

2023

Annual Report



ONTARIO
SPCA
AND HUMANE SOCIETY

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Charitable Business # 88969-1044-RR0002

ABOUT THE ONTARIO SPCA

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society is a registered charity that has been changing the lives of animals for over 150 years. The Society strives to keep pets and families together and does so through a variety of community support services, such as sheltering and adoptions, including emergency sheltering, feral cat management programs, animal transfers, food distribution, humane education, animal advocacy, and spay/neuter services.

The Ontario SPCA does not receive annual government funding and relies on donations to provide programs and services to help animals in need. To donate, visit ontariospca.ca

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society Provincial Office sits on the traditional territory of the Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations and the Métis Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923.

PURPOSE

We provide care, comfort and compassion to animals in need; we value all animals and engage our communities to treat them with respect and kindness.

PRIORITIES

- Ensure the best possible support for animals in our care.
- Inspire healthy bonds between pets and people through accessible care, education, and community collaboration.
- Partner to influence and advocate for the welfare of animals in Ontario & beyond.

VALUES

- Compassion
- Transparency
- Excellence
- Collaboration
- Accountability

2023-2028 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Focus on facilities We will develop a facilities plan to ensure that buildings are safe and reliable for staff and animals in our care.	Enhance community support The Society will create community-based services, such as emergency boarding, feeding pets for families in need, and launching a new Humane Education program.
Build a Central Ontario Regional Animal Centre We will design and build a new facility that serves the Central Ontario Region and supports our Northern communities.	Develop a plan for animal advocacy We will collaborate with other organizations in animal welfare, advocating for policy changes and increasing awareness of animal welfare.
Northern outreach We will partner with like-minded organizations and Indigenous communities to provide sustainable resources to the North.	Pet population management in our communities We will strive to increase access to spay/neuter services to underserved communities.
Enhance our impact and influence in animal welfare through collaboration We will consider opportunities to partner and collaborate with other SPCAs and Humane Societies on initiatives that support animal welfare.	

A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Pawsitively amazing! What an incredible year 2023 has been for all of us at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society! It was a year filled with excitement and meaningful impact felt in communities across Ontario.

As we celebrated our organization’s 150th anniversary of helping animals and the communities we serve, and guided by a new five-year Strategic Plan, our teams were unstoppable. Fueled by the dedication of our volunteers, whose numbers grew by an astounding 33 per cent, and the addition of 10 wonderful Community Outreach Coordinators, we were able to extend our support across the province like never before. We also invested in our facilities to ensure we are ready to meet the needs of our communities now, and into the future.

The challenges we face are real and ever-growing. We see people struggling to access veterinary care, animals with behavioural challenges due to social isolation, and economic challenges weighing on families who love their animals. Our goal is to try to keep pets with their families and prevent unnecessary rehoming. To keep these families together, we more than doubled our pet food distribution year



over year to keep hungry bellies full, opened a wellness clinic for those who can’t afford veterinary care, and launched a new model of spay/neuter services with our MASH-style clinics that can travel to remote areas to manage pet overpopulation in underserved communities.

Despite our best efforts, there are still animals in need of loving homes. We’re noticing a trend of animals arriving at our centres with more complex medical and behavioural needs, leading to longer stays and increased demands on our staff, volunteers, and resources.

We appreciate every dollar, every item, every minute of time that our supporters give to make this work possible. As a registered charity, the Ontario SPCA does not receive annual government funding

and depends on the generosity of donors to change the lives of animals in need. Without your support, our mission simply wouldn’t be possible.

As you explore our 2023 Annual Report, I hope you’re filled with the same sense of hope and inspiration for the future of animal welfare that drives us every day. Great things are possible when we work together, and we are excited to begin writing the next chapter in our history of helping animals and supporting communities.

