

BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS

Pekoe marks Bide Awhile's second FIV positive adoption in 2020

In the beginning of October, a four-year-old tabby named Pekoe was welcomed into our care. Through our routine testing upon intake, we determined that Pekoe was positive for feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV).

FIV compromises a cat's immune system, making it harder to protect themselves from and fight off viruses. FIV positive cats are also more susceptible to secondary infections due to their compromised immune systems. FIV is transferable between cats through bites, but cannot be transferred to humans or other species.

Years ago an FIV diagnosis would be grounds for euthanasia. Recent information shows that cats with FIV are generally able to live a long, healthy life just like any other cat. Cats positive for FIV need to be indoor cats and the only cat in the household (with the exception of other FIV positive cats).

After receiving his FIV diagnosis, we were able to place Pekoe in a room by himself where he could play and roam around without the potential of infecting other cats. Thankfully, Pekoe didn't have to wait long to find his forever home and headed to live with a loving family.

Pekoe was our second FIV positive adoption this year and we are proud to be able to provide animals like Pekoe with a second chance at life.



LEND A HAND

to Bide Awhile's Kennel Klub

An easy way to donate monthly
www.bideawhile.org/kennel-klub

Bide Awhile is pleased to announce and welcome new Executive Director



Bide Awhile Animal Shelter is excited to announce and welcome Charley Baxter as Executive Director. Charley is assuming this role on an interim

basis until a permanent candidate is identified.

Charley is a dedicated advocate for animal welfare and has been a strong supporter of the shelter for over 20 years. He has three Bide Awhile adoptees – Marge, Liam and Baxter, and also served on our Board of Director's from 2000-2008.

Charley is a CPA, CA who works as a consultant. He also teaches accounting at Saint Mary's as a part-time faculty member. Before

retiring in 2018, he held several leadership roles during his career, finishing as Innovacorp's VP, Investment.

Charley will lead shelter operations, helping to build on our capabilities and expertise to advance Bide Awhile's vision of caring for lost and abandoned animals within our community. His familiarity with Bide Awhile, combined with his leadership experience, will enable him to contribute to the continued success of the organization.

Animals can teach humans to find joy in the small things in life

"Animal lovers are a special breed of humans, generous of spirit, full of empathy, perhaps a little prone to sentimentality, and with hearts as big as a cloudless sky." - John Grogan

I was so excited to see Timothy Bean on the cover of the 2021 calendar. He is such a photogenic guy and a perfect representative for Bide Awhile. His picture makes me smile and makes me think about how many smiles and happy moments begin with a trip to our shelter. If 2020 has taught me anything it's to be grateful for what you have and to find the positive in everything. We had the first snowfall of the season the other day, it made me sad, I am not ready to say goodbye to summer. I opened the door to put the dogs out, it was like a party! Oh the excitement of fresh

snow, they ran around the yard, put their faces down to eat it and then started rolling around in it. Words cannot do justice to the smiles and pure enjoyment they were having. Their happiness made me happy, the initial sadness of snow on November 4th lifted and I went out to throw snowballs to them.

Animals are the best companions, they teach us to love the little things in life; a warm spot to sleep, watching the birds and the squirrels, chasing leaves as they blow across the yard. Instead of being sad that the days are shorter and there's snow on the ground, I will go roll in the snow and make snow angels.

My wish for the holidays and 2021 is that you enjoy the little things in life, be kind to one another, be

kind to animals, and find a reason to smile every day. Thank you for your continued support of Bide Awhile, together we are creating so many happy moments.

- Stacey Langley, President



Stacey's Bide Awhile rescue, Booklyn, playing in the first snowfall

Make sure you are following Bide Awhile on social media to stay up-to-date on current animals, upcoming events and more!



