

A NEW WAY FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLETE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS
STRATFORD PERTH HUMANE SOCIETY LAUNCHES STUDENT FOSTER PROGRAM

STRATFORD PERTH, ONTARIO: High school students in Stratford Perth can now complete their community service volunteer hours by fostering animals from their local humane society.

Through a pilot program launched this summer, students 14 years of age or older can sign up to provide temporary care to a cat or a small animal.

“The pandemic made it challenging for high school students to complete their community service volunteer hours.” said Stacy McLellan, Volunteer Coordinator at the Kitchener Waterloo & Stratford Perth Humane Society (HSKWSP). “Given the success of our existing adult Foster Volunteer Program, we launched a pilot that enables high school students in the Stratford Perth area to provide love and care to a vulnerable animal while we look for their forever home.”

Students interested in participating in the program are asked to fill out an application on the [HSKWSP website](#). Eligible students will undergo an interview with the HSKWSP staff and will be asked to provide two letters of reference. Those accepted into the pilot program will receive free animal care training and will have all expenses associated with caring for the foster animal covered. This includes food, supplies, and veterinary care. Leafy greens are the only item that those fostering small animals would need to provide at their own expense.

The Stratford Perth Student Foster Program includes cats and small animals without any behavioral or medical issues. Students will participate in the program under the supervision of a parent or guardian and will be required to periodically bring in the animal to the Stratford Perth Humane Society for veterinary checkups and adoption appointments.

“Summer is a very busy time at the humane society, with many animals in need of foster care.” stated McLellan. “Expanding our Foster Program to include students will allow us to increase the number of animals we are able to help and will give them the one-on-one care and attention that is hard to replicate in a shelter environment.”

At this time, this pilot program is only open to students attending high school in the Stratford Perth area.

Additional information and application forms are available on the [HSKWSP website](#).

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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 RR001

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