

# THE CAT CONNECTION

WINTER 2019  
VOLUME 30

The North Toronto Cat Rescue Newsletter



*Unseen they suffer Unheard they cry In agony they linger In loneliness they die*

## BE A TROUPER, TAKE ACTION!

AS TROUPER gazes up at you with his warm golden eyes and cute furry face, it's difficult to believe that anyone would want to harm such a gentle soul. Yet, this is exactly how Carmella found him: in Markham being hit with a broom as a homeowner was trying to knock Trouper from a step as he made his way up their stoop.

Trouper was dehydrated and hungry, desperate for any sustenance. Since he's declawed, we believe he was someone's pet and likely connected the house as a safe sanctuary. His rescuer watched as he attempted to crawl up the stairs again, hoping for an ounce of compassion.

With that she leapt into action, running to pick up Trouper before he could be shooed again. How often we are so caught up in our own world that we're blind to what's happening around us? To be able to notice a problem and to react, that's a commendable act.

She whisked him home, providing food and water, until she could get in touch with NTCR. Luckily for Trouper, Donna welcomed him with open arms.

Life at the shelter didn't start as a fairy tale. Trouper was malnourished and his fur so matted it took almost a week of shaving, leaving the poor cat looking like a squirrel, to get him comfortable. His health was also touch and go for the first few months – living outdoors caused him to develop



an upper respiratory illness leading to many vet visits. Medical staff thought he would need to be euthanized, but Donna knew he was a trouper and continued to nurse him back to health.

Finally, after three months he was released into a room filled with older cats where he could quietly integrate with his fellow felines. Trouper managed to bond with Mouse and Jack, other cats at NTCR. And despite being cast away by so many humans, he welcomed the love from fellow volunteers.

Paula, a long time Cat Caregiver at NTCR, noticed Trouper seemed slow and still had a wobbly gait. She asked if she could foster Trouper, giving him a helping hand until he was fully recovered.

Trouper quickly integrated into his foster home, thinking he's the alpha cat of the other two

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## JOIN NTCR ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Be the first to know about our kitties, upcoming events and much, much more!



[www.northtorontocatrescue.com](http://www.northtorontocatrescue.com)



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## BE A TROUPER, TAKE ACTION!

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felines, notwithstanding being half their size. Most surprisingly, despite his past negative encounters with humans, he had no issues with showing affection to Paula, letting her pick him up and climbing into her bed (with the help of steps) to cuddle. He gives a deep meow, as if to thank his foster family for their love and compassion.

What does it take for someone to take action? Whether it's to show compassion and nourish a stray cat; volunteer time to care for our furry friends; or welcome a cat into their home (as a foster or permanently).

Trouper has been lucky enough to have two ladies take action for him to date. With a bit of holiday magic, maybe a third person will embrace him into their home forever. If this could be you (or you'd like to volunteer) please reach out to us



at (905) 940-CATS (2287). As television personality Peter Marshall once said, **"Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned."**



## THE EYES HAVE IT!

NTCR has partnered with visionary Optical Thirty 8! For each pair of fashion fur-ward Kitty Frames sold, \$10 will be donated towards the cats in our care. These spectacular specs are available at all five Optical Thirty 8 GTA locations.

<https://opticalthirty8.com/>

**Sadie, now named Lady Sif, is proof that there is no such thing as a cat that's "too feral" to be adopted.** ★★

LADY SIF won my heart even before I met her. Her story broke my heart but I truly wanted to meet this courageous feline. After a few visits, Sif indicated she wanted to have a home and she came with me to her fur-ever home in July where she wasted no time making herself at home, doing a once-over of the apartment, then jumping on the bed to snuggle into (MY!) pillow, looking at me as if saying, "Okay, I sleep here now." And that she did.

Over the past couple of months I have been so proud of my brave warrior queen.

## SADIE UPDATE CONTINUED FROM SPRING NEWSLETTER



She has come so far, gaining the confidence that comes with feeling safe, secure and loved.

She can now be found napping on the sofa, listening to her human's awesome 80s playlist (Sif made it clear she is NOT a fan of heavy metal, thank you very much). One of the quirks that I love about Sif is her sass.

A very talkative Tortie, when will announce her presence with a soft "meh" as she enters a room and a louder "MEH!" when demanding chin scratches, followed by a deep, happy, contented purr.

I am truly honoured to have Sif in my life. Thank you NTCR for saving her from starvation and exposure. Lady Sif is a survivor who truly deserves all the love and affection – which her human is always happy to give.





# THANKS TO DR STRONG

A SINCERE NOTE of appreciation to Dr. Travis Strong, DVS, MS for your extreme kindness, compassion and genuine love of animals.

If one visits Dr. Strong's website, he states his mission is that of a travelling veterinary specialist and his belief is that the lives of all animal's matter.