Warm regards,
Doug Brooks
**President & Chief Executive Officer
Ontario SPCA and Humane Society**

Ontario SPCA Leadership Team 2023 - 2024	Board of Directors 2023 - 2024
Doug Brooks, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>	Adam Delle Cese - <i>Chair</i>
Dr. Stephanie Black, <i>Chief Veterinary Officer</i>	Renata Dinnocenzo - <i>Vice Chair</i>
Donna Healey, <i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	Winnie Tang Broad - <i>Treasurer</i>
Jennifer Bluhm, <i>Vice President, Community Outreach Services</i>	Krista Slade
Evangeline Cattrysse, <i>Vice President, Human Resources</i>	Sandra Train
Alison Cross, <i>Vice President, Marketing & Communications</i>	Shirley Langley
Nancy Harper, <i>Senior Manager, Executive Office</i>	Len Buttici
Stephanie Miller, <i>Vice President, Development</i>	Meg Houghton
Sonya Reichel, <i>Vice President, Shelter Operations</i>	Joshua Marando

LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/STRATPLAN](https://ontariospca.ca/stratplan)

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

ONTARIO SPCA
AND HUMANE SOCIETY
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

150-year anniversary of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, marking a century and a half of changing the lives of animals.



1 million meals distributed for animals, 160% more than 2022, to keep pets with their families during hard times.

Public wellness clinic opens in York Region for families without the means to take their animal to a veterinarian for preventative care.



Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Centre opens and official rehabilitation program launches province-wide to help animals overcome challenges so they can find a loving home.

150,000th spay/neuter procedure performed since the Ontario SPCA began offering high volume spay/neuter services to the public in 2009.

700+ volunteers

lending a hand, representing a 33% growth in our volunteer program.



MASH-style mobile clinics launched, allowing expansion of spay/neuter and wellness services to remote communities.



\$753,620 spent on facility renovations, to improve animal health and meet growing community needs.

\$10,035,594

in legacy gifts from generous donors who continue to support the animals through a gift in their will.

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

2023 Revenue: \$13,387,329

2023 Legacies: \$10,035,594



2023 Capital Expenditures:

Animal centre renovations <i>(including \$395,201 for Orillia Animal Centre)</i>	\$753,620
Equipment <i>(including medical/diagnostic equipment, signage and video security for animal centre safety)</i>	\$104,570
IT and system upgrades	\$156,685
	\$1,014,875

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE
\$12.5M from our reserves have been designated for future buildings and renovations.

2023 Expenditures:

Includes events and donor engagement.

Includes shelter operations, mobile wellness unit, MASH spay/neuter events, spay/neuter and wellness clinics, community support services, humane education and animal advocacy.

Includes people and system support.

Includes program support, public awareness and engagement.

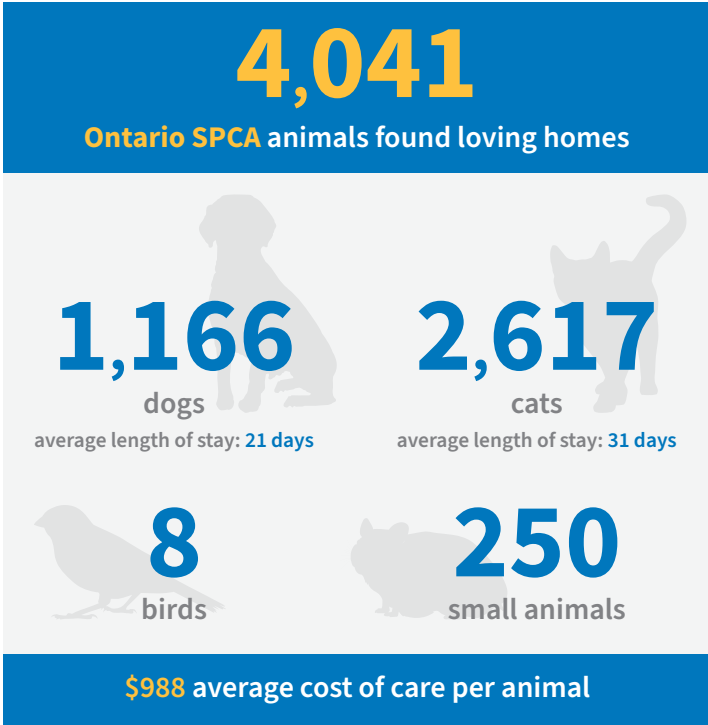
Animal care and community outreach	\$11,479,316
Behind-the-scenes support	\$3,959,976
Fundraising initiatives	\$2,333,983
Communication	\$849,209
Amortization	\$436,685
Interest and bank charges	\$174,394
	\$19,233,563

