SPCA. In partnership with the Welland & District SPCA, the North Bay & District Humane Society and the Sarnia Humane Society, we have established a working group to expand animal programs in partnership with First Nations Communities. In the spring of 2016, the group came together to share experiences and plan for future programs. The members include: Beat the Heat Kenora, Brant County SPCA, Canadian Animal Assistance Team, Grey-Bruce Aboriginal Qimmic Team (GBAQT), Niagara Falls Humane Society, North Bay & District Humane Society, the Ontario SPCA, Peterborough Humane Society, Sarnia & District SPCA and the Welland & District SPCA. In 2015, we worked in partnership with nine First Nations Communities in Ontario and in total, 346 animals received spay/neuter procedures, 1,087 animals received wellness exams and treatment and over 80 dogs were transferred for adoption.

# NEWS UPDATES IN ANIMAL WELFARE



# Providing Animal Wellness Support to First Nations Community

Since 2011, the Welland & District SPCA, Dr. Tammy Hornak and a team of volunteers, including Veterinarians and Vet Techs, have held Animal Wellness Days in partnership with Six Nations of the Grand River. The program provides health examinations and vaccinations for dogs and cats in the community. In May 2015, at the first Animal Wellness Day of the year, 650 animal wellness exams were completed. Word quickly spread of this amazing initiative and this team was invited by First Nations Communities across the province to lend support to their animal welfare initiatives. We thank the following First Nations Communities for their hospitality and for their commitment to Animal Welfare: Six Nations of the Grand River; Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation; Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve; Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point First Nation; Delaware Nation at Moraviantown; Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation (Whitefish Bay First Nation), The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, and Bkejwanong First Nation (Walpole Island).



# Northern Dog Transfer of 75+ dogs

In a large-scale transfer of animals, the Ontario SPCA was asked to assist with the retrieval and transport of over 75 dogs in need. Thanks to the compassion and concern of Whitefish Bay First Nation for these dogs, we worked with community members, Beat the Heat Kenora, the Thunder Bay & District Humane Society, the North Bay & District Humane Society and Cargo North Airlines to transfer the dogs. Through this partnership, all of the dogs and puppies were safely and successfully transported to Central Ontario. Congratulations to Whitefish Bay First Nation and all the wonderful adopters who helped find every dog a home! Check out the newest addition to the Ontario SPCA Paws & Give™ plush family - Judy. This plush

puppy is modelled after one of the Whitefish Bay puppies that was transferred and rehomed. She was named in honour of Judy Decicco, Ontario SPCA Board member and one of the awesome volunteers that helped lead the transfer of animals from Whitefish Bay First Nation!

# **Operation Pet Rescue**

Did you know the Ontario SPCA's Operation Pet Rescue team has grown to a community of more than 8,000 monthly donors? Operation Pet Rescue donors, an awesome team of monthly supporters, help us fund important programs like Animal Care & Protection and Ontario SPCA Rescue & Relief <sup>™</sup> - enabling us to respond quickly and effectively to animals' critical needs. The reliable revenue that comes from monthly giving means that we are ready to act when the next situation arises. Rehabilitating rescued animals often requires months of veterinary care, special medication and food, and socialization - making large demands on our resources. We are grateful for each and every Operation Pet Rescue donor, because monthly giving truly makes an incredible impact.



# **Lasting Legacies**



Our Animal Advocate Circle is a unique group of donors who have selected charitable will bequests through our planned giving program. This program enables caring pet owners and animal lovers to continue supporting Animal Welfare in Ontario for years to come. These bequests are critical to operations in our various departments, including providing urgent medical care for animals in need, rescuing animals from horrific living conditions, providing professional animal care specialists in our Animal Centres and funding the operations of our adoption centres. None of this would be possible without gifts in wills. Every day, donors are on the front lines with us, making a difference in the lives of animals. If you would like to become a member of the Animal Advocate Circle, visit ontariospca.ca. Our generous donors help us save animals' lives everyday!

# Whitefish Bay First Nations Spay/Neuter Initiative



Whitefish Bay First Nation community and Council invited the Ontario SPCA, Beat the Heat Kenora, the Grey Bruce Aboriginal Qimmiq Team, the Thunder Bay & District Humane Society, and local volunteers to assist with spay/neuter services for animals in the community. Thanks to exceptional teamwork, 79 surgeries were performed, making for a successful event. In addition to providing micro-chipping and vaccines to local pets, we also had the opportunity to provide humane education at a local school. Thank you to Whitefish Bay First Nation for their hospitality, and we look forward to an ongoing partnership in animal welfare.



