



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **HAMILTON/BURLINGTON SPCA RECEIVES \$75,000 GRANT FROM PETSMA CHARITIES® OF CANADA TO FUEL SPAY AND NEUTER EFFORTS IN HAMILTON**

*New funding will provide 1,000 subsidized spay/neuter surgeries for cats in Hamilton in 2020*

**Hamilton, ON (February 4, 2020)** - The Hamilton/Burlington SPCA (HBSPCA) today announced it has received a \$75,000 grant from [PetSmart Charities of Canada®](#), one of Canada's leading funders of animal welfare, to help fuel its spay and neuter efforts in Hamilton. With the help of this donation, the HBSPCA will offer 1,000 subsidized spay/neuter surgeries through their *Hip to Snip* program, to families who may be otherwise unable to afford this important procedure.

Cat overpopulation continues to be an issue in Hamilton and surrounding areas. To date, the HBSPCA has provided 4,100 subsidized spay/neuter surgeries with the generous support of PetSmart Charities of Canada, preventing pet homelessness before it begins. Through partnerships with neighbourhood associations and social service agencies, the HBSPCA offers support to pet families with limited access to animal services. With this new funding, the HBSPCA will offer about 100 subsidized surgeries a month between February and December 2020 at a cost of \$20 per cat to the pet parent.

"It's a great day for cats and their pet families in Hamilton and area," says Marion Emo, CEO at the HBSPCA. "When families are overwhelmed with litters and the costs of spay neuter surgeries, shelter populations and street populations increase. Affordable surgeries help people be the pet parents that they want to be, prevent homelessness and keep pets and people thriving together. We are deeply grateful for the confidence PetSmart Charities of Canada has in our Companion Animal Hospital and outreach volunteers and staff for five years now".

All pets having spay/neuter surgery also receive rabies and FVRCP vaccines, preventative flea and deworming treatment, as well as a microchip to identify the feline in the event that he or she gets lost.

"At PetSmart Charities of Canada, we are committed to strengthening our communities by supporting pets and those who love them, and this initiative does just that," said Dani LaGiglia, Regional Relationship Manager at the national charity. "Hamilton/Burlington SPCA's work to provide accessible and affordable pet care removes several barriers that pet parents face when trying to provide care for their beloved pets and ensures more people and pets in Hamilton stay together."

PetSmart Charities of Canada aims to proactively prevent pet homelessness. Since 1999, the organization has granted more than \$8 million to support spay and neuter efforts across Canada.

For information on the HBSPCA's spay/neuter services, visit: <https://hbspca.com/services/spayneuter/>

**About the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA:**

The Hamilton/Burlington SPCA (HBSPCA) keeps people and pets together, helps pet owners be the pet parents they want to be and rehomes neglected and abandoned animals for second chance lives. Activities include, among others, education, pet visiting for people's well-being, low cost spay neuter services, and pet companion health checks and surgeries for pets belonging to some of the most vulnerable citizens in our community and for whom their pet is their best or only friend. We invite you to check out the miracles that happen every day at [www.hbspca.com](http://www.hbspca.com) Charitable Registration # 11923 6750 RR0001.

**About PetSmart Charities of Canada:**

[PetSmart® Charities of Canada](http://www.petSMART.org) is committed to finding lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across Canada, PetSmart Charities of Canada helps to find forever homes and families for more than 25,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities of Canada also provides grant funding to registered Canadian charities aligned with its mission under four key areas of support: Preventing Pet Homelessness; Helping Shelter Pets Thrive; Supporting the Bond Between People and Pets and Providing Emergency Relief and Disaster Support. Each year, more than 500,000 generous PetSmart shoppers help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities of Canada using the PIN pads at the checkouts inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities of Canada efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as a leading funder of animal welfare in Canada, granting more than \$14 million since its inception in 1999. PetSmart Charities of Canada is a registered Canadian charity, a member of Imagine Canada and is independent from the PetSmart business in Canada. To learn more visit [www.petSMARTcharities.ca](http://www.petSMARTcharities.ca)

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