

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) at North Toronto Cat Rescue: A Financial Challenge in Our Continuous Fight to SAVE Lives

Over the last two years we've faced many overwhelming operational and financial challenges in our fight to save lives and stop incredible suffering but Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) stands out above all others - a fatal viral disease that affects the immune system. Over 1 ½ years, the shelter experienced 13 of our rescues (Maddie, Polo, Charlie, River, Libby, Rascal, Alix, Felix, Lax, Duncan, Rufus, Annie, Smudge) all from many different locations (including two kitties brought to Toronto from Nepal by someone not originally connected to our organization). Recently a treatment break-through "surfaced" resulting in a high "cure" rate - after 84 days of dedicated treatment and \$4,500 per kitty (leaving us with \$58,500 in medical bills)!!! Watching young kitties morph from "barely able to lift their heads" to now "thriving and full of life and energy" gives us joy every single day. As a donation-funded rescue, we urgently need your support to continue covering medical costs and provide hope as we've done for over 36 years. We are all volunteers. No donation is too small and your generosity directly impacts the lives of so many needing our help. Please donate today to help us continue this important rescue work.



The Tale of Hagrid- One Year Later!



It's been over a year since Hagrid was found outside - malnourished, in distress and crying pitifully for help at the door of a sister of one of our MusCATEers - where he was quickly welcomed and now in the loving care of Elana and her partner. After several Vet visits and rehabilitation, they couldn't bear to part with this sweet soul and so he became a permanent member of their family. They keep reminding us how much he has stolen their hearts with his loud and quirky vocalizations, always demanding their attention and affection and his nightly routine of snuggling between pillows and purring contentedly despite his notorious breath!! In spite of being diagnosed with hyperthyroidism and arthritis, Hagrid's spirit shines - he wants to live - he's a true survivor. He's adapted to his daily medications and regular Vet visits - even earning a fan club at the Vet's office. It's difficult to imagine where he came from, how long it had been since his last meal and how many more days he might have lived to tell the tale, especially given his age and medical condition. Thanks to your support, we can continue rescuing cats like Hagrid and finding them safe and loving homes. Please consider donating to help us make a difference in the lives of so many more still outside and patiently waiting.

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



<https://www.northtorontocatrescue.com>



www.facebook.com/ntcr.shelter



@ntcr.shelter



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From Tragedy to Triumph: Cedar's Journey of Survival and Healing

The first picture of Cedar when she arrived at the shelter - merely a kitten, found under a clump of cedars, in pain, alone, unable to move, possibly hit by a car and left to die like so many other stories we regularly hear weekly (as well as the often "demands" to run and help immediately on our own time and at our own expense). Her rescuer named her Cedar. We don't know how long she lay there but when found, she was dehydrated, hungry and weak and it was clear she had been in agony for several days and so very close to becoming another tragic loss. When Cedar came into our care, we rushed her for X-rays which confirmed she had a shattered hip. Options seemed slim - either pinning her hip (a Charity rate of \$10,000, not feasible with our funding) or trying quiet rest first (on the advice of a medical expert). With lots of love and care from our dedicated MusCATEers and regular Vet follow-up visits, this sweet young kitty miraculously healed on her own. Her story had a happy ending and she has recently been adopted and thriving in her furever home. There are many similar stories such as Cedar's but we can't do it alone. Funding is crucial. Without it, we can't cover high Vet bills or provide the everyday care our rescues need but we are blessed with amazing volunteers who believe each one deserves a chance and they are ALL SAFE with us. With your support, we can continue to save lives and give others from outside also a chance to heal and experience their own happy endings.



STOP the Cruelty: End the Use of Inhumane Traps

Kyra, the last of her litter to be rescued, was found with a poison sticky rat trap stuck to her side. This heart-breaking incident serves as a reminder of the cruelty and the need of better regulations and awareness about these traps before similar harm happens to others! These inhumane traps must stop. Lets all push for change and make it a safer world for animals like Kyra.



Remembering Claire & Winston - A TRUE BOND

In our last newsletter we highlighted the special bond that Winston and Claire shared throughout the years. Sadly, this past spring Claire passed away unexpectedly with her loyal companion, Winston, by her side. Her absence left a deep void in Winston's life and for weeks he expressed his grief with sorrowful meows, often retreating into quiet solitude. He was never quite the same without his beloved Claire. His heart had been broken. In September our hearts were also broken once again as Winston also passed away suddenly. While we mourn their loss, we take solace in the thought that Winston and Claire are now reunited, together forever. Rest in peace, our sweet dear friends.



Operating a Shelter: What Does It Take?

Running a shelter is a monumental task that requires the dedication of many. Here's a glimpse into what it takes to keep our shelter running smoothly:

Volunteers: Ideally, we need about 56 volunteers per week just to clean the shelter, feed, and medicate the cats. This is based on having one feeder and three cleaners per shift, across two shifts per day, seven days a week.

Vet Runs: We make countless trips to the vet, both scheduled and urgent, to ensure our cats receive the care they need.

Laundry: The amount of bedding, linens and towels we go through each week is astounding!

Supplies Management: Keeping up with ordering food, medications and other essential supplies is a constant task.

Costco Runs: Monthly trips to Costco are necessary to stock up on litter and other supplies.

Communication: We receive and respond to numerous calls and emails about adoption requests and rescuing cats that people have found.

Adoption Process: Reviewing adoption applications and scheduling visits to the shelter is a vital part of finding our cats forever homes.

Volunteer Training: Canvassing for and training new volunteers ensures we have enough hands on deck to help.



Expense Management: We cover various expenses, including rent, utilities, Vet bills, medications and more.

Fundraising: Continuous efforts are essential to raise the funds needed to save as many furry friends as possible.

Determination: Above all, operating a shelter requires fierce determination and passion for the animals we serve!



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.
- 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 home.



WISH LIST



Dear Santa,
We've Been Such Good Cats and Kitties this year!

Here are a few things on our Christmas wish list:

1. 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!

2. Supplies:

With over 150 of our feline friends at the shelter, we go through lots of supplies! We need • Clumping cat litter • Canned food: Rawz Rabbit or Duck, Wellness (Chicken and Herring) • Dry food: (N&D Prime Lamb and Blueberry, Taste of the Wild Rocky Mountain Roasted Venison/Smoked Salmon, Performatrin Ultra Chicken and Brown Rice).

3. Financial Donations:

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.



From Fear to Trust:

The Journey to a Fur-ever Home!

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!