### **Dog Fighting Awareness**

Did you know that dog fighting could be taking place within your community? As an illegal and highly secretive organized crime, it poses a danger not only to the animals involved but the surrounding community as well. To combat dog fighting, the Ontario SPCA has launched an awareness campaign to educate the public on how to identify potential dog fighting operations, and what to do if they suspect dog fighting is happening in their community. Charges have been laid in Ontario in three separate incidents in the last year in the Chatham area and Lanark County areas. With the right care and rehabilitation, some of these rescued fighting dogs have the potential for adjusting into loving new homes. Please visit EndDogFighting.ca to learn more about the #EndDogFighting campaign and to take the pledge.





### New Paws & Give<sup>™</sup> Plush Toy

Our Paws & Give<sup>™</sup> roster of toys has a new addition! We are pleased to introduce "Judy", the newest member of our Rocky & Friends plush toy collection, available through our Paws & Give online giving store. Paws & Give is a terrific alternative giving option for special occasions, birthdays, holidays and more! Judy, as well as the other members of Rocky & Friends – Tyson, Bear, Velvet, Maddison and Rocky – are all based on real animals that were rescued and rehabilitated by the Ontario SPCA. A sweet, black, Labrador-Collie cross, Judy was part of a rehoming of over 75 dogs and puppies from the Whitefish Bay First Nation Community. The Community had a rising population of dogs and requested assistance to give some a second chance with new families across Ontario.

Watch for Judy in the early fall at pawsandgive.ca - while quantities last!



# Lincoln County Humane Society re-homes Pit Bulls

The Ontario SPCA and its Affiliate SPCA's and Humane Societies routinely work with animal welfare groups to transfer and rehome Pit Bulls and Pit Bull-type dogs out of the province to areas where they are legal to own. On January 23, 2015, Hailey, a 6 year old Pit Bull boarded a WestJet flight bound for a new life in Nova Scotia. The Lincoln County Humane Society worked with the Nova Scotia SPCA to re-home Hailey. The Lincoln County Humane Society is incredibly thankful for this partnership that allows them opportunities to find dogs like Hailey new loving homes. "We're happy that we could make this difference in Hailey's life, she truly is a terrific dog and deserves a loving home," said Kevin Strooband, Executive Director, Lincoln County Humane Society.

# **2015 FINANCIAL REPORT** - Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

# **Statement of Financial Position** December 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

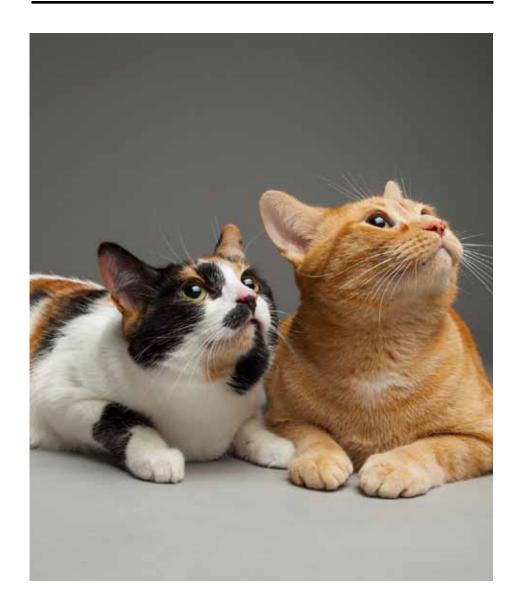
	2015	2014
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$6,115,526	\$6,649,334
Short-term investments	6,040,211	5,045,729
Accounts receivable	2,022,832	1,873,058
Inventory	32,954	46,044
Prepaid expenses	266,842	226,575
	14,478,365	13,840,740
Investments	2,832,747	2,626,099
Capital assets	14,134,812	14,123,856
	\$31,445,924	\$30,590,695
Liabilities and Fund Balances		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and		
accrued liabilities	\$1,966,585	\$2,007,750
Deferred revenue	88,258	170,075
	2,054,843	2,177,825
Fund balances:		
Fund balances: Provincial	29,391,081	28,412,870