- Animal care and community outreach 60%
- Behind-the-scenes support 21%
- Fundraising initiatives 12%
- Communication 4%
- Amortization 2%
- Interest and bank charges 1%

TO SEE THE 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, VISIT: [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/FINANCIALS](https://ontariosPCA.ca/financials)

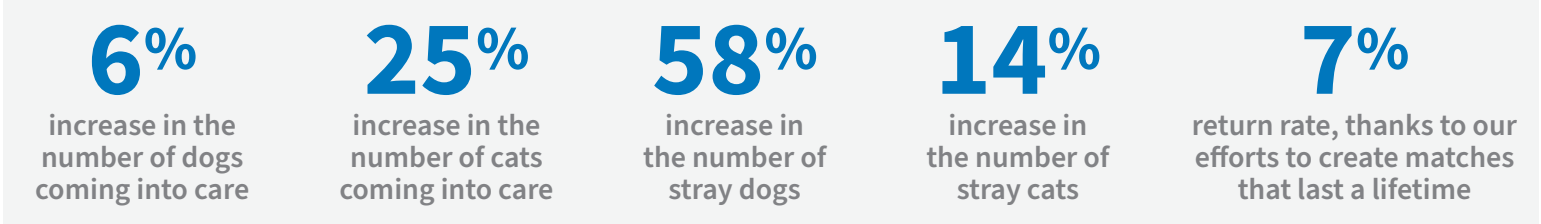
ADOPTIONS

► Ontario SPCA and Humane Society



DID YOU KNOW... an estimated 21% of cats and dogs in Canada are homeless and 156,000 animals are in shelters awaiting adoption.*

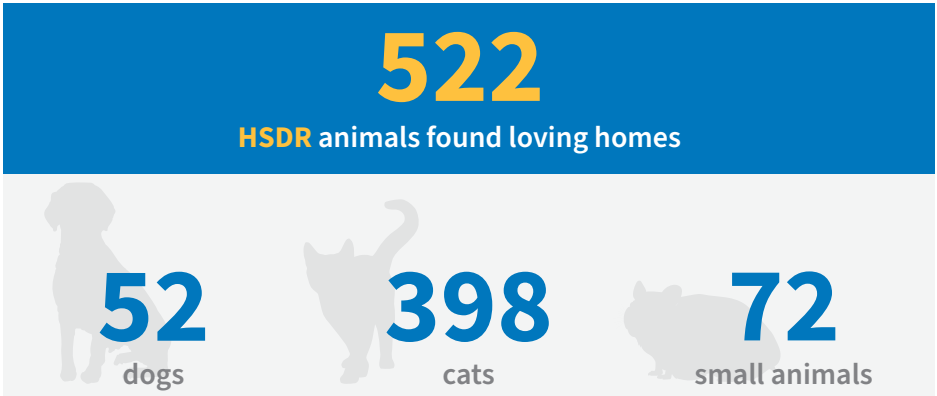
*According to data from the State of Pet Homelessness Project.



LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/ADOPT](https://ontariospca.ca/adopt)

► Humane Society of Durham Region

The Humane Society of Durham Region [announced in August 2022](#) that it would be formally joining the Ontario SPCA to combine the organizations. Joining the Ontario SPCA family is a step to strengthen and grow the programs and community support services provided by the HSDR to help animals and the families who love them. The amalgamation will be complete in 2024, but we are celebrating our first year of adoptions together!



LEARN MORE AT [HSDR.ORG](https://hldr.org)

SHELTERING AND CARE

► Finding loving homes for animals

When Beam arrived in the care of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, it was clear he would need a special kind of TLC. He needed a month of treatment for tick-borne illnesses, but his physical challenges were only the beginning. As a deaf dog, Beam explores the world through his mouth. He also lacked basic training and housetraining skills, as his hearing impairment made it difficult for him to learn these cues.

To help Beam receive the care and training he would need to find a loving home, he was transferred to the Ontario SPCA's new Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Centre in Peterborough. There he was introduced to new environments, people and things in a slow and controlled way. He was also taught appropriate markers while training, such as a "thumbs up" to show him he's doing a good job!

