



Adoption Updates 2025 Fall Newsletter



Salmon (Now Clyde)

Clyde is settling in great! He has been a huge snuggler and is super affectionate, following us around the house whenever we walk out of the room. He is very curious and loves to explore. His favourite toy is the one that was sent home with him.

He is so much more confident than when we first brought him home. He did not eat much for the first day or two, but he now has his full appetite back and is eating well. He has been a great addition to our family and home!

Kiki

In short - she is great! She is wild, but we love her and she's really starting to settle in with us.

The first month was non-stop with her and her brother Howie, we often had to separate them, but over time they both calmed down, they still have their moments every day, but they are learning to relax.

We've learned that Kiki is a sneaky counter surfer, loves antagonizing her brother, sleeping under the covers, and has no problem being vocal on walks.



Hearts (Now Missy)

We are so impressed with the care that Missy received while at Bide Awhile. You guys are amazing.

We think that she must have been well socialized during her time there because she really wants to be with us! She came to play around our feet while we had supper and she came with us to the living room afterward.

Her favourite toy is her fishy from the girl guides!



As 2025 draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the many ways your generosity has touched the lives of animals in our care this year. Whether you're giving your time through volunteering, making a donation of any size, or opening your heart and home to an animal in need – we wouldn't be able to do what we do without you.

This year, your support made it possible for us to provide dental procedures for senior cats who came to us in pain and left with brighter (less toothy) smiles and a new lease on life. It allowed us to welcome cats whose medical needs were too complex for most adopters to take on financially, and to place them in our palliative care program, where they will be cherished and loved for the rest of their days. It also allowed us to bring in multiple litters of accidental puppies who are now getting the best start possible in life-long loving homes. These are stories of kindness that would not be possible without the generosity of our community.

Sometimes, being a leader in animal welfare also means meeting the needs beyond our physical walls. Our Pet Food Pantry continues to be a vital lifeline for families in our community, and its usage has more than doubled this year with the rising cost of living in Nova Scotia. There are times when we need to top up food supplies to make sure every client (especially those with special dietary needs) has what they require to keep their pets healthy and loved. It is in these moments that your donations ripple outward, supporting not just the animals who

come through our shelter doors, but also the animals who remain in loving homes thanks to this service.

As we look ahead to 2026, we are reminded that every single dollar matters. A little can go a long way when it means a cat can eat without pain, an animal with nowhere else to go finds comfort, or a family doesn't have to make the heartbreaking decision to give up their best friend and confidant. Thank you for believing in our mission and for standing with us. With your support, we will keep telling these stories of hope, healing, and love.

With gratitude,

Liesje Somers-Blonde,
Executive Director

*Adoptive Mom to Bide Awhile Alumni:
Gizmo, Tilly and Screamsy*



Follow along on
Social Media

@BideAwhile

Find our adoptables
by visiting our website
www.bideawhile.org

You're Invited!

Holiday Open House
December 14, 2025
1PM - 4PM

67 Neptune Cres.
Dartmouth, NS

It's a small thing to help one animal, but to that one animal it's a big thing. - Gene Baur



Puli, 2025 Alumni

Since joining the board of directors, I've been continually inspired by the stories shared by our community. Whether it's through fundraising initiatives, participating in events, or stopping by the shelter – it's a privilege to hear firsthand how Bide Awhile has touched so many lives.

We are fortunate to have generations of families who have contributed to Bide Awhile's growth and well-being. Their ongoing support is a testament to the shelter's lasting impact and the strong bonds we've built within our community. As we navigate a period of economic uncertainty, many of our neighbours are facing challenges in meeting basic needs like food and housing, while also striving to care for their companion animals. This has led me to reflect on the vital role Bide Awhile plays - not only in animal welfare, but in supporting the broader community. The difficulties people are experiencing are real and far-reaching, and we remain committed to identifying and responding to these evolving needs.

Looking ahead to the next 56 years, we are taking proactive steps to ensure a sustainable and meaningful future for Bide Awhile. Our rising adoption numbers show that, despite current pressures, more animals are finding and staying in loving homes, and more people are discovering comfort and companionship through our shelter. This success is made possible by the

dedication of our staff, volunteers, board members, and supporters like you.

I hope to meet many of you at Bide Awhile's upcoming Open House or other community events. Please take a moment to introduce yourself and share your stories - I look forward to hearing how Bide Awhile has made a difference in your life.