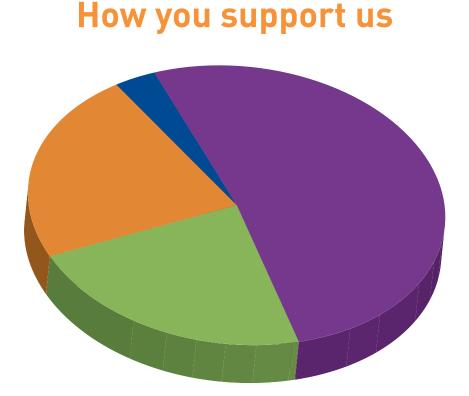
# **Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances**

Year ended December 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015	2014
Revenue:		
Donations and fundraising	\$7,074,389	\$6,815,679
Provincial grants	5,580,455	7,914,569
Shelter and veterinary	2,836,790	3,004,275
Municipal contract fees	2,711,499	2,565,322
Other	461,605	456,520
Investment	361,697	398,726
	19,026,435	21,155,091
Expenses:		
Animal care and protection	14,989,571	13,794,222
General	3,094,283	2,701,254
Fundraising	2,050,767	2,002,474
Amortization	919,881	791,785
Communication and		
education services	762,219	629,916
Interest and bank charges	163,782	164,110
	21,980,503	20,083,761
Distributions:		
Grants to Ontario Society for the	)	
Prevention of Cruelty to Ar	nimals	
affiliates and Humane Soc	ieties	
in other provinces	1,809,241	3,421,845
Deficiency of revenue over expenses		
and distributions before legacies	(4,763,309)	(2,350,515)
Legacies	5,741,520	3,864,907
Excess of revenue over		
expenses and distributions	978,211	1,514,392
Fund balances, beginning of year	28,412,870	26,898,478
Fund balances, end of year	\$29,391,081	\$28,412,870

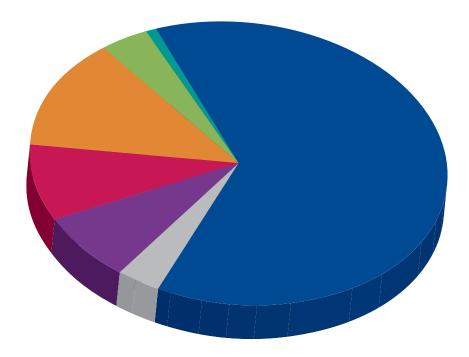


# 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT - Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals



Donations and Legacies	51.7%
Animal Care Revenue	22.4%
Government Grants Supporting Investigations Services	22.1%
Other Non-Government Grants and Revenue	3.8%

# Your dollars at work



Animal Care, Rescue & Relief and Investigation Services	63.0%
General Management and Administration	13.0%
Fundraising and Stewardship Programs	8.6%
Distributions to Animal Welfare Organizations	7.6%
Amortization	3.9%
Public Awareness and Humane Education	3.2%
Interest and Bank Charges	0.7%

# **A Year In Numbers**

**2015 Spay/Neuter Procedure Totals** 

Number of Dogs Spayed: **2,552** Number of Dogs Neutered: **3,425** Number of Cats Spayed: **5,025** (includes 584 feral cats) Number of Cats Neutered: **4,496** Total procedures: **15,498** 

### **2015 Investigations Results**

Complaints Investigated: **17,357** Orders Issued: **4,241** Provincial Charges: **334** Criminal Charges: **21** Animals Removed as a Result of an Investigation: **1,974** Number of Zoo Inspections completed: **130** Number of Zoos on the zoo registry: **53** Number of Zoos identified across Ontario: **69\*** \*All 69 zoos are inspected twice a year, only 53 are participants in the voluntary registry. Number of times the MCM was deployed: **13** 

### 2015 Animal Welfare Adoption Totals\*

Cats: **4,793** Dogs: **1,676** Small animals: **539** Birds: **48** Total Number of Adoptions: **7,056** Number of animals transferred: **1,800** 

\* Ontario SPCA Animal Centres only

# PARTNERS IN ANIMAL WELFARE

# Working with municipalities to improve animals' lives

Ontario SPCA Communities across the province have been developing wonderful working relationships with their local municipalities to help Animal Welfare in their region.

