



The Tale of Hagrid

Found Barely Able to Walk/Crying/Dehydrated/Starving/ Alone to Adopted With Paw-rents, and Fur-siblings.

Hagrid was on death's door the day he wandered up to the right doorstep. Stepping out the front door all Danielle saw was Hagrid looking up at her in sheer desperation, meowing at the top of his lungs for help. She immediately whisked him in providing food and water and then contacted NTCR. He was so malnourished - every part of his skeleton could be felt with just a touch. His spine, shoulder and hip bones protruded through his skin. He had not an ounce of fat on his body and his face was sunken in showing what little remained of his regal and handsome face. The fur on his side and under his chest was so matted and tight to his skin that he had to be put under anesthetic to have it removed without injuring him. Whenever he was provided food, he scarfed it down as if he hadn't eaten in days. Sadly, this was his reality - slowly starving to death while waiting for someone to open their hearts and give him hope. Since Hagrid was in such a weak state, he required around the clock care. Luckily, MusCATEer Elana stepped up and opened her home to foster him. The first few months were touch and go due to having no muscle mass on his body as he was just so extremely thin and thus unable to store fluids which meant he was constantly dehydrated.



He was given subcutaneous fluids every day for several months until he gained a bit of weight which then allowed his body to again store water. Tests revealed he had hyperthyroidism and confirmed it had been untreated for a very long time. Had Hagrid not been found that day, odds are he would have died soon after - starving, thirsty and all alone. In such a poor state, even with daily medication, we were not sure he would make it. But he did prove us wrong! After months of care, many vet visits and much joy, Hagrid turned into the cat he was always supposed to be. Despite all he had suffered and endured, he welcomed love from his fosters. He found his favourite spot perched at a window looking out on the world and developed a nightly routine of crawling into bed with his fosters and falling asleep squished right between them. He loves to cuddle up on the couch and has a voice that can be heard miles away. He absolutely captured the hearts of his fosters and they have now permanently adopted him. This sweet soul at last gets to live out his remaining "happily ever-after" years in the comfort he finally so deserves.

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



www.linkedin.com/company/north-toronto-cat-rescue



www.pinterest.ca/ntcrshelter



www.facebook.com/ntcr.shelter



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<https://www.northtorontocatrescue.com>



(905) 940-CATS (2287)

DRIFTER'S STORY - The meaning of Drifter - (one that travels or moves around aimlessly)

That describes this sweet, gentle boy!! For us, his story began with a frantic call from a lady asking for help (one of many calls we receive DAILY) and reported that after roughly six months feeding this cat outside, that day was unlike any of the others! When he routinely appeared hungry and hoping for something to eat, she noticed he had been attacked by "something" as a large part of his face was missing and needed emergency treatment. She said he looked so weak and frightened and asked if we'd please come quickly. As often as possible our response is swift and one of our team members wasted little time trapping him and transporting him to our vet where emergency surgery was performed. Safe and warm in our shelter and no longer needing to sleep on the cold ground with one eye open at night, this shy soul is beginning to show us his gentle personality.



ADOPT
A
PET



We strive always to educate people that should they come across a cat or kitten outside to please call a rescue group for help and, if possible, secure it until a space is found. So often we receive the call after something happens and then again requires another large veterinary outlay. As another Winter quickly approaches, lineups outside remain long waiting for help and certainly adds to their current misery. For us to continue our 36 years of non-stop rescue work, we are asking for your support. Tax receipts are issued for all donations. Our "dream" is to find help to expand our shelter with an addition enabling us to help so many others. Despite the lack of any government support, it has been both rewarding and extremely challenging.



SPOTLIGHT
EVEREST
JULY 2014 - JULY 2023

(as told by our MusCATEer Michela)

Everest was a special cat at NTCR. He had Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) as well as what we suspect were the after-effects of a stroke or two. In addition, his hearing wasn't the greatest and he had eye surgery to save his left eye years prior. He had been at the shelter almost 9 years.

When I first met Everest 2 years ago, he was skittish when people entered the room. He spent his time happily either hanging out with his roommates in the middle of a "love pile" while they all purred with each other or basking in the sun on the window ledge. After many attempts to approach him with little success, one day I was able to pet him while he lay sleeping in the sun. I felt like I won the lottery that day. Over the course of time, Everest began to increasing have mobility issues that required us to change the configuration of the room so he would be safe. Eventually his mobility got to the point that we had to remove anything elevated. During this time, he finally allowed us to begin stroking and petting him. Hearing him purr was so beautiful.



Along with the room changes, came changes in caring. He was unable to clean himself properly so we began the process of bathing him. He wasn't too sure at first whether this was enjoyable or not, but he came to love his "spa" days so much that when we dried him with the blow dryer he would stretch out his legs and splay his paws in the most heartwarming way. As happens with many serious illnesses, Everest continued to deteriorate until we were unable to care for him in a way that would have prevented him from being in pain and distress. Everest was our special needs "boy" and he touched the hearts of so many of our volunteers who cared deeply for him. He is greatly missed but we're better for having had the opportunity to love him and care for him during his short lifetime.