In a few short months, Beam had made great progress. He also drew the attention of a potential adopter. He now has a loving family with two furry siblings. Beam also holds the distinction of being the first dog to graduate from the Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Program.

[READ MORE ABOUT BEAM'S STORY ONLINE](#)



BEAM

► Changing lives at the Ontario Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Centre



*Dogs adopted from the Rehabilitation Centre. This number does not reflect program graduates adopted through an Ontario SPCA animal centre.

LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/DOGREHAB](https://ontariospca.ca/dogrehab)



The Ontario SPCA Provincial Dog Rehabilitation Centre

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

To help support pet families in times of need, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society has a variety of [Community Support Services](#) available – and the need is growing. Our Community Support Services webpage had over **113,000 views in 2023, which was up more than 225% year over year.**

Specific challenges experienced by families and their pets surround access to veterinary care, behavioural challenges due to social isolation, and economic challenges. Our goal is to try to keep pets with their families and prevent unnecessary rehoming.

As we were dropping off pet food to the Georgina Community Food Pantry, a food bank user began to cry knowing that she would be able to get some food for her dog that day. She only had a small amount left and didn't know what she was going to do. These are the moments that drive us.

"Seeing the relief and joy on our clients' faces when they can continue caring for their beloved pets is incredibly heartwarming for our volunteers," says Cesar Caneo, Executive Director of the Georgina Community Food Pantry. "It reminds them of the interconnectedness of well-being and strengthens their commitment to making a difference in all our lives."





528,290
lbs

of food distributed

1
million

meals provided to
hungry animals

160%

increase

in food support from 2022

35

food bank partners

Support was made possible thanks to generous corporate partners, including Pet Valu, Greater Good, Mars Canada, Walmart Cornwall Distribution Centre, Cookie Pal and Kabo – to name just a few of our amazing donors and partners.

1,549

days of emergency
boarding provided to
displaced animals

78

live traps loaned to catch feral
cats for spay/neuter

181

winter shelters built for feral
cats by 96 corporate volunteers

27

cats in need of non-traditional
homes adopted through the
working cat program

737

lost animals reunited with
their families



LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/COMMUNITYSUPPORT](https://ontariosPCA.ca/communitysupport)

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers mark 25 years of helping animals

Meet Lea and Doug Thompson, a dynamic duo who have dedicated their time to helping animals in need. The Thompsons are regular volunteers at the Ontario SPCA Renfrew County Animal Centre where they have been lending a hand and making a difference for the past 25 years.

The Thompsons' roles within the organization are as diverse as they are essential. Lea's involvement spans from grooming and fundraising to administrative duties and adoption counselling. Meanwhile, Doug helps with animal transports, facility maintenance, Bingo fundraisers, and everything in between.

"Even the smallest volunteer roles help," says Doug. "It allows staff to focus on what's important – the animals. They don't have to worry about the little things that need to get done."

Doug also joins Lea at every fundraising event she attends, helping with set up, tear down and anything else that needs to be done.

Yet, amid the various roles Lea and Doug undertake, it is their fostering experiences that resonate most deeply within their hearts. With each fostered animal, from fragile kittens to resilient survivors, the Thompsons witness the transformative journey from vulnerability to adoption.


"Fostering is always the best part. Seeing the animals come into the centre, sometimes in rough shape and then getting a second chance... there's nothing greater. I get to see them come full circle," says Lea.

Lea and Doug have fostered hundreds of cats and kittens. Through their adventures, they developed a strong bond with three special cats, Paisley, Finlay and Pearl, whom they adopted. Together, the three cats live with their 13-year-old canine brother Foster. Adopted from the Renfrew County Animal Centre, Foster is named in honour of all the fosters who have come through the Thompsons' home.

In celebrating Lea and Doug Thompson's 25 years with the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, we're reminded of the incredible impact of our volunteers. They are changing the lives of animals in need, giving them hope, happiness and a second chance.



LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/VOLUNTEER](https://ontariosPCA.ca/volunteer)



33%

growth in our
volunteer program

106

AnimalSmart™ volunteers
delivered humane education
presentations

200+

volunteers fostered
1,960 animals

80

Community Outreach Services
volunteers assisted with events,
distributing food and supporting
animal transfers



PET POPULATION MANAGEMENT

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society’s goal is to make basic animal wellness services more accessible to reduce pet overpopulation and keep pets and families together. High-volume spay/neuter services, including vaccinations and microchipping, are available to the public at the Ontario SPCA Centre Veterinary Hospital in Stouffville and the Ontario SPCA Marion Vernon Memorial Animal Clinic in Barrie.

For some, the services offered are life changing. The Ontario SPCA was contacted by a social worker from Victim Services in Barrie. A pet parent had left an abusive situation and needed to move into supported housing. In order to be able to bring her cat with her, he needed to be neutered and vaccinated. The Ontario SPCA team got him booked in right away so that his person could get the help she needed.



A lack of accessible spay/neuter services and a shortage of veterinarians has fueled demand for the Ontario SPCA’s services.

182,401

annual views of the Ontario SPCA spay/neuter webpage

383

dogs and cats registered each month, on average

Less than

3 minutes

until all surgery spots are booked each month

7,152

spay/neuter surgeries

2,360

microchips

84%

of clients didn’t have a regular veterinarian

96

dental procedures

648

wellness checks

410,000+

potentially unwanted offspring prevented

5,502

vaccinations

258

communities reached



MASH-STYLE SPAY/NEUTER CLINICS

To reach underserved communities, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society launched its MASH-style spay/neuter and wellness clinics in 2023. These portable outreach events are designed to be easily packed up and transported to wherever they are needed, including remote communities where road access is limited.



19,000+

potentially unwanted offspring prevented

7

community events

280

spay/neuter surgeries

42

microchips

123

vaccinations



2024
12 MASH-style clinics booked for 2024, supporting 1,500 animals

LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/SPAYNEUTER](https://ontariospca.ca/spayneuter)

LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/MOBILESERVICES](https://ontariospca.ca/mobileservices)

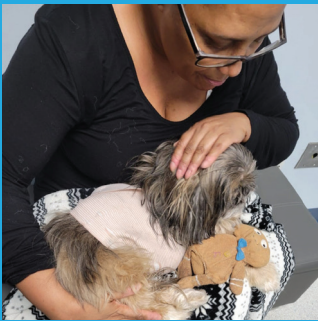
PUBLIC WELLNESS SERVICES

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society opened a wellness clinic in York Region in 2023 for families without the means to take their animal to a veterinarian for routine care. The clinic provides general wellness examinations, vaccinations and, when necessary and requested by the family, end-of-life care.

The services meant a safe, warm place to live for a York Region man and his dog. The Ontario SPCA was contacted by local police to see if we could help. In order to find housing, the man needed to get his dog vaccinated, but couldn't afford to do so. Thanks to our subsidy program and a generous donor who covered the remaining fee, we were able to vaccinate his dog at no cost to him. By working together, this pet parent was able to get the support he needed to get off the streets.

When it came time for Marilyn to say goodbye to her 13-year-old dog Princess, she couldn't afford the cost of euthanasia. She was referred to the Ontario SPCA's wellness clinic in York Region, where she was met with kindness and compassion in her time of need.

"Thank you so very much for everything throughout this terrible time for us. I'm so sorry I didn't get to give you a hug today," Marilyn said in an email she sent later that day. "I am so grateful to you for your kindness. You are all awesome and I am so thankful that our little girl had a peaceful journey surrounded by her loved ones."



66

humane care appointments

141

appointments fully subsidized by the Ontario SPCA and a generous donor

411

veterinary examinations completed

LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/COMMUNITYSUPPORT](https://ontariospca.ca/communitysupport)

2024

The Ontario SPCA will offer accessible wellness services in Barrie in 2024 at its Marion Vernon Memorial Animal Clinic, a high-volume spay/neuter location. To learn more about qualifying for these services, visit ontariospca.ca/communitysupport

FOCUS ON FACILITIES

To help ensure we can meet the needs of our communities now, and in the future, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society has made its facilities a priority. In 2023, we invested \$754,000 into our facilities in the form of capital projects. These improvements are critical to ensure we can provide a safe, healthy and reliable space for the animals in our care, and our staff and volunteers caring for them.