# Brantford Mayor supports a new building for the SPCA

In October, 2015, Brantford Mayor, Chris Friel, hosted a Gala raising \$70,000 for the Brant County SPCA. The money raised will be put towards a new building for the Society.

"The SPCA is a fantastic organization that doesn't have the profile in the community it needs and deserves," said Mayor Friel, "What they do with that little old building is mind-boggling."

It's wonderful to see such amazing community support for animals.

# Sault Ste. Marie taking a lead in Animal Welfare bylaws

The Ontario SPCA was invited by the City of Sault Ste. Marie to provide insight on how to improve the local Animal Control bylaws and how the City can work together with the Ontario SPCA Act; the legislation that protects animals in Ontario. Animal Welfare is a community responsibility and it's great to see a municipality like the City of Sault Ste. Marie seek to incorporate a municipal animal management strategy.



### City of Markham Cat Adoption and Education Centre

The City of Markham has dedicated a space in the Thornhill Community Centre and Library to be the Markham Cat Adoption and Education Centre, with the goal of educating pet owners and promoting adoption in the community. Operated by the Ontario SPCA, the Centre will focus on cats to increase exposure for pets currently waiting for homes, which in turn will improve adoption rates. This storefront-based initiative is the first of its kind by a municipality in Ontario, and the Centre's goal is to meet or exceed 200 cat adoptions each year. Recently opened in early 2016, City of Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Members of Council and community supporters, all shared the excitement of hearing that the Centre is well on its way to meeting this goal!



# Welland & District SPCA trains law enforcement K9's

As part of an exciting new training program, the Welland & District SPCA is now working with various American law enforcement agencies to identify and train selected canines for use in education and investigations programs. Dogs that are currently available for adoption are selected based on certain criteria to ensure they are a good fit for the program. "Duke", a chocolate Labrador, was trained at the Tennessee K9 drug unit in passive detection and now lives and works in Greene County, Tennessee. It is heartening to see some of our animals go on to interesting careers and to serve their communities to improve security and safety.

# A new home for Peterborough Humane Society and a new resource for dogs!

In a partnership with the Ontario SPCA, the Peterborough Humane Society has launched a capital campaign for a much needed new animal centre. The new centre will not only operate as the Animal Welfare resource for the community of Peterborough, providing sheltering and adoption services for animals, but it will also incorporate a regional highvolume spay/neuter clinic. The Ontario SPCA is excited to partner with the Peterborough Humane Society on this innovative project. Included in this new facility, the Ontario SPCA will be opening the Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Centre. This Centre is the first of its kind in Canada and will be a resource for all communities across the province, helping to rehabilitate neglected, abused and abandoned dogs requiring special treatment and resources. The two organizations will operate in this one facility providing regional and provincial Animal Welfare services. Stay tuned throughout 2016 for more announcements about this exciting partnership and new resource for the province!



# **Special News**



# On the Farm with Seaway Kiwanis Club and Sarnia & District Humane Society

In a new partnership, the City of Sarnia has transferred operations management of the Children's Animal Farm at Canatara Park in Sarnia, Ontario, to the Sarnia & District Humane Society. The Sarnia Children's Animal Farm was opened in May of 1964. The Seaway Kiwanis, in co-operation with the City of Sarnia, developed this invaluable program, which has become the most popular year-round attraction at Canatara Park. The Seaway Kiwanis Club has been the largest benefactor to the Animal Farm since it opened, donating over half a million dollars to the Farm effort. The popular location will now feature additional educational opportunities for the community to learn more about Animal Welfare. In addition to the donkeys, mini horses, llamas, sheep, and goats on site, there are also smaller animals for visitors to enjoy such as rabbits and chickens. The City of Sarnia, Seaway Kiwanis Club and the Sarnia & District Humane Society have been working together to update the facility for the community to enjoy throughout the year.



# Pedigree<sup>®</sup> Walks™ for Animals

Celebrating a new partnership with the Ontario SPCA in 2015, Pedigree became an official sponsor of the Ontario SPCA Friends for Life! Walk<sup>™</sup>. This sponsorship supported over 18 walk events across the province, helping to raise over \$1.5 million in the last five years for Animal Welfare. We are pleased to announce that Pedigree is continuing its support for two more years as the Presenting Sponsor for the Friends For Life! Walk. Community support for Animal Welfare is essential and we are so grateful to Pedigree for their contributions to our communities.





