

BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS

Transforming lives at Bide Awhile - one cat at a time

In March 2021 we had a cat surrendered to the care of Bide Awhile by the name of Muffy. Muffy is an adorable, black and white cat who is around eight years old. When Muffy came in, we were told that she had been recently suffering from coughing fits. With this information, we took Muffy to the vet where it was determined that she had a large hairball and mild asthma. Our fantastic vets at Eastern Passage Village Vet surgically removed Muffy's hairball and in no time, she was back at the shelter feeling better.

There is truly no better feeling than helping a sick cat to feel better and watching the transformation that follows. For Muffy, we watched her energy come back and her personality change to a loving girl who just wants to cuddle.

It is stories like this, that make us excited to come to work every day and do our job – helping to save the lives of animals in need.



It takes a village: Happy endings in our Long-Term Foster/Palliative Care Program

Bide Awhile has been busy since last Fall. From November to April Jennifer Taylor, our Animal Care Manager, and her team: brought 116 animals into our shelter; adopted 122; and subsidized 240 low-cost spay and neuter procedures by our veterinary partner, Eastern Passage Village Veterinary Hospital. Bide Awhile also added five cats to its Long-Term Foster/Palliative Care Program. In 2019, Jennifer initiated this program to remove medical costs as a barrier to adoption when we find the right fit for one of our residents.

Statistics provide an overview of our activities, but every number tells a story. Let me share one with you.

Michin, a 13-year-old orange tabby, arrived at Bide Awhile in February.

Michin was significantly overweight with joint pain and reduced mobility. Routine bloodwork led our veterinarian to diagnose Hemobart. They also identified extensive dental work was needed. Gabapentin was prescribed to ease Michin's pain. He required regular bloodwork while at Bide Awhile and dental work had to be postponed until his Hemobart resolved. Michin was placed in Long-Term Foster/Palliative Care Program. Generous support from our donors enabled this program to cover \$838 of veterinary costs for Michin, both at the shelter and in his new foster home. The program also covers Michin's ongoing long term pain medication.

I am pleased to report that Michin is thriving in his new home with his

foster mom, Dawn. She reports his mobility has increased significantly, likely because of reduced pain due to medication and weight loss. Thanks to Bide Awhile's Animal Care team, Michin's foster mom - Dawn, Eastern Passage Village Veterinary Hospital and our supporters – together you all made this happy ending possible!

- Charley Baxter
Interim Executive Director



Michin

With summer comes positive change at Bide Awhile Animal Shelter

I am so happy that summer is finally here - warm weather and patio season are both upon us. It's a strange time to be President, with our meetings being held virtually and not being able to visit the shelter as often to see the animals in our care. It feels disconnected from the place I have been part of for 20 years. I am sure many of you feel the same and I hope that the stories shared on social media and with our Kennel Klubbers help with that.

We have seen the brighter side of the pandemic at Bide Awhile, watching the speed at which our animals are adopted increase significantly. Our amazing supporters have continued to support our work. This past year we have been able to find homes for

our special needs animals almost immediately through the Long-Term Foster/ Palliative Care Program.

Behind the scenes, there has been a lot of work happening as well. From upgrading our IT items to ensure our software is running efficiently, to working towards more electronic ways of banking. We are starting a new search for an Executive Director and I want to take this opportunity to thank Charley for taking the position on an interim basis. Charley has been fabulous for us and although he will not be staying in the role permanently, we know he is not going far and will continue to be part of the Bide Awhile family.

We are sadly also wishing Melissa

all the best as she moves on from her position of our Communications Coordinator extraordinaire and continues on with her career. She has done amazing work, from kitten cams to adoption stories that pull at our heartstrings, running the calendar and all the communication items in between, I want to thank her so much for everything she has done for us in the past two years.

As seasons change, Bide Awhile will continue to adapt to new challenges and as always, we will be here for the animals who need us. Thank you for being part of our Bide Awhile family.

**- Stacey Langley
President**



LEND A HAND

to Bide Awhile's Kennel Klub

An easy way to donate monthly

www.bideawhile.org/kennel-klub

Fundraising efforts move online during times of uncertainty

Our focus for the last year of this pandemic has been to create new and innovative fundraising events to further connect with supporters and our communities. Despite having to postpone many of our in-person fundraisers, we quickly tilted our focus to virtual events.

As always, the Kennel Klub is our biggest fundraising source, and we are always looking for new members to help keep steady sources of funds to the shelter and our operations. If you know anyone that would like to join, we would love to connect with them!

Through the summer and fall of 2020, we ran multiple 50/50 raffles through Rafflebox. These were very successful, and we would like to thank you for purchasing tickets and extend our congratulations to our winners!

We are grateful to Joel Plaskett who hosted a live fundraiser on social media in partnership with Bide Awhile. He generously donated fifty t-shirts to the first fifty people that donated fifty dollars or more to the shelter. We would like to thank Joel for his ongoing support to the shelter.