Incredible efforts from staff keep shelter running during the pandemic

In March (for Canada), the world as we knew it changed. Faced with the unknowns of a global pandemic, Bide Awhile shut our doors to the public and volunteers to ensure the safety of both our staff and visitors. While our doors continue to be closed to the public and volunteers, we have been able to process adoptions thanks to an all new, well thought out adoption process put in place by our Animal Care Manager, Jennifer. Thanks to Jennifer and her team (Chelsea, Justin and Samantha), our

animals have continued to receive uninterrupted quality care - adopting 171 cats into loving homes, all while maintaining the safety of both staff and the public.

Our office staff have also been key players in ensuring operations continue during these times. Our Office Administrator, Wanda, has played an important role in keeping shelter staff up-to-date on provincial policies and guidelines put out by the government surrounding COVID-19. Our Communications Coordinator,

Melissa, has been keeping spirits up and the public engaged through our social media, most notably through our kitten cam (which can be found on YouTube if you missed it live!)

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of all, Bide Awhile has successfully continued to maintain operations during these unprecedented times. We look forward to welcoming you back into the shelter when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we thank you all for your support!

Share your adoption story with us at PR@bideawhile.org



Just sending you guys a little adoption update on a guy we got in June. Now about 6-months-old, we got **Fable** (formally ash) when he was just 9-weeks, and since then he's been an absolute joy to have around. Within an hour of having him home he walked around like he had always owned the place and has grown into a very curious, smart, and

confident not so little guy. He's also quite polite and will sit and give paw before meals. His favorite activities include running up and down the stairs when he gets the zoomies, chasing after his fuzzy worm or feather toys, and playing fetch with his absolute favorite thing, a spring toy.

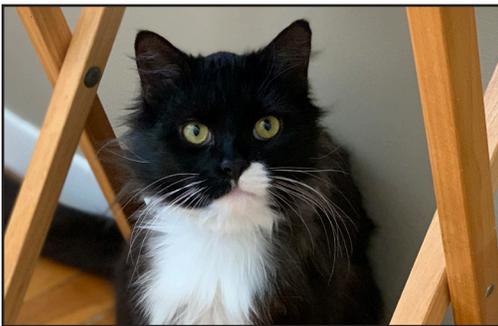
- **Helen & Nick**



This tiny guy **Neko Koneko** with whiskers for days joined our family early August. He joined **Loki McPokey** who we adopted in March. Neko and Loki formed a very quick bond. Neko copies what Loki does. Neko is the quietest quirky kitten. He does not meow. He squeaks. He sounds like a baby pterodactyl.

Not a shy bone in him since we brought him home. Neko and Loki love to wrestle and Loki is so gentle with Neko, teaching him the ropes. I was very fortunate to have two very successful adoptions with Bide Awhile. These two make my heart full.

- **Brandy**



I wanted to let you guys know how **Mac** is doing. I adopted him at the end of April when you had just reopened, and although he was extremely shy at first, he has made himself more than comfortable with me and has become much less timid when new people come to visit. He loves to wake me up in the mornings by laying right on my chest and he greets me at the door when I get home from work (although this is mainly because he wants

food). He loves lounging by the windows and playing with his toy mice, especially when they have catnip on them. Mac has been the most wonderful furry companion, especially during the quieter spring months of COVID. I am so grateful to all of you at Bide Awhile, for introducing me to my adorable, silly, and very vocal little boy.

- **Amy**



Rita Bagel (formerly Callista) has only been with me for a month but I think she's very happy to have a home all to herself with no other kitties. She spent her first day exploring every corner and didn't even hide under the bed. She's very sweet and aggressively affectionate! She loves to nap,

eat, and play with her favourite string and catnip toys. She also likes to supervise when I work from home! Thanks for letting her come live with me.

- **Mel**



Hi there! Just wanted to give you an update on **Bogart** who we adopted back in October of 2019. He settled in right after coming home. He is the sweetest and most social cat I have ever met. He's always nearby and loves meeting new people! He can't get enough of feather toys and loves sleeping

in any instrument case. It's hard to choose just one picture as he's always up to something silly. We're so happy we decided to visit Bide Awhile.