# Fourth Annual National Cupcake Day™, a sweet success for animals across Canada!

With over 2,600 participants in this year's National Cupcake Day<sup>™</sup> for SPCAs and Humane Societies, \$600,000 was raised across Canada to help animals in need. The event benefitted over 58 participating Societies, allowing us to fight cruelty with cupcakes and "bake" a difference for animals! We had some incredible support from our national spokesperson, celebrity chef Kristina Matisic, and our partnership with Jean Blacklock and her newly released Prairie Girl Cupcake Cookbook had participants across Canada turning on their ovens and pulling out their mixers for a great cause. The success of this event is attributed to our generous sponsors, participants, donors and cupcake enthusiasts nationwide. Thank you to all who donated their time, effort and baking expertise!

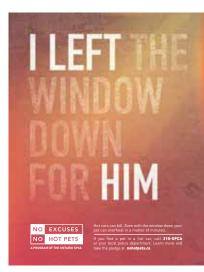
# Humane Education Program in Schools

As part of our commitment to community services, we have developed an exciting new program that will be accessible to educators across the province. This pilot project is the first of its kind in Ontario to be implemented in a school system. Working alongside the Anti-Bullying and Resilience programs, this pilot project is designed for second graders, with other grades to follow. The curriculum follows play-based learning principles and is inquiry-led for maximum exposure to the program's key messages. Education is one of the essential ways that we can prevent animal cruelty, by teaching children and youth that all animals should receive the care and respect they deserve, and that animals are a positive and helpful part of our lives and communities. Educators who are interested in learning more about this exciting program can sign up at OntarioSPCA.ca/Edu

# PARTNERS IN ANIMAL WELFARE

### NoHotPets.ca update

"I left the window down for him" "I wasn't going to be gone long." We've heard it all! Owners leaving pets in their vehicles during the hot summer months, putting animals' safety at risk and even causing death, is an ongoing problem across Ontario. There is no excuse for leaving a pet unattended in a vehicle. Our award-winning NoHotPets.ca campaign has been updated for 2016 with a new look and a new message. This year, "No Excuses. NoHotPets.ca." will run from May 24th through to August 31st across the country, with over one hundred SPCAs, Humane Societies, animal rescue groups, municipalities, police services and retailers participating. We need your help to spread the word! Citizens are asked to take the NoHotPets.ca online pledge to receive a free window decal and to share the dangers of leaving pets unattended in vehicles on social media using the hashtag #nohotpets. To learn more and take the pledge, visit NoHotPets.ca.





### iAdopt update

"iAdopt" is a year-round campaign, promoting pet adoption. The campaign focuses on featuring positive, real-life pet adoption stories as a means to encourage others to adopt and experience a similar happy ending. iAdopt aims to educate the public about the importance of choosing pet adoption as their first option when bringing home a new family member. The Ontario SPCA runs three iAdopt campaigns throughout the year: spring, fall and holiday season. A new website was launched in 2015 to support the iAdopt for the Holidays campaign. Visitors could see how many adoptions have taken place, find their closest adoption centre, learn more about the benefits of adopting and enter for their chance to win free pet food for a year from Royal Canin. During the 2015 iAdopt for the Holidays campaign, we had 63 participating Humane Societies, SPCAs and animal shelters involved across Canada. The iAdopt campaign was such a big success it translated into an extraordinary 5,440 pets being adopted! Thank you to Royal Canin for their amazing contributions and support, and to everyone involved with iAdopt. To learn more about iAdopt and the benefits of adoption, **visit iadopt.ca**.

# **Promoting Shelter Health and Wellness across Ontario!**

The Ontario SPCA Shelter Health & Wellness team is a group of highly skilled Veterinarians and Vet Techs who provide the Society with resources, guidelines and protocols on shelter health and wellness management across the province. Their knowledge, skills and experience have helped many animal welfare groups, from Ontario SPCA Animal Centres to municipal animal shelters, improve overall animal wellness.

Using the Canadian Standards of Care in Animal Shelters, the Chief Veterinary Officer and Shelter Health & Wellness team members have facilitated Standards of Care Consultations in 13 Ontario SPCA Animal Centres, Affiliate Societies and municipal animal shelters, to help each facility identify areas of success and areas for improvement, while providing a rich mutual learning experience.