When pipes froze and burst in the 34-year-old Ontario SPCA Lennox & Addington Animal Centre in Napanee in 2022, requiring animals to be relocated, it served as a reminder that many of our buildings needed substantial improvements.

Installing leased generators at all animal centre locations to ensure we can remain operational during a power outage or extreme weather event, for example, means we can provide the best care possible for our animals. It also positions us to better support members of the community facing similar challenges caring for their pets.

► 2023 capital projects

- 2 new HVAC systems installed in Renfrew and Cornwall animal centres to ensure fresh air is constantly circulating, preventing the spread of infectious illnesses.
- 3 new furnaces installed in Barrie, Midland and Brockville animal centres to ensure a reliable source of heat.
- Security cameras installed at all sites for safety and protection.
- **Complete renovation of the aging Ontario SPCA Orillia Animal Centre**, including updating the cat and dog rooms to improve animal comfort and health, updating the isolation and intake rooms to keep animal populations healthy, and installing new flooring throughout to make it easier to sanitize.



► Saving lives with new equipment

Investing in our facilities is investing in the health of the animals we care for. In 2023, the Ontario SPCA added a \$35,000 digital x-ray system to its clinic in York Region. This important piece of equipment allows our veterinary teams to run diagnostic tests on the animals in our care without the stress of sending them off-site. It also allows us to do specialized surgeries for Ontario SPCA animals, such as bladder stone or foreign body removal, as well as even basic orthopedic procedures. This means faster access to care, which gets animals into loving homes sooner.

Malibu is one of the animals who has benefited from the x-ray machine. He suffered from a disease in which the ball and socket joint of both hips were eroding, causing pain in both hind legs. The only treatment involves removing the femoral head (ball of the joint) and smoothing out the edges of the femur.

The procedure requires two surgeries and radiographs must be taken prior to surgery, and immediately afterwards. Thanks to this extra level of care we were able to provide him, Malibu healed well from his surgery, with minimal stress. He got the second chance he deserved and has since found a loving home.



MALIBU



NORTHERN OUTREACH

A lack of access to basic animal wellness services, such as veterinarians and spay/neuter services, has contributed to an increase in animal populations across Northern Canada. In many Northern communities, there are more adoptable animals than there are families who can give them homes.

By working together with like-minded organizations and Indigenous communities, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society is giving Northern animals the second chance they deserve and providing sustainable resources to the North.

Bogie was four weeks old and living on the streets of a Northwestern Ontario community before being brought to the Second Chance Pet Network in Dryden. The kitten was scared, hungry and in desperate need of shelter. After a few months he was ready to make the 22-hour journey with 31 furry friends to find a loving home.



BOGIE

LEARN MORE AT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/COMMUNITYSUPPORT](https://ontariosPCA.ca/communitysupport)

232

animals transferred to find homes

30

communities supported with pet food and supplies

6 trips totalling
24,307 kms
to rehome animals

232,432
lbs

of food distributed

567,838
meals

to keep furry bellies full



SPCA MOBILE ANIMAL WELLNESS SERVICES UNIT

The Ontario SPCA Mobile Animal Wellness Services unit, made possible in 2019 thanks to a Pet Valu “Companions for Change™” sponsorship, was stationed in the Sudbury area in 2023 to provide accessible spay/neuter and wellness services, including vaccinations, to Northern pet families.



SALLY

Our goal is to help animals like Sally. She was only 11 weeks old and fighting for her life when she arrived at our Ontario SPCA Sudbury & District Animal Centre. Lethargic, dehydrated and emaciated, Sally tested positive for parvovirus, a highly contagious and deadly virus. Sally survived, but not all dogs are so lucky. The best chance at protection is to vaccinate before potential exposure.

