



THUNDER BAY & DISTRICT
HUMANE SOCIETY

Cats and dogs
in Thunder Bay
need your help!

Half-Way Home Giving Programs

Press Release – November 4, 2011

The Board of Directors of the Thunder Bay & District Humane Society is announcing that due to the current and ongoing financial crisis faced by the organization that the Society's shelter at 1535 Rosslyn Road will closing on December 31, 2011.

The TBDHS's anticipated shortfall for the current fiscal year is \$180,000.000 or \$15,000 per month on a budget of just under \$400,000. Due to this continual shortfall it has become increasingly difficult to meet our monthly financial obligations and we are in danger of not being able to meet our payroll. This has been a growing year over year problem that has finally met the breaking point.

Unless we are able to overcome this shortfall in an ongoing and sustainable manner we have no choice but to close the shelter. We continue to seek funding from the OSPCA, the City of Thunder Bay and the Province of Ontario but to date have been unsuccessful in our requests. None of these currently fund us at any level. We will also continue our efforts to build our Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Donation Plan. The TBDHS recognizes the ongoing support of our many generous donors but if we could sign up just 1500 more people at as little as \$10 a month our cash flow problems would be solved. For most people that amount of money is negligible; a lunch, a couple of coffees at Starbucks, a visit to Timmies or Robin's, a magazine or a paperback,...but to us it means our being able to offer a much needed and valued service to the City and District of Thunder Bay. Donations of any amount no matter how small it may seem to the donor are vital to our continued service to the vulnerable animals in our community.

The TBDHS has been operational now for 14 years and the services we provide are in many ways unique to this community. We have a wonderful shelter/safe haven for unwanted / abandoned / abused / neglected animals. We have taken in 365 animals in the past 12 months and have adopted out 360 of those. We do not euthanize just to make space for the next animal but instead strive to find the perfect forever home for each and every animal in our care. We are almost always full to capacity and are at many points housing animals in our offices, education room and hallways. Our Inspector actively investigates an average of 50 cruelty/neglect complaints per month which is the highest average in the province. The loss of the shelter and investigative services will be a severe blow to the cause of animal welfare in our city and district.

We currently have over 100 animals in our care seeking adoption and hope to adopt as many of them out as possible before December 31, 2011. In the event of the closure of the shelter on December 31, 2011 the OSPCA has agreed to help us relocate any animals remaining in our care to other OSPCA affiliated shelters.

Even while making this announcement we still have hope that through the generosity of the city with the giant heart we will be able to continue to serve the animals in our care and the animal welfare needs of our city and district.

To inquire about our financial situation or to donate in order for us to maintain our services please contact the TBDHS at 475-8803 or visit our website at www.tbayhumane.ca.

Board of Directors
Thunder Bay & District Humane Society

