WHEN YOU FIRST MEET Smokey, she doesn’t look like a 13-year old cat. Small and petite, she almost resembles a growing kitten – one with a quiet temperament, that loves to settle into laps for long head rubs.

But Smokey is an old girl with a sad past, who’s endured some pretty hard times in her life.

As a young cat, she was adopted by a very kind gentlemen - one that adored her so much, he microchipped her in case she ever went missing. Sadly, the initial high of love faded, and he was forced to give her up while moving provinces. Jaded and confused in unfamiliar surroundings, Smokey broke out while bouncing through homes, and was struck by a moving object that left her with a shattered leg.

For three days, she lay collapsed under a tree, frightened and in pain under the sweltering July sun.

For three days, she was ignored by everyone out on their daily walks, until finally, NTCR was contacted by a dog-walker who noticed the injured cat had not moved in three consecutive days.

NTCR immediately rushed to the location and, after determining Smokey was still alive, urgently whisked her to the vet, where she was diagnosed with a shattered leg, internal bruising, and extreme dehydration. Smokey’s leg was wrapped in a bright pink cast and she was treated with a water solution, antibiotics, and a pain reliever – all things to help her feel better. She was moved to the NTCR shelter where she was lovingly cared for while her leg fully healed.

Today, Smokey roams a room without her cumbersome cast. Even amongst her old, furry friends, she seems like a demure young kitten! But don’t let her young looks deceive you – this old girl is a survivor with a lifetime of stories to share. As this goes to print, we are thrilled to report she has now found a loving family who just wants to listen!
IT’S OFTEN THOUGHT that most cats are comfortable being left alone. And although some felines may seem to enjoy their solitary time, our furry friends really are social beings who crave companionship. After all, their ancestors travelled in packs where they would find security, survival, and of course, love.

This past summer, we welcomed little Bullet to the shelter. Bullet was born in the wild amongst a colony of feral cats. Sadly, he encountered a very horrific start in life when, as a little kitten, he was shot with a pellet gun by an incredibly cruel human being. It hurts to even imagine what this young kitten endured. His almost lifeless body was found, wounded and bleeding, by a kind volunteer who regularly cared for the colony. The kitty was rushed to the vet and, after undergoing surgery, was brought to NTCR to heal and recuperate.

Although Bullet was now in a safe and loving environment, the little kitten seemed alone and depressed. Maybe it was the brush with death, we thought, or perhaps he’s not used to being indoors. It was only when the volunteer realized that Bullet had most likely bonded with another cat (nicknamed Silver) that it became our mission to reunite the two little buddies, and the team set to work to trap and rescue Silver.

The Silver-Bullet reunion was a sight to behold! As soon as they were reunited, the two kitties began to groom each other, and young Bullet found his appetite again, making way for a speedy recovery. The duo now spends their time playing together in the shelter, never too far from each other—a bonded pack ready to take on the world... or maybe just a friendly furever home for now.
We were voted “Gold Winner in the Animal Rescue Category” One of the City’s Top Picks.

FROM ONE DECISION IN 2015 to begin volunteering at NTCR, I’ve gotten so much from the experience – including two amazing members to our family!

My love for animals drew me to NTCR as a volunteer and it’s here where two little kittens, Pippa and Kiki, entered my life. They were born with a condition called cerebellar hypoplasia (“CH”), where the cerebellum part of their brain does not fully develop, affecting their balance, coordination, and mobility. In short, their motions can become wobbly.

Since they needed some extra attention, I agreed to foster them and during this time developed a happy routine and trusting relationship. Pippa and Kiki eventually became permanent members of the family. Sadly, due to a lack of education, there’s sometimes a stigma against cats with CH, but they can live extremely comfortable lives when given the opportunity. See for yourself on their Instagram account @thestumblesisters!

We decided to adopt them when the future of NTCR became uncertain (the property may be redeveloped soon, and the organization will be evicted). It’s this experience that started the #SaveNTCR campaign to fundraise resources to move to a new shelter. To help with the cause, I harnessed the power of the community to launch a Kittysaver benefit involving raffle prizes and live musical performances.

Kittysaver is such a success that it became an annual tradition, growing bigger and better – to date we’ve raised over $10,000. The latest benefit (Kittysaver V) was even completely vegan/cruelty-free! I didn’t want other animals to suffer in order for us to fundraise for cats.

WHAT AN INDOOR CAT MISSES:
1) Encounters with wildlife: coyotes, foxes, raccoons & skunks
2) Being hit by a car
3) Ingesting poisons such as antifreeze, rodent poison, etc.
4) Being stolen / used for bait
5) Picking up multi-diseases: feline leukemia, FIV, etc.
6) Various infections and assorted injuries
7) Fleas and ticks
8) Rain, snow, heat and cold
9) Danger to other species, birds, etc.
10) Avoid frequent calls to shelters asking if their cat was there as it just didn’t return

People that say money can’t buy you happiness have never paid an adoption fee”

FOSTER
ADOPT
RESCUE
ADVOCATE

WHAT AN INDOOR CAT MISSES:
1) First Place: 16×20” painting of your photo by artist Sue Naus (retail value $500)
2) Second Place: $100 Cash or $100 Pet Valu Gift Card
3) Third Place: $50 Cash or $50 Pet Valu Gift Card

Visit www.northtorontocatrescue.com for all of the details!

“Christmas bulbs or fur balls”

GET YOUR PETS PHOTOS READY! Our 4th GoGo Photo Fund Raising contest will start November 29, 2020 with 100% of funds raised going directly to NTCR .... Whether your pet has fur, feathers, scales, skin, or warts they all have their Happy Place.

By entering this contest, you are:
◆ proudly showing off your precious and photogenic pet, and
◆ supporting NTCR by donating to our future!

Your support (and entry!) helps us raise much-needed funds for our mission of protecting, caring for, and providing a temporary home for our current cats and many more that need rescuing.

There are three awesome prizes for the top 3 photos (determined by number of votes):

1) First Place: 16×20” painting of your photo by artist Sue Naus (retail value $500)
2) Second Place: $100 Cash or $100 Pet Valu Gift Card
3) Third Place: $50 Cash or $50 Pet Valu Gift Card
North Toronto Cat Rescue

Donation Form

Name: ____________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________

Street Address: _____________________________________

City: ________________________________    Prov: _______

Postal Code: ______________   Phone: __________________

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of: CAD $ ___________

* A tax receipt can be issued for donations of $20 and above. Would you like a tax receipt (check one)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I'm also interested in volunteering with NTCR. Please contact me via email or phone.

Please send cheque and completed donation form to:
North Toronto Cat Rescue
28 John Stiver Crescent, Markham, ON L3R 9A8

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

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