Their role as educators doesn't stop there. The team is actively involved in several community college Registered Veterinary Technician programs where they provide education on shelter medicine, animal behavior, and basic safe, low-stress handling techniques. They teach our future veterinary technicians the skills necessary to improve the health of shelter environments. They are also the team that has developed and revamped the Ontario SPCA Infection and Disease Control Manual, which is intended for use by any organization that shelters animals, most typically dogs and cats. This manual provides up-to-date information crucial

to improving the shelter environment. The Ontario SPCA will soon be launching an online version of this manual, free to the animal sheltering community.

Shelter medicine is a new specialty in veterinary medicine and as such the industry is constantly learning new ways to improve the shelter environment. to ensure we have the most up to date knowledge in shelter medicine, Dave Wilson, Director, Shelter Health & Wellness, and a University of Guelph DVM graduate with many years of private and shelter medicine practice, has completed the new Graduate Certificate in Shelter Medicine from the University of Florida. This intensive course is part of the Master's Program within the university and required a one-year commitment to complete. Dave's new knowledge will enhance the Shelter Health & Wellness program, helping shelters across Ontario improve the overall health of their facilities and save more animals' lives.



# **Special News**



# Ontario SPCA Volunteer Recognition Program

We were excited to roll out enhancements to the Ontario SPCA Volunteer Recognition Program this year. This included, an online contest, enhance support for volunteer recognition and Professional Development where we held a contest to win an Educational Prize Pack for Outstanding Volunteer Service for two of our many valued volunteers. These updates to the program were made as part of our organization's commitment to best practices in volunteer management. Jamie Ruddy, a volunteer from our Sudbury & District Animal Centre and Allan Day, a volunteer from our Huron County Animal Centre, were selected out of a group of volunteers nominated by their local Ontario SPCA Animal Centre to attend the annual Ontario SPCA Educational Conference. "We should be very proud [of] our facility and our efficient and dedicated group of volunteers. We have one of the best run operations - because of our staff," said winner Allan Day. "I encourage you all to know we make a difference in all we do here and our efforts are very much appreciated."



# PetSmart Charities® expands access to Spay/ Neuter programs

To increase the accessibility of spay/neuter procedures in communities across Ontario, PetSmart Charities® has provided over \$68,000 in funding to the Ontario SPCA Spay/ Neuter Services in 2015, and has subsidized more than 1.4 million spay/neuter surgeries across North America since 2009. The spay/neuter blitzes are aimed at quickly spaying or neutering a large number of pets at the most opportune times, such as "Happy Neuter Year" (neuter male cats in January) or "Beat the Heat" (spay female cats in February before they go into heat). We are pleased to have the support of PetSmart Charities® and their commitment to reducing pet

### Got a Pet? Get a Vet!™

The Ontario SPCA, in association with the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) and other participating SPCAs and Humane Societies across Canada, encourage pet owners that if you've 'Got a Pet? Get a Vet!<sup>TM'</sup>. To raise awareness about the importance of regular veterinary care, the Got a Pet? Get a Vet!<sup>TM</sup> campaign was launched in 2015 and was met with great success. Pet owners were asked to share their stories about how their veterinary care provider positively influenced the life of their pet and family through exceptional care. The public was then encouraged to vote. There were close to 800 submissions in the contest and 14,000 votes. The 2015 winning clinic was the Richmond Hill Animal Hospital. It's important to establish a relationship with a veterinarian when you get a pet. Don't wait until something goes wrong to take your pet in for a check-up. Schedule a visit with your local veterinarian to ensure a longer, healthier life for your pet(s). To learn more about this campaign visit gotapetgetavet.ca.



overpopulation through access to spay/neuter.



# NoHotPets.ca Event with ChangeTheWorld

ChangeTheWorld started as a test project in 2008, with the goal of encouraging youth between the ages of 14 to 18 to volunteer locally. Working with the Ontario SPCA, special event blitzes to promote the NoHotPets.ca message took place across the province in May 2015. These wonderful volunteers informed members of their region by talking to people and handing out pamphlets and promotional materials about the dangers of leaving pets in cars. It was inspiring to see so many enthusiastic teenagers donate their time to be part of this important campaign. We want to thank all of the participants for helping us spread the NoHotPets.ca message in their local communities across Ontario!

