FETCH! June 2020

News

OMHS Phase 1 Reopening: Services

June 22, 2020



Service/Program	At the Shelter	By Phone	Via Canada Post	OMHS Mailbox	Online at OMHS.ca	By Appointment Only	Temporarily Suspended
Dog Licence	•	•	•	•	•		
General Inquiries					•		
Monetary Donations			•		•		
Report a Lost Pet					•		
Found a pet							
Pick up your lost pet							
Injured Wildlife							
Gift in Kind (towels & blankets only)	•						
Animal Viewing					•		
Adoption Pick Up							
Cremations							
Owner Surrenders							
Kids Programs						•	
Nail Trims							•
Barkin Bin (OMHS Thrift Store)							•

We are pleased to announce that OMHS is progressing with its plans to support the gradual and safe reopening of our programs, services and facilities. This is an ongoing process, and we continue to carefully and responsibly review the easing of restrictions in order to ensure the safety of the animals, public, volunteers, and staff remains our top priority.

Phase 1 of our recovery planning will commence June 22, 2020. In order to ensure the safety of everyone as we work towards a "new normal" at the shelter, **we must follow all physical distancing protocols** that have been put in place. To help maintain a minimum two-metre distance in the shelter, we have added floor decals (thanks to Oakville's B&B Decals) to remind visitors to maintain a minimum two-metre distance from each other. Please view the table above for the updated list of our current services. Please note that visitation of animals is not permitted in Phase 1.

If you plan to visit the shelter**you will be required to wear a mask.** If you do not have a mask with you one will be provided. We do ask that you make a nominal donation to pay for the cost of the mask and to support our work at the shelter. For more information please click <u>here</u>.

Help the Animals



Your best friend is special, so don't miss this opportunity to share their awesomeness with the world and win one of the 13 full-page spots available in the 2021 calendar! Submit a favourite photo of your pet, then get your friends to vote for your picture. \$1 = 1 vote. Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 (20 votes) or more. This is a great way to celebrate your pet and help animals in our community.





Great Gifts



Lottery Tickets Now On Sale

Get your tickets before they are all caten gone! There are 12 chances to win and a \$3,000 GRAND PRIZE.

> 1 ticket = \$5 5 tickets = \$20 10 tickets = \$40 25 tickets = \$100 Call the Lottery Hotline 905-845-1551 ext. 304



Paw-some Gifts for Dad

With Father's Day on Sunday, honour dad with a *Gift that Gives*. Help feed, rescue or care for an animal. Every gift will make a life-changing difference to one of the animals at the Oakville & Milton Humane Society.

Gifts here

Events

Our First Virtual Game Raises \$13,000!



Over the past few weeks, we have watched as members of our community put themselves in the paws of our animals through their <u>Mission Pawsible</u>: <u>Homeward Bound</u> journeys. Each of our participants took on the story of an animal making its way through the shelter and into their new, forever home. Along this path, they raised funds, earned a treat and learned more about what our animals experience when they come through our doors.

All of our participants are winners, but the real winners are the animals who will benefit from the generosity demonstrated by our players and their supporters. A big paws up to Meghan Goodfellow who not only was the first to the finish line but also earned the title of top fundraiser. Congratulations, Meghan and to the rest of our participants.

We still have a few players who are making their journey. To help ensure all our players make it home, please help them by visiting <u>here</u>.

Wildlife and Coyote Virtual Public Meeting June 25

Join us on Thursday, June 25, from 6:30-8:30 p.m for our virtual wildlife and coyote meeting. All members of the public are invited to join in to watch a live presentation delivered by speakers from the Town of Oakville, Coyote Watch Canada and OMHS. The meeting, hosted by the Town, will start with a presentation at 6:30 p.m. followed by a question period. You can attend the meeting on the Town's YouTube channel located <u>here.</u>

Coyotes are not considered a significant risk to people. They are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible, however



they are wild animals and we should avoid contact. Most negative coyote interactions are preventable. When we are aware and knowledgeable of our wildlife and act responsibly and respectfully, it is easier to coexist.

Coping with COVID-19

9 Tips To Reduce Your Pet's 'Separation Anxiety'

As COVID-19 stay-athome restrictions are gradually lifted and we return to work, it may be a very confusing time for our pets after spending so much time with their human companions. Our pets have been there for us during these very uncertain times and we should do all we can to ease the transition to the new normal.



For many of us, being at home for this extended period has enabled us to become new pet owners. Whether you have adopted your pet from the local shelter, purchased from a breeder, are fostering for a shelter or rescue group, or you have had your pet for years, your pet may have become extremely dependent on you being there. Learn more <u>here</u> on what steps you can take to reduce your pet's anxiety.

Alumni Update

Sadie and Sarah Now

Loving their Forever Homes

We have a couple of awesome alumni updates to share. Precious (now Sadie), was adopted recently by her new dad last week. The family are long-time supporters of OMHS and have adopted multiple cats from us. Precious is loving life at home and finding all sorts of places to lounge out.

We are also thrilled that our senior dog Sarah is thriving since she was adopted about seven months ago. She recently became a little confused when her parents started staying home 24/7 (who isn't confused these days?), but has since adjusted and is loving all the attention.





Create Your Legacy



You can bestow an everlasting gift that will protect and care for animals for generations to come. A legacy gift is a personal and powerful way of leaving your lasting footprint while helping to ensure a safe future for all the animals in our community.

Canada's tax laws encourage donations to charities by providing tax credits that reduce taxes and increase

family inheritance. There are several ways you can provide a legacy gift (bequests, RRSPs and RIFs, charitable annuity trusts, gifts of securities, real estate, life insurance). Your financial advisor can help you select the type that best reflects your intentions and meets your financial objectives.

If you would like to help OMHS ensure the future health and well-being of animals with the flexibility of a gift that does not affect your current financial situation, please consider a legacy gift. For more information, we are available to help you at 905-845-1551 or <u>legacy@omhs.ca</u>

Thanks to Our Supporters!

OMHS gratefully acknowledges the financial support of The Frank and Azniv Lochan Family Foundation Flow Through Fund and The Bob and Flo Day Memorial Fund at the Oakville Community Foundation, a registered charitable public foundation serving the Oakville community.

When OMHS closed due to the pandemic, over 100 animals were placed into foster care. The grant from The Frank and Azniv Lochan Family Foundation Flow Through Fund at the Oakville Community Foundation has helped cover the increased costs of the fostering program. We have been able to purchase the extra supplies needed such as food, bedding and enrichment items. The



enrichment toys played an important role in reducing stress which helped each animal transition to their temporary home. This grant has also helped OMHS create a safer shelter environment for staff and the public by having the funds to purchase personal protective equipment.

The grant from The Bob and Flo Day Memorial Fund at the Oakville Community Foundation fulfilled two critical needs - the purchase of cat carriers and safety gloves. While the use of carriers when transporting cats increases safety and reduces stress, the special gloves provide protection for our Animal Protection officers when handling both wildlife and distressed domestic animals.