Last summer, Willie Stratton performed live at New Scotland Brewing to support Bide Awhile. We would like to thank Willie for his support.

Our most recent event was an online trivia on March 7th with Lightning Trivia with Adam on Facebook. The event went really well and raised great funds for the shelter. We would love to see you at the next trivia session!

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and ways to support Bide Awhile.

Adoption Updates from Bide Awhile Alumni



Nash and Bosh

These two have completely stolen our hearts. They still love to cuddle and wrestle with each other which makes us very glad they got to stay together. Bosh loves to be near you at all times and Nash loves to snuggle in the morning (to tell you he wants breakfast). Bosh loves to play fetch with his favourite mouse

toy and Nash loves any toy if he can have his Love Organic Vital Energy catnip with it! We couldn't imagine two better kitties

- Alison

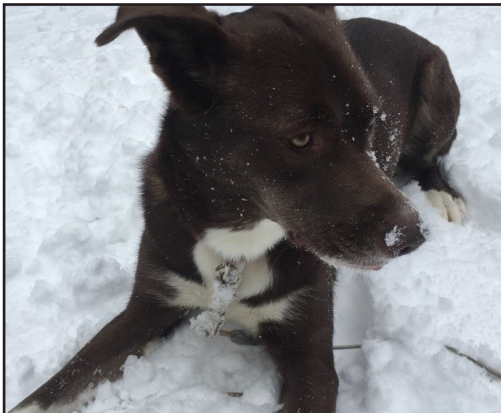


Aubrey

We brought Aubrey home in May 2020 and she has settled in very well! She loves being the centre of attention, playing with her cat nip toys, and scratching her cardboard pad. She was a little shy around new people at first but

will now demand pets from most visitors. Aubrey is also getting more cuddly and will sleep on my bed most nights. We are so happy to have her!

- Sarah

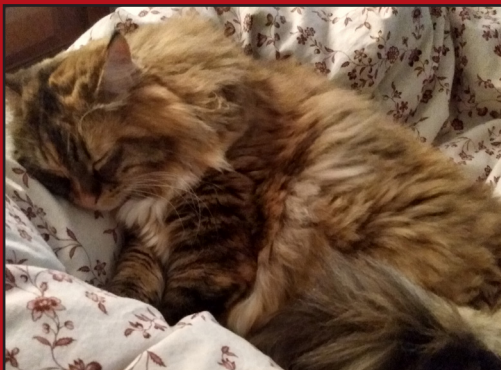


Kodi

Hello! We adopted our girl Kodi [formerly Dakota] from you a year ago and wanted to let you know how it's going. She is honestly one of the sweetest dogs I have ever met, with both a gentle and playful nature. She enjoys going on outdoor adventures as much as she loves relaxing at home. Having Kodi with us throughout the pandemic has been such a blessing, as she has kept us focused on the little things

that can make a difference even on the most difficult days (walks outdoors, warm snuggles, and unconditional love). I am thankful every day that we found her. As an added bonus, we rescued a second dog (Kuma) in August so she now has a permanent playmate!

- Heather



Cookie

Just wanted to update you on how Sophie is doing!

I've renamed her "Cookie", and she is settling in super well! When she got home, she was mostly just curious, and had fun exploring her new place right away. Sometimes she gets scared of the noises my neighbours make, but other than that she is

feeling very at home.

I made sure to give her lots of space so that she could come to me when she was ready. I couldn't believe it but on the first night she was already sleeping next to me in bed. She's an incredibly sweet girl and I think we've got a great future together.

- Kerri

Share your update with us at PR@bideawhile.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INTERESTED IN JOINING BIDE AWHILE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS?
E-MAIL YOUR RESUME TO OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT
CHARLEY@BIDEAWHILE.ORG



SKILLS WE ARE SEEKING:

IT PROJECT MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNTING
LEGAL
VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

DEADLINE FOR
APPLICATIONS IS:

JULY 31, 2021

Annual General Meeting

September 18, 2021



THANK YOU!

To the artists and companies who made donations to our organization, businesses who hold Cat Banks for us, and those who have hosted events to help raise money for our shelter.

We would like to recognize the businesses who so generously sold our 2021 Calendars for us:

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
Camp Bow Wow
Carnegy Animal Hospital
Coconut Creek
Companion Animal Hospital
Eastern Passage Village Veterinary Clinic
Global Pet Foods
Halifax Veterinary Hospital
Lady Hammond Animal Hospital
Lucy's Esthetics
Made in the Maritimes
Middle Sackville Veterinary Care Centre
Pet Valu Clayton Park
Ren's Pets Dartmouth Crossing
Sunnyview Animal Care
Valleyfield Farm
Vetcetera Animal Hospital

We do not receive any government funding, so we rely on fundraising and donations to keep our charitable organization running. It costs a minimum of \$260 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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