- **Sara & Willie**

2021 PET PHOTO CALENDAR

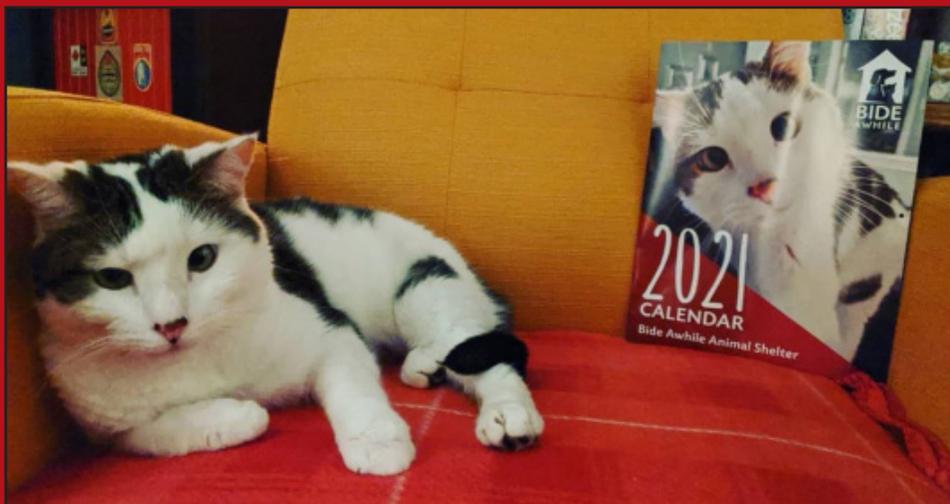
Our **2021 Annual Calendar** is hot off the press and is available for just \$10 through one of our valued distribution partners across Halifax Regional Municipality, including:

- 4 PAWS Veterinary Hospital
- 5th Dimension Hair Design
- Acres Animal Hospital
- Atlantic Cat Hospital
- Atlantic News
- B&R Pet Supplies
- Bank of Montreal (Baker Drive)
- Basinview Animal Hospital
- Bedford Highway Veterinary Hospital
- Best Friends Pet Supplies (Clayton Park & Tantallon)
- Camp Bow Wow
- Carnegy Animal Hospital Limited

- Coconut Creek
- Companion Animal Hospital
- Eastern Passage Village Veterinary Clinic
- Global Pet Foods (Bedford, Dartmouth, Halifax)
- Halifax Veterinary Hospital
- Lady Hammond Animal Hospital
- Lucy's Esthetics
- Made in the Maritimes (Bayers Lake & Halifax)
- Middle Sackville Veterinary Care Centre
- Pet Valu - Clayton Park
- Ren's Pets - Dartmouth Crossing
- Sunnyview Animal Care
- Valleyfield Farm
- Vetcetera Animal Hospital

Have you purchased your 2021 calendar?

Bide Awhile calendars make a great stocking stuffer and the proceeds raised go directly towards providing care for the animals within our shelter.



Cover star, Timothy Bean, with his copy of our 2021 calendar.

THANK YOU!

Businesses who host Casual Days, hold our Cat Banks and sell our Calendars play a key role in some of our fundraising initiatives, and we thank you all, so much, for your continued support.

We would like to recognize the following artists and businesses for their contributions to Bide Awhile in the past few months:

Amber Solburg
BOYNECLARKE LLP
Finn & Lucy Premium Pet Gear
FX 101.9 Today's Country
Halifax Home Inspections Limited
Joel Plaskett
L.O.V.E. Organic Vital Energy Inc.
New Scotland Brewing Co.
New Scotland Clothing Co.
NL Robertson MD Inc
NSLC - Joseph Howe
Special Project Services Ltd.
Surrogate Technology Management Inc.
The Town Heroes
Trainyard General Store
Willie Stratton

While we try to include all businesses, we apologize if we missed anyone.

We do not receive any government funding, so fundraising and donations are a huge part of how we keep our charitable organization running. It costs a minimum of \$350 for each animal we take in at the shelter, and we help hundreds of animals each year. Your generosity and support allows us to continue finding forever families for lost and abandoned animals.

Thank you!

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