

The Cat Connection

North Toronto Cat Rescue located near Bayview Ave / Hwy 7

Winter 2015

Volume 21

Canadian Registered Charity No. 83607 9673 RR0001 www.northtorontocatrescue.com (905) 940-CATS (2287)



"Brotherly" Love

Adopting a pair of cats or kittens is a great idea, even if they are not siblings, as they help to support each other in their new home and often develop a life-long bond. We'd like to share the wonderful story of Bodhi (nee Buddha) and Linus (nee Toby) who were recently adopted together. Their new parents, Gary and Sharon, continue to email regular updates and we want to share their joy with you!



"Bodhi was a bold cat when he was in the shelter and liked nothing more than a scratch and backrub from anybody. Linus couldn't have been more different. When they arrived at their new home, Bodhi settled right in and claimed it as his own and got on with eating his meals and doing his business. The transition was an easy one for him. Linus, however, was not so brave and was still a frightened little boy. Within a couple of days he had found sanctuary in the basement, and the window well became his safety perch. He'd sit up there and eat his treats whilst Bodhi enjoyed our company. Linus was paying attention, though, and was learning from his new big brother that the humans were quite safe and that he too could become part of the pack when he was ready."

In the latest email we hear more good news from Gary and Sharon:

"The boys continue to thrive. Bodhi continues to be the catalyst for helping his little brother Linus come out of his shell.

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"Bodhi follows us wherever we go, and when it's feeding time or playtime he's only too happy to take part. Linus is drawn to his big brother and learns from him. He now has his meals with the family, and whilst he still chooses to keep a distance, he will now take treats directly from our hand and even allows some scratching. Boy, can that little guy purr!

"Thanks to Donna and the volunteers for taking good care of these guys and for introducing them into our lives. We can hardly remember what life was like without them. They both have a 'furever' home in our house, and a 'furever' place in our hearts."

Another happy ending for a pair of our cats!



SPECIAL THANKS to **Enigma Health Center** (Aurora) and **Nielsen Company** (Markham), whose fundraising events and continued support of NTCR is so gratefully appreciated!



SHELTER SPOTLIGHT

These cuties are now looking for forever homes!



Paris



Silver



Dewey

Visit our website for more lovely cats!

CEREBELLAR HYPOPLASIA (CH) KITTENS

You may have seen from our Facebook posts that we were looking for homes for five special needs kittens that were born with a condition called Cerebellar Hypoplasia (CH) or more endearingly called "wobbly kittens." We are pleased to confirm that all of them have now found their forever homes!

Andrea adopted Skippyjon (mild) and his mom, Ruby. They have been in their new home for 3 months, where they are settling in wonderfully. Andrea reports, "They are both heartbreakers that actively seek attention and petting, and give kisses in return. They both love to play with the laser light, and Skippy's CH doesn't slow him down at all. He climbs on all of the furniture and is practising his pounce (although clumsily). I wouldn't change him for the world. He is perfect as he is."

Pippa and Kiki (both moderate) were lucky enough to be fostered by one of our amazing volunteers, who has decided that she cannot part with them. They are now permanent members of her family. Thank you Pia for your unwavering support and for taking care of these little guys. They are lucky to have a forever mom like you!

Charming and Jillyboo (both moderate) were in foster care with Margaret, another of our amazing volunteers. As of October, we finalized their adoption and they will be going to their forever homes very soon!

> Resources: "Life with CH Cats" website (<u>www.lifewithchcats.com</u>) "Cerebellar Hypoplasia Cats and Kittens" on Facebook

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Jackie Steinmiller is a dedicated volunteer who joined the team in 2014. She was looking for a position while her kids were in school, and NTCR was perfect due to its range of flexible volunteer opportunities. Here she describes her experiences:

"I remember my first day with Linda so well! I'd had some experience in rescue and just couldn't wait to start interacting with the cats! I soon began to stay after my cleaning shift to socialize the cats, and that is the best part by far. I feel especially compelled to work with the scared, skittish cats. Until kitties know what it is like to feel loved and secure, they are not free to be themselves. When they are shown love by a human, their unique personalities shine through.