[READ MORE ABOUT SALLY'S STORY ONLINE](#)

570

spay/neuter surgeries

791

vaccinations

237

wellness appointments

139

microchips



60

humane care appointments at the request of the animal's family

34,000+

potentially unwanted offspring prevented

622 kms

furthest distance travelled to access services

2024
2 spay/neuter
and wellness
clinics planned
in the North

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/MOBILESERVICES](https://ontariosPCA.ca/mobileservices)



ADVOCACY AND HUMANE EDUCATION

▶ Alleviating Ontario’s veterinary shortage

Communities throughout Ontario are experiencing shortages and delays in accessing veterinary care, putting the health and well-being of animals at risk. A 2020 workforce study by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association found that Canadian veterinary colleges produce about 350 graduates each year, which only keeps up with the pace of veterinarians retiring. Meanwhile, the Canadian Animal Health Institute’s 2022 Pet Population Survey reports that between 2020 and 2022, Canada’s dog population increased by around 200,000 and that of cats by 400,000.

The University of Guelph and Lakehead University are working to expand the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in Ontario, which will increase the number of veterinarians practicing in the province, particularly in the North.

To support their efforts, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society asked its animal advocacy supporters to help us by sending a letter to government officials calling for the funding of this program expansion. A total of 189 letters were sent to the government by animal advocates to address the veterinary shortage in Ontario.

It was a win for animals when the Provincial government announced in the budget its support to expand veterinary training, increasing the number of veterinarian graduates in Ontario by 20 per cent each year. In addition, they also announced an incentive program to expand the number of large animal veterinarians practicing in under-served communities.

This is an important part of addressing the problem of accessing veterinary care, which the Ontario SPCA continues to raise with the government. We are also working on a proposal for the spring 2024 budget that will call for expanding this type of support to other urgent areas of veterinary care.

A proposal to modernize the Veterinarians Act is also under review. The Ontario SPCA has shared its comments with the government, asking that the scope of practice of RVTs be expanded to ensure access to care.

These successful advocacy initiatives are proof that together we can make positive changes for animals.

▶ Get AnimalSmart™ with humane education

Education is one of the most important ways we can improve the lives of animals. AnimalSmart™ is the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society’s humane education program. Presentations are free and are available to school and community groups in our animal centre communities for Grades 1-8. The goal of AnimalSmart™ is to foster empathy, promote responsibility and inspire a connection with animals. Presentations include grade-specific engaging content that promotes understanding and a sense of responsibility for the well-being of animals.



2024
850 AnimalSmart™ presentations will reach 25,000 students

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [CHANGEFORANIMALS.CA](https://changeformanifest.ca)

▶ Take action for No Hot Pets

In the summer of 2023, the Ontario SPCA and participating SPCAs and humane societies across the province asked the public to help keep animals safe by taking the No Hot Pets pledge.

8,232 people took the Ontario SPCA’s No Hot Pets pledge vowing never to leave an animal unattended in a vehicle.

757 letters were sent by members of the public asking their municipality to enact a bylaw to protect animals from being left in vehicles.

[READ MORE ONLINE](#)



▶ Including animals in emergency plans

During Emergency Preparedness Week, the Ontario SPCA and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs urged pet parents to have an emergency preparedness plan in place that includes furry family members.

Our supporters were listening! A total of 10,000 emergency preparedness decals were requested and distributed, to let first responders know that there are pets inside a home.

[READ MORE ONLINE](#)



VISIT [ANIMALSMART.CA](https://animalsmart.ca) TO LEARN MORE OR BOOK A PRESENTATION

355
presentations delivered

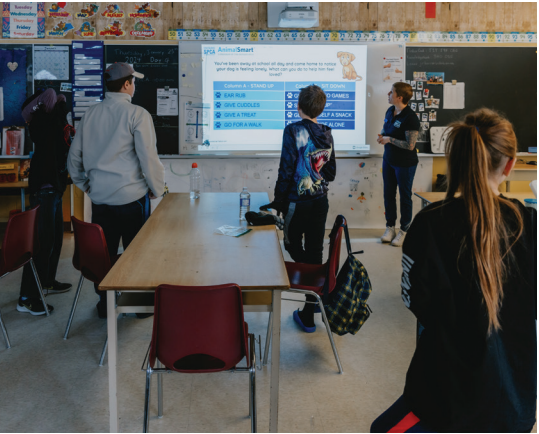
1,200+
volunteer hours logged

7,346
students reached

90
new volunteers recruited to deliver presentations

2 themes

offered to elementary students, and offered in French



FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

▶ Fur-tunate donor wins jackpot of \$74,310

In a turn of good fortune that would make any cat purr with delight, the winner of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society’s Holiday Draws for Paws 50/50 Lottery in December 2023 is an animal advocate and generous donor.