With gratitude,

**Angela Martin,
President**

*Adoptive Mom to Bide Awhile Alumni:
Millie, Freyja and Peter Blue*



Keeping Pets with their People

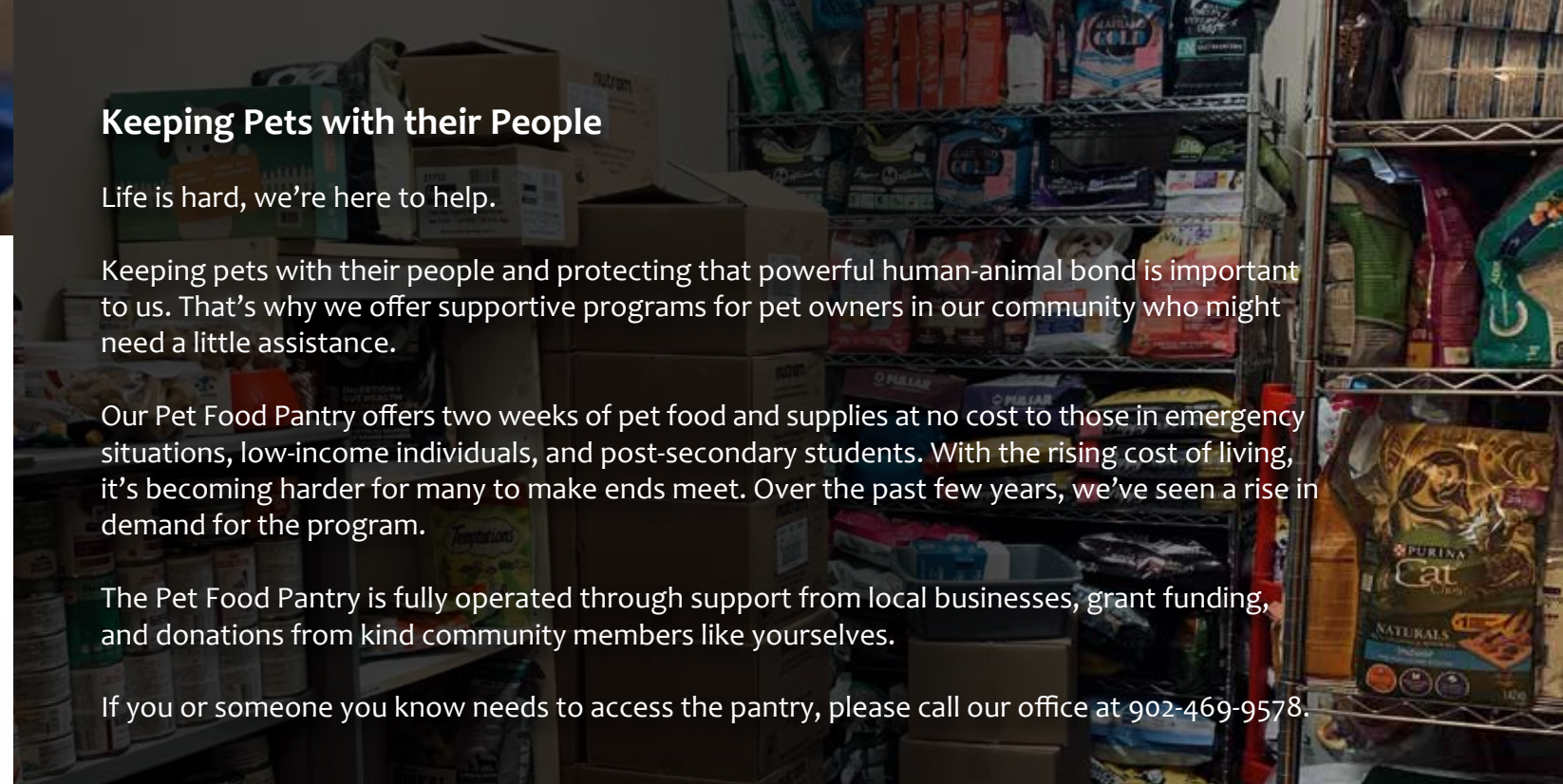
Life is hard, we're here to help.

Keeping pets with their people and protecting that powerful human-animal bond is important to us. That's why we offer supportive programs for pet owners in our community who might need a little assistance.

Our Pet Food Pantry offers two weeks of pet food and supplies at no cost to those in emergency situations, low-income individuals, and post-secondary students. With the rising cost of living, it's becoming harder for many to make ends meet. Over the past few years, we've seen a rise in demand for the program.

The Pet Food Pantry is fully operated through support from local businesses, grant funding, and donations from kind community members like yourselves.

If you or someone you know needs to access the pantry, please call our office at 902-469-9578.



Be a Best Friend.

Help make a difference for companion animals by joining our Kennel Klub monthly giving program.

For as little as \$5 a month, you can help provide food, medical care and a warm bed to animals in need.

Scan the code to learn more:



Guillermo de la Cruz, 2025 Alumni

\$21,000 for Animals in Need

Every spring, animals lovers come together for a good cause at Pours for Paws, our signature fundraising event in partnership with Global Pet Foods. Together, we're raising vital funds for animals in need and helping to provide them the care and compassion they deserve.

This event is more than a night out – it's a celebration of community as we're joined by staff, volunteers, supporters, and 20 local breweries, wineries, and distilleries. Last year we broke the record for our biggest event yet, and raised a glass to over \$21,000 raised for the shelter.

We're excited to announce that Pours for Paws will be back on April 18th, 2026, at Casino Nova Scotia! Keep an eye on our social media for more information – tickets coming soon.

Learn more at bideawhile.org or call our office at 902-469-9578



WE FEED AND
RECOMMEND
ROYAL CANIN
Kutty, 2025 Alumni

Royal Canin & Bide Awhile

We partnered with Royal Canin to offer every adopter a free take-home kit full of food samples and supplies to get you started with your new furry friend.

Every kit also helps the shelter provide food for animals in need through the Royal Canin Shelter Program.



Monthly 50/50 Raffles

Help us support companion animals in need and purchase a ticket for our monthly 50/50 raffle! With jackpots hitting over \$10,000 - you won't want to miss this win-win opportunity.

Interested? Scan the code for more.