



The Humane Society
Media Release
April 6, 2021

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF KITCHENER WATERLOO & STRATFORD PERTH
LAUNCHES A CENTRE ADVANCEMENT CAMPAIGN TO RAISE \$100,000**

*TO REPLACE AN OLD X-RAY MACHINE, ACQUIRE A CAUTERY UNIT, AND TO BUILD & IMPROVE THE
ONSITE PARKS FOR SHELTER DOGS*

KITCHENER WATERLOO STRATFORD PERTH, ONTARIO: The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo & Stratford Perth (HSKWSP) launches a Centre Advancement Campaign to raise \$100,000 needed to purchase medical equipment and to build & improve onsite parks for shelter dogs.

Money raised will go toward:

X-ray machine with dental imaging capabilities – \$43,000

Cautery Unit - \$5,500

Onsite park for shelter dogs in Kitchener and in Stratford - \$51,500

HSKWSP operates two centres, one in Kitchener and one in Stratford. Both centres have a designated outdoor area for a dog park, however funds are needed to build the Stratford centre dog park and the Kitchener centre dog park is in need of repairs. These parks are designated exclusively for shelter dogs, while they are undergoing rehabilitation and training.

“While we are waiting for funds to build the dog park at the Stratford centre, our staff and volunteers are walking dogs along Griffith Rd., which is a busy industrial road adjacent to the Stratford centre.” said Nick Burke, Director of Development at HSKWSP. “This is unsafe for both the people and for the dogs, but until the dog park is built there is no other option. While we have a dog park in Kitchener, it’s been years since it’s been updated. The money raised will help us buy things like pet friendly synthetic turf, fencing, and build structures that will provide shade during the hot summer months.”

Since the HSKWSP Animal Hospital opened in 2014, the veterinary staff performed 16,697 surgeries. The animals receiving the surgeries come from both Kitchener and Stratford centres, as well as from other organizations in need of veterinary assistance.

“The x-ray machine we are currently using in our hospital was rebuilt in 1993 and the imaging table is from 1979, and both are at the end of their lifecycle.” said Dr. Laurel Gale, Veterinary Director at HSKWSP. “The current x-ray machine does not have dental imaging capabilities, which is not ideal for performing dental procedures. Dental radiographs cost, on average, \$200 per animal and given the volume of animals we see, the new x-ray machine with dental imaging capabilities will pay itself off in two years.”

“Purchasing our own cautery unit would allow us to quickly and confidently close small to medium sized bleeding vessels during surgery, decreasing the amount of time an animal spends in surgery and reducing their recovery time.” added Dr. Gale.



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Many rescue animals come to HSKWSP in very poor health, and are in need of extensive medical care, rehabilitation, and training before they are ready for adoption. HSKWSP is urging individuals and companies to donate generously, to help HSKWSP provide better care and facilities for the vulnerable animals in our communities. Please visit [HSKWSP website](#) to make your donation today.

Note to the editor:

Videos that accompany this media release are of Dr. Laurel Gale in front of the old x-ray machine and of Nick Burke talking about the need for dog parks in Kitchener and in Stratford. Both individuals are available for a follow up interview. The media files can be accessed by following this [link](#).

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The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo & Stratford Perth is a leader in Animal Welfare in our communities, focusing on what is in the best interest of the pets. We do this through community education, advocacy, care, and compliance. We are a registered charity and receive no government funding for our programs. Charitable BIN 11898 3550 RR0001

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