Patricia Ireland not only supports various animal organizations, but she also found herself on the receiving end of the Ontario SPCA’s largest 50/50 lottery to date. Patricia’s journey to becoming the Grand Prize winner began with her online year-end donations to various animal charities, including the Ontario SPCA. Little did she know that this act of generosity would lead to a chance at winning big.

While navigating to the Ontario SPCA website to make her donation, she discovered the Draws for Paws 50/50 Lottery. She took a chance and bought tickets. Patricia hit the jackpot, taking home \$74,310!

“I’m thrilled to support organizations that care for our furry friends, and winning the lottery is just an incredible surprise,” she says.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:
[ONTARIOSPCA.CA/HOW-TO-HELP](https://ontariospca.ca/how-to-help)

▶ 20 years of the Whiskers ‘n’ Wags Auction Gala

The 20th annual Whiskers ‘n’ Wags Auction Gala, proudly hosted by the Ontario SPCA Orillia Animal Centre, took place in November 2023 and raised an incredible \$57,000 – exceeding the \$40,000 goal, thanks to our incredible community.

The gala provided attendees with an unforgettable evening, featuring a delectable three-course meal, live entertainment, hundreds of items available for bidding in both silent and live auctions, and engaging activities.

“This event unites our community to support animals in need,” says Carol Beard, Orillia Animal Centre Manager. “The funds raised allow us to provide care and shelter to animals in need and support our community to keep pets and people together.”

This annual gala is the largest fundraiser of the year for the animal centre. Since its inception in 2001, the event has raised over \$620,000.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to everyone who has contributed to the Whiskers ‘n’ Wags Auction Gala over the past two decades. We eagerly anticipate the upcoming years of the gala event and the opportunity to assist even more companion animals.



▶ Leaving a lasting legacy for animals

Animals have always held a special place in Pansy Estrellita Vishnu’s heart. When she and her family immigrated to Canada from Singapore in 1989, Pansy made sure that her five beloved dogs accompanied them. These furry companions weren’t just pets – they were cherished members of the family.

In the Vishnu family home, a diverse mix of rescued dogs, cats, birds, rabbits and fish were a common sight. Over the years, Pansy lovingly cared for 52 dogs – a fact she often shared with pride among her family and friends.

Pansy made the generous decision to include a gift in her will to the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. This considerate gesture has now become a lasting part of her legacy, with her death at the age of 87. Pansy wanted to ensure that the care she provided for so many animals throughout her lifetime continues, even now that she’s gone.

“It was important for my mother to support the Ontario SPCA with a gift in her will, as she has been a lifelong supporter,” says Pansy’s daughter, Gwyndeline. “My mom believed deeply in the mission work of the Ontario SPCA.”

Like Pansy, you can support animals beyond your own lifetime. By leaving a gift in your will to the Ontario SPCA, you can continue your advocacy for animals by providing care and shelter, as well as working to end the root issues behind suffering and neglect.

“My mother wanted to continue her support for animals, even after she left this Earth,” Gwyndeline says. “I am very proud to be her daughter and for the teachings she instilled in me to look out for the animals that we have been blessed to have around us.”



DID YOU KNOW... the Ontario SPCA is a registered charity that does not receive annual government funding and depends on generous supporters to change the lives of vulnerable animals?

LET YOUR LOVE FOR ANIMALS LIVE FOREVER

When you remember the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society with a gift in your will, you can keep giving love to all pets – cats, dogs, and small creatures – long after you’re gone.



LEARN MORE ABOUT LEAVING A LEGACY BY VISITING [ONTARIOSPCA.CA/LEGACY](https://ontariospca.ca/legacy)

2024

ONTARIO SPCA AND HUMANE SOCIETY | Humane Hero

Watch for the launch of our new Humane Hero fundraising site



You can change an animal's life.

When you become a monthly donor, you are giving animals a second chance.
Every animal deserves a happy and healthy life!

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR TODAY!

ontariospca.ca/givemonthly