PADDINGTON (THE WEE KITTEN FOUND ON BUSY STREET. BLIND IN ONE EYE)

Paddington, a 6 week old British Short Hair, was rescued from a very busy road as traffic sped by. His little body was so weak that he literally “swayed” along the shoulder of the road struggling to keep his balance. He was all alone - so thin, so hungry - just prickly dirty fur and bones. We later would learn he also had sight in only one eye. If only this wee guy could have told us how he ended up there feeling so lost and so hopeless.

As we now update his story, his life has changed!! His fur is thick and soft and his eye has been checked by Dr. Strong, our Ophthalmologist. He scampers about being the macho Paddington he was meant to be. His little body has filled out with proper nutrition and care and hopefully one day he too will find his Fur-ever Home with a family just like his fictional character, Paddington Bear.



SAFETY INDOORS WHAT A CAT MISSES!

- Encounters with wildlife, coyotes, foxes, raccoons and skunks.
- Being hit by a car
- Ingesting poisons such as antifreeze, rodent poison, etc.
- Being stolen / used for bait in dog fights
- Picking up multi-diseases: feline leukemia, FIV, etc.
- Various infections/injuries
- Fleas and ticks
- Rain, snow, heat and cold
- Danger to other species (birds, squirrels, chipmunks etc.)
- Avoiding frequent calls to shelters asking if their cat was there as it just hadn't come back.



WHY IT MATTER'S CLAIRE & WINSTON, A TRUE LOVE STORY



(as told by MusCATeer Diana)

Allow me to introduce you to Winston and Claire. Winston is our eldest resident who has the soul of a gentle, caring and loveable grandfather.

Even his face seems to reflect that of a wise old man...but he has a big issue - he tends to spray to mark his territory IF there are other cats in his “space” (with the exception of his love, Claire). He came to NTCR with his three brothers who were found on a golf course in Thornhill. Claire, on the other hand, arrived at the shelter with 7 others from a hoarding situation and while 6 found homes, she has always refused to use a litter box (despite years of trying a “million ways” to figure out why). Winston took a liking to her right away allowing her to snuggle with him and stake out most of their shared bed space as her own. They share a room to themselves due to their issues. Over the years their bond has become so intense that if they are ever separated, Winston will wander the room crying and checking various cat trees and cubbies looking for his sweet Claire until he finds her. Theirs is a true love story of a bond so strong it would make most humans envious. We fully expect Claire and Winston to live out their lives here at NTCR where they will always be safe, well-fed and loved – although we are quite certain their story may have ended differently had they not found NTCR.



WISH LIST



Dear SANTA, We've been such great Cats and Kitties this year! Here are a few things on our Christmas list:

More volunteers: Since the shelter runs with the help of our loving MusCATEers, we appreciate them feeding us and cleaning our rooms. In addition to the "hands on" work at the shelter, there is also a need for fundraising, transportation, handy work, social media, newsletters, events, and more. We can always use the extra help!

Additional Ideas...:

With over 150 of our feline pals at the shelter, we go through a lot of supplies! We need clumping cat litter, canned food (Merrick Rabbit or Duck, Wellness (Chicken and Herring), and dry food (N&D Prime Lamb and Blueberry, Taste of the Wild Rocky Mountain Roasted Venison/Smoked Salmon, and/or Performatrin Ultra Chicken and Brown Rice).

Financial donations either through Paypal, cheque, e-transfer to (donna@northtorontocatrescue.com), or CanadaHelps also go a long way! We are also needing building supplies/funds/volunteer help to add an addition to our current shelter - The Building Permit has already been issued.



**ALL IT TAKES IS TIME, PATIENCE -
THEY EACH HAVE A SOUL !**

Saving cats from a life outdoors is only part of the equation. A critically important aspect of NTCR's goal is the socialization of our cats to each other and to humans. Although some of our cats come in friendly and have very few problems interacting with humans, a small number of others come to us frightened, scarred and never knowing a kind human touch. At NTCR, we use patience, kindness and a slow integration process into shelter life. Our volunteers are trained to work safely with our cats, observing their behaviours and interactions in order to help each one become less fearful and accustomed to humans, and ultimately comfortable enough to be adopted into their Fur-Ever Home.



North Toronto Cat Rescue Donation Form

Name: _____

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Prov.: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

VOLUNTEER

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please contact us by filling in a volunteer form on our website @

<https://www.northtorontocatrescue.com/support-us/volunteer/> or email us at saventcr@gmail.com or phone (905)758-2287

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of: CAD\$ _____

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

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!

Help us decrease printing and postage costs and save the environment by going paperless! Don't worry, you won't miss out on our newsletters and will still receive a digital copy via email. Simply let us know by emailing newsletter@northtorontocatrescue.com. Let's go green!