The Ontario SPCA is extremely fortunate to have the support of our Community Donors - a notable group of generous supporters whose gifts help to create a more humane society for animals and for people.

It is our honour to recognize and thank the following individuals, corporations and foundations as special friends of the Ontario SPCA.

### Community Corporate Donors & Supporters Gifts of \$500 and up

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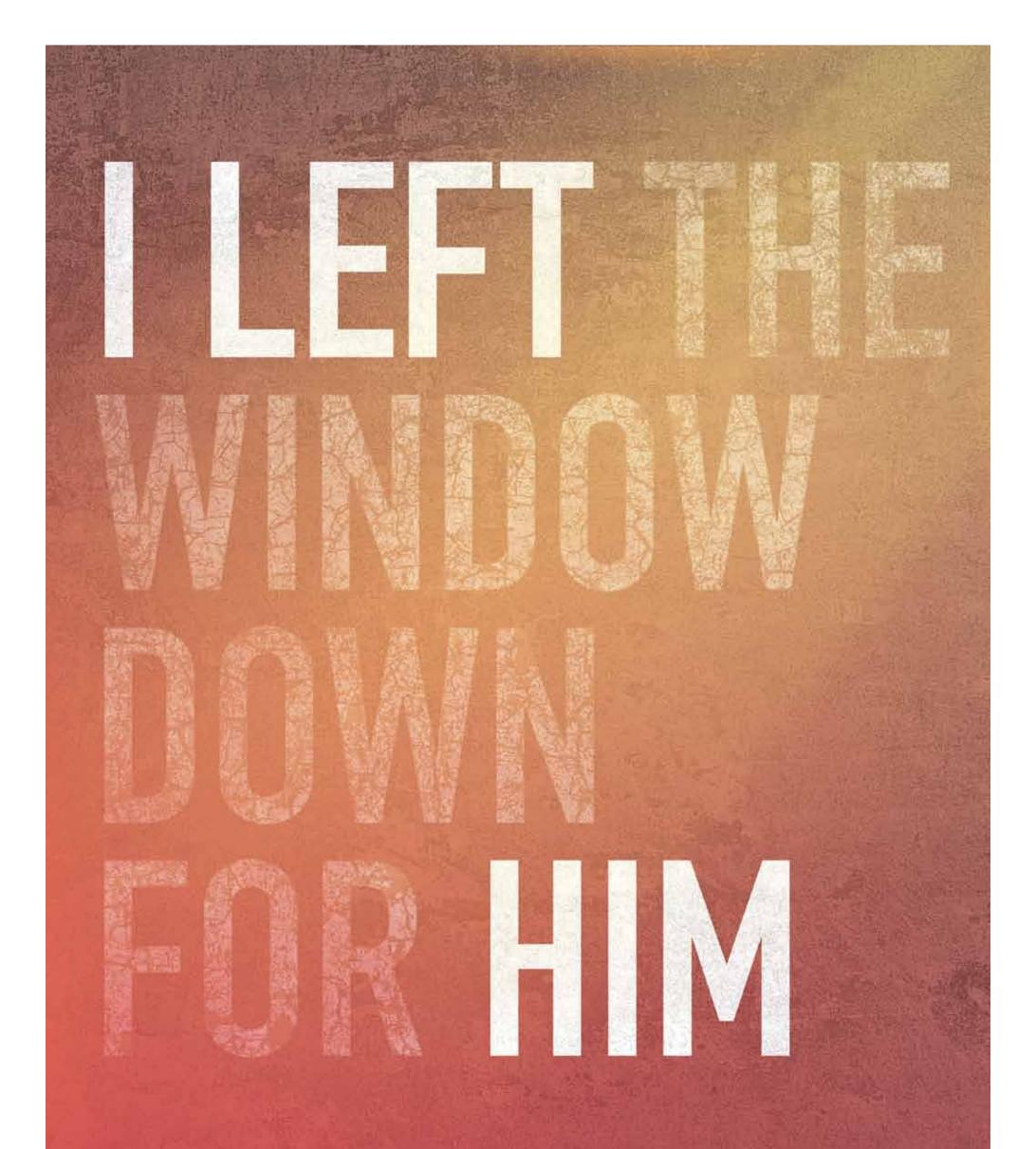
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