Dr. Strong is an eye specialist. While helping at a wildlife center he learned NTCR had a cat,

Everest, that had recently developed a deep corneal ulcer. Immediately he contacted us offering his service. After assessment, it was suggested that surgery was necessary in order to save the sight and that a conjunctival island graft would need to be performed. For this, all fees were waived. We were grateful, ecstatic and in awe of his kindness. Today Everest's eyesight has returned thanks to Dr. Travis for both his skill and his compassion.

Everest



## SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT



HERE at North Toronto Cat Rescue, we don't trap, neuter, release, we trap, neuter, REHOME. A cat in the wild, lives a short miserable life. On average a feral cat has a life span of 3 years, indoors that ranges anywhere from 15-20 years of age. Cats are hard wired to hunt and cats living outdoors must do so to survive. We work tirelessly to remove those cats from the wild not only to improve their lives but to help support a healthy population of native birds and rodents that otherwise could be decimated by large wild cat populations left unchecked. Our work provides an invaluable service to our community as a whole and we are happy to continue doing so long as necessary. ♻️

## PAWS UP TO NTCR

Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon

**Sunday, October 20, 2019:** What a purr-fect day for the Sociabank Toronto Marathon! Together we exceeded our fundraising goal, raising over \$10,000 to help our special kitties. A huge thank you to all our sponsors, donors and our tireless Team NTCR participants. We couldn't have done it without you!

### WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

We're looking for a volunteer with a vehicle who can commit to helping out once a month to transport litter from Costco to the Shelter. Lifting heavy bags of litter is required. For more information, please visit [northtorontocatrescue.com](http://northtorontocatrescue.com).





# VOLUNTEER WITH US!

NTCR Volunteers (lovingly known as our mus-CAT-teers!) are our lifelines. We are 100% volunteer run and without our volunteers there is no Shelter. We are in need of dedicated and passionate folks who can commit to a minimum of three hours, once a week, to support the shelter with various activities, from feeding and care for our rescued cats to cleaning, fundraising, and other essential tasks.

“ There are few things in life that can give honest fulfillment like volunteering at NTCR. Being able to complete a shift knowing I have cared for the cats and showed compassion without anything in return besides knowing they are cared for is something we miss often in our daily lives. ”

For more information, please visit [northtorontocatrescue.com](http://northtorontocatrescue.com)



**HOW YOU CAN HELP . . . HOW YOU CAN HELP . . . HOW YOU CAN HELP . . . HOW YOU CAN HELP**  
With the holiday season upon us, and with our needs greater than ever, will you consider making a gift to give our kittens and cats the best chance at health, happiness and finding their forever home? Make a donation, donate an item from our Wish list, or better yet, become a sponsor to one of our Long Term Shelter Cats. 100% of your donation goes to helping our kittens and cats!

## DONATE ITEMS FROM OUR WISH LIST

WITH almost 200 cats living in our shelter, we go through a lot of supplies! Consider making a gift of cleaning products (vinegar, paper towels, etc), food, medical care or other items we need to keep our kitties healthy and happy. For more information about our Wish List items, please visit [northtorontocatrescue.com](http://northtorontocatrescue.com)



## SPONSOR A SHELTER CAT

ALTHOUGH our goal is to help rehome every cat who comes to our shelter, the truth is, there are some who may never be adopted. These cats, known as our Long-Term Shelter Cats, come to us with issues like Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV), Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) or continue to be fearful around humans.

**For as little as \$25 a month, you can become a Very Important Cat Person (VICP) and help sponsor one of our Long-Term Shelter Cats. Your monthly sponsorship will help**

**provide food and medical care and the continued safety of our shelter so they can live out their lives in warmth being cared for by our loving volunteers.**

As a thank you for your sponsorship, you will receive a thank you package with a picture or pictures of your sponsored kitty and periodic updates to let you know how your kitty is doing. We welcome you to come and visit at the shelter by appointment to see how your sponsorship is used and meet your sponsored cat or cats. For more information, please visit [northtorontocatrescue.com](http://northtorontocatrescue.com).

## DONATE ONLINE!

Make your special holiday gift online today or sponsor a long-time shelter cat with a monthly donation. There are several ways to make your online donation. You can make your donation through: [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com), [CanadaHelps.org](https://www.canadahelps.org) & [Crowd Rise](https://www.crowdfunder.com). All donations of \$20 or more will be receipted automatically.



### North Toronto Cat Rescue Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### One-Time Donation

Yes! I would like to make a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ My cheque made payable to  
North Toronto Cat Rescue is enclosed

Please send your cheque and completed donation form to:

North Toronto Cat Rescue  
28 John Stiver Crescent, Markham, ON L3R 9A8

**NOTE: This is our mailing address only and is not the location of the rescue shelter. Thank you for your support!**

All donations of \$20 or more are receipted automatically



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GREEN!**

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