"I am also involved in fostering, and my first experience with NTCR was with a mom and her six kittens which had CH. It was the most challenging fostering I've ever done, but also the most rewarding. I also help with some media and fundraising efforts, but really I'm just here because I love the cats!"

Thank you Jackie for your commitment and enthusiasm. We love having you on the team!

SPECIAL THANKS

In October, **Deloitte** held a bake sale in support of NTCR. 100% of their donation goes directly to helping our cats, as we have no paid staff. They visited the shelter to deliver the donation in person, and got to meet our amazing cats and kittens. This is the 2nd year that we have benefited from their generosity, and we once again thank them for their support!

We are a registered charity and issue tax receipts for donations over \$20. Please consider NTCR as a partner for your community events.

JOIN OUR TEAM

Volunteers are vital to help achieve our goal of ensuring that cats/kittens live in safe and caring homes. NTCR operates solely on unpaid volunteers who offer their hands and hearts to turn that dream into reality! Everybody brings different skills and has a different schedule; so we offer many different roles, such as public relations, fostering, cleaning, fundraising, social media, transportation, odd jobs and handy work. To join the team, contact us via email

ntcr-volunteers@outlook.com or social media, or call Donna at (905) 940-2287.

PAST EVENTS

Online Auction - In June we ran our first online auction. It was a great success and raised over \$2000 for the shelter. Thank you to everybody who participated. There will be more in the future. If you have any items to offer please contact us via email or Facebook.ntcr auction@outlook.com

Pet Valu Adoptathon – We held our month long "adoptathon" in Sept at Pet Valu in the Laureleaf Plaza. We had an increased interest in adoptions, with 37% more cats finding their "furever" homes compared with September 2014. We also ran a raffle and raised a total of \$1200. Thank you all for your generous support. Congratulations to our winners!

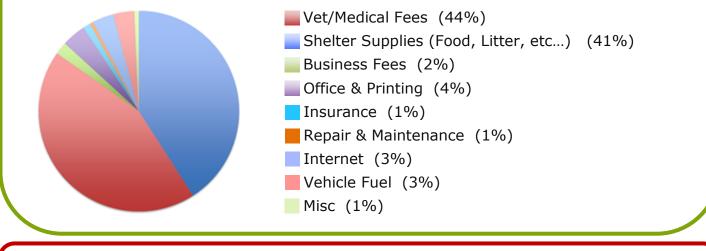
Note: If you are hosting а fundraising event on behalf of NTCR, please email us - we would love to share the details!

If you have room in your home and your heart for a furry friend, please visit us at www.northtorontocatrescue.com or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ntcr.shelter or on Twitter @NTCRescue



THE BALANCE SHEET

As you can imagine, it takes a lot of people to run the shelter; it also takes a lot of money! Here's a yearly breakdown of how our dollars are spent. We continue to be grateful to all our wonderful sponsors and donors, and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your loyal and ongoing support.





Did you know that you can donate your unwanted Air Miles to NTCR? Visit <u>www.airmiles.ca/donate</u> or login and simply use your Cash Miles to get a donation code and follow the instructions in the email you receive.

TO DONATE, visit http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/north-toronto-cat-rescue or mail us the form below:

To donate, please send this form with your cheque to: NORTH TORONTO CAT RESCUE <i>C/O 28 JOHN STIVER CRESCENT</i> <i>MARKHAM, ON L3R 9A8</i> (note: this address is not the shelter - it is for mail only)		
\$ ⁻ \$ I	For food, litter, and veterinary care Towards the shelter I'd like to be a financial sponsor-parent I just want to help	Please send a tax receipt: YES NO
Name:		
Address:		
Email address:		
I'd like to become a volunteer, please call me at:		