

The Cat Connection

North Toronto Cat Rescue located near Bayview Ave / Hwy 7

Spring/Summer 2016

Volume 22

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



SAVE NTCR! We need your help; our shelter will be demolished and our cats face a bleak and uncertain future without your support!

More than **2,400** cats have benefitted from NTCR and are now living the lives they deserve as part of a loving family. However, the future of our cats, and others like them is uncertain, due to demolition of our shelter in 2016 to make way for new development. We have launched our **#SaveNTCR** campaign and urgently need your support. The consequences of not finding a new property are impossible to consider, with the cats facing an uncertain future and possible relocation to other rescues in the GTA where those unable to find a 'furever' home will likely be euthanized.

The challenge is to find a new property, complete renovations and relocate all of the cats quickly and safely. This comes with a significant price tag, with the cost likely to exceed \$1m. This is where your help is desperately needed to save these precious souls. The first stage of the journey is to raise enough money to do all the preparatory work (searches, down-payment, legal and regulatory requirements, etc.). Having this in place will put us well on the way to relocating to our new home!

Without these funds NTCR will fail to exist and this is just not an option. With your help, we can continue to offer security for all the cats that come through our doors. No donation is too small, and every single dollar raised will go towards providing essential shelter and support for the cats.

Please check our website and Facebook page for more information on how you can support us. Please also share with your family, friends and co-workers and neighbours.

Please join to support our cause and help #SaveNTCR!

WE CAME TO ADOPT A KITTEN!

A year after our cat passed we decided to get a kitten. I heard about NTCR and went along to donate some money. I met Donna who gave us a tour and told us about a couple of special cats. Yes, you guessed it, they now both live with our family!

As a result of a terrible infection, Esso had just one eye. He was 5 years old, very shy, and as a result was overlooked by potential adopters. Rusty was also an older guy with a great personality, but also overlooked as he had entered his senior years. But we wanted a kitten, right?

We were amazed by the work done at the shelter, and saddened by the

number of older and 'damaged' cats who were struggling to find homes. The decision was made. We had no experience with 'survival' cats, but without hesitation we knew that these were the 'kittens' for us. We had a home and a warm heart and that's exactly what these guys needed.

We didn't see Esso for the first month he was in our home; always hiding. We didn't really know what he looked like. He was like a ghost. Rusty was the confident one, who encouraged Esso to explore. They got along so well, and with Rusty's guidance Esso finally learned to trust us. Within 4 months we could touch and pet him, and now they both sleep on our bed. It's great to be able to give cats like these a second chance, and they show so much love in return. Esso has been re-named Hope, and Rusty is called Kind. Thanks to NTCR for keeping them safe, and allowing us this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of these two loving creatures.

ET TU, BRUTUS

As the saying goes 'don't judge a book by its cover' and we should apply the same principle to cat names. Stephanie, one of our wonderful volunteers, tells us why Brutus doesn't live up to his name.

"Brutus was found outside. He had no interest in coming inside and openly showed that he had no intention of liking humans. He was crated in the early days as he was scared and needed somewhere to hide. He was also not yet ready to be near the other cats or the 'scary' humans. Our volunteers worked patiently and tirelessly to soothe and socialize him. This involved regular contact, teaching him that humans were his friends, and that they could offer him love and comfort. After many months of hard work, Brutus began to develop a trust of humans and an interest in the other cats. Finally, he was ready to leave the security of his crate, and with

ongoing petting and socializing he transformed into an amazing, loving kitty who craved lots of attention. He is now one of the first cats to greet me when I walk into the room and rubs against me until I pet him. He is a sweetheart and such a love bug who has won my heart. He is patiently waiting for his "furever" home and is so ready to share his big heart with his new family. I will miss him a lot when he leaves us, but I will also be so pleased that he will get the love and cuddles that he deserves and experiences the best that life has to offer. Go Brutus!"







By Marjan Fathallahpour

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT-LISA COSMAN

Lisa started as a cleaner and feeder in 2012 and now populates and manages our Facebook accounts and keeps the website current by creating all cat biographies and announcing all adoptions. She is also the volunteer co-ordinator, ensuring that we have a full complement of volunteers on every shift and at each event when NTCR is represented. She's done pretty much every volunteer role that we have!

She was introduced to NTCR when one of her own cats passed unexpectedly and needed to find a playmate for Riley. She was so impressed with NTCR that she felt compelled to help. Before that, she wasn't aware how big a problem cat homelessness was in the GTA, and how many cats were dumped onto the streets. She does everything to find homes for our cats, and confesses that, "It's stressful to see cats suffer due to the hard life they lived on the streets before being rescued and not experience the unconditional love of a "furever" home, but it's all worth it every time a cat is adopted into a loving, caring home."

JOIN OUR TEAM

Our cats rely 100% on volunteers. They provide a vital role in the smooth running of the shelter, and in helping achieve our goal of ensuring that cats and kittens live out their lives in a safe and caring environment. Volunteers offer their talents, their hands and their hearts in order to turn our dreams into a reality. We offer many different opportunities, including: fundraising, cleaning, transportation, odd-jobs and handy work, and we recognise that everybody brings different skills and has varying amounts of time that they can commit. To find out how you can help, contact us via email

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



PAST EVENTS

Pet Valu – In April we partnered with Pet Valu, Agincourt Mall in their Adoption and Paws month, to promote adoptions, donations and awareness of local rescues. Many of our cats and kittens were showcased in the store, and all of the Paws proceeds were donated to NTCR; \$1,238 cash and \$390 of food. We also held a bake sale at the event, with many of our volunteers baking and attending. The bake sale raised a further \$357.

Music Fundraiser – One of our supporters, Pia Sarker, co-ordinated a music benefit show at Coalition on April 29th. The venue gave their space for free, and the bands (The Nasties, Spewgore, Politikill Incorect and Peace Corpse) also gave their time for free. There was also a raffle, with some great prizes donated by kind hearted supporters. The event raised \$1,070 towards #SaveNTCR!

If you're interested in holding a fundraising event on behalf of NTCR, please contact us and we will support it in any way that we can.

Note: If you are hosting a fundraising event on behalf of NTCR, email the event details to us and we will share the event on our Facebook page.

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

#SaveNTCR

Please donate if you can and share our links with friends and contacts

Go Fund Me https://www.gofundme.com/SaveNTCR

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Zara Ellis, Manager of Pet Valu, Agincourt, for hosting NTCR in April, allowing us to display our fur babies, hold a bake sale and collecting "Paw" donations for us. Also big thanks to their staff for taking care of our cats while in their store.

York University students for their production of 'We Are Their Voice'; a short documentary explaining the background and objectives of NTCR. A fantastic production, for which we are very grateful.

Local media for featuring NTCR on their programs, including: Sarita Patel, Rogers; Roger Ashby and Dwane Read, CHUM FM; Irene Preklet, 680News; Shauna Hunt, CityNews; and Fairchild TV

"One small cat changes coming home to an empty house to coming home." - Pam Brown

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)	
 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:	