



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Animal Rescue Association (CARA) Launches to Unite Canada's Animal Rescue Community

National organization dedicated to strengthening animal rescue through collaboration, education, advocacy, and shared resources.

Oakville, Ontario – September 2026 – The **Canadian Animal Rescue Association (CARA)** is proud to announce its official launch as the national organization committed to supporting animal rescue organizations, shelters, sanctuaries, foster networks, and the thousands of volunteers who work tirelessly to improve the lives of animals across Canada.

CARA was created in response to the unprecedented challenges facing Canada's animal welfare organizations. Rescue organizations are experiencing an exponential increase in intake requests while struggling with rising veterinary costs, overcrowding, volunteer shortages, and limited financial and operational resources. These growing pressures have created an urgent need for a national organization dedicated to supporting, strengthening, and connecting animal welfare organizations across the country while fostering collaboration, innovation, and excellence in animal care.

CARA was established to help meet these challenges by:

- Connecting organizations with a vast network of resources and service providers that understand the difficulties of animal rescue.
- Offering operating grants
- Sharing best practices and
- Advocating for meaningful improvements in animal welfare.

"CARA represents a new chapter for animal rescue in Canada," stated the Board of Directors of the Canadian Animal Rescue Association. "By working together, we can strengthen our collective impact, improve outcomes for animals, and provide rescue organizations with the tools and support they need to thrive."



Membership will be open to registered charities, non-profit rescue organizations, shelters, sanctuaries, veterinary professionals, industry partners, and individuals committed to advancing animal welfare in Canada.

In celebration of its launch, CARA is inviting the first 50 animal rescue organizations to become Founding Members and receive their first year of membership at no cost. Offer available to organizations that join by December 31, 2026.

"As Canada's rescue community continues to grow, so does the need for a national organization that brings people together," added the Board of Directors. "Our goal is simple: stronger organizations, healthier animals, and better outcomes for every community we serve."

Organizations and individuals interested in becoming founding members or learning more about CARA are encouraged to visit <https://canadiananimalrescueassociation.ca> or contact the Association directly.

About the Canadian Animal Rescue Association (CARA)

The Canadian Animal Rescue Association (CARA) is a national organization dedicated to advancing animal welfare through collaboration, education, capacity building, shared resources and advocacy. CARA supports Canada's animal rescue community by connecting organizations, promoting best practices, and advocating for policies that improve the lives of companion animals across the country.

By bringing together rescue organizations, shelters, professional service providers, veterinarians, industry partners, and animal welfare advocates, CARA aims to improve outcomes for animals while helping rescue organizations build sustainable, resilient operations.

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