



For *everything* we've
been through together...

I needed you and **you were there.**
I was hungry and **you fed me.**
I was scared and **you soothed me.**
You've always **been there for me.**
You show me love, compassion and
you bring me joy.
Seeing you, smelling you, just being
near you **makes me feel safe and happy.**

Will you do one more thing for me?



Your Lifelong Love Story: *Animals and You*

Thank you for your interest in caring for animals for years to come with a gift to the Brant County SPCA in your Will. The animals we love have a place forever in our hearts, anchoring and grounding cherished pawprint memories and moments throughout our lives.

Through those memories of compassion and joy, you will be remembered by your loved ones and in the hearts of the animals you've touched. Your legacy promise today means **you'll be remembered forever as a companion and champion to animals.**

Can you imagine a better way to be remembered?

Today, I'm pleased to share with you a few stories of animal lovers like you who have taken the step of remembering the Brant County SPCA in their Will or estate plans. I hope you see and feel your own values echoed here, and that you are inspired to reach out for more information or a confidential conversation about making an enduring promise to provide love, hope and comfort to animals in our care, for years to come.

In addition, a gift in your Will can provide important and helpful tax benefits, so **your donation can go farther** and have an incredible impact helping animals in your community.

If you've got your best buddy with you as you read this, lean over and give them a little pat or a scratch behind the ears. If you're reading this and remembering a pet who is no longer here, you can probably still feel, see and hear them in your memories. Hold those feelings tight and please, read on. **For all that they do for you—this is what you can do for them.**

– **Robin Kuchma, Executive Director**
Guardian to **Max, Gabby, Miss Fanny** and **Dexter**, and to **Barney, Taffy, Mocha,** and **Jasper** who are forever in her heart



Joan's Story

"I love reading to the dogs at the shelter. I was a school teacher for 35 years, and I always loved reading to kids. I now volunteer at the Brant County SPCA and my favourite thing is to read to the dogs at the shelter. The dogs get to know me, and they wag and smile at me when I sit down and open up a book. I usually read them whatever I am reading or what I feel like that day. I use my calming teacher voice and they lie down and enjoy the story. Once I brought in a book of short stories about dogs, and as I was reading, I was giggling and then laughing out loud—the dogs sat up and looked at me more curious than usual. It was delightful!"



I give monthly and I have also left the Brant County SPCA in my Will. I'm very pleased about the plans for the new shelter—it is so desperately needed. I just want my gifts to help keep the shelter running so they don't have to worry about gifts coming in. If they need food, supplies, or emergency surgeries, I just want to help where I can, and I want to make sure that happens even after I'm gone."

— **Joan**, Legacy Donor, Guardian to **Ella** today, and to **Duffy, Dillon** and **Molly** forever

Paula's Story

"I like to joke that our rescue, Sophie, is 100% purebred Sophie. She's one of a kind. No matter who comes to the door, she must greet them with something like a stuffed animal, a sock... there was one humiliating time she came to the door with a dirty pair of underpants. I've supported the Brant County SPCA for many years, and it's a lifelong commitment I want to continue forever."



As someone working in wealth management, assisting people with their financial plans, I know how important it is to have open conversations with loved ones to plan for the future. I feel very reassured knowing that my kids know what I want and it takes the pressure off them. And for anyone out there thinking about it, I know you give from your heart. But also know that there are benefits that can help you, your family and the Brant County SPCA."

— **Paula**, Legacy Donor, Guardian to **Sophie** and **Mr. Heckles** today, and to **Callie** forever

Impact of Legacy Donors *Like You*

By leaving a gift in your Will, you are leaving a legacy for pets in need to feel the love and companionship that you have for your pet. **Your generous commitment** to our Greatest Shelter Needs will help thousands of animals for years to come through adoptions, emergency boarding, vet and medical care and Community Outreach Programs.



Where Do *You* Start?

There are two things you need to do before you create your legacy gift and they both typically involve professional help. The **first** is to determine approximately how much you might have to give. A financial advisor can help you determine how much you will need to live in comfort. She or he can also advise on how much you might give to family and loved ones. The **second** is to consult with a lawyer and either create your first or update your current Will. This is the document that **makes your legacy come to life**.

Which Type Of Gift Is *Right For You?*

There are several gift **options that may be available to you** during your estate planning. The following is a summary of commonly used forms of legacy giving. Please note: we encourage and expect you to consult a professional advisor to determine the best option for you.

Preparing A Codicil

If you have already made a Will, you can help the Brant County SPCA by adding a Codicil to your existing Will. We advise consulting with your lawyer or legal advisor before completing a Codicil. We are pleased to provide you with sample Codicil language on request. Please do not write on or amend your current Will, or it could become invalid.



A Bequest In Your Will

There are three types of bequests available to you:

1) Specific Bequest – You designate a specific dollar amount or piece of property in your Will to the Brant County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) (e.g., real estate, stocks/bonds, works of art)

Suggested clause: *“I give the sum of \$ _____ (or a description of the property) to the Brant County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) to be used in support of its general charitable purposes.”*

2) Residual Bequest – You allocate all or a portion of your estate to the Brant County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) that remains after all debts, taxes, expenses and other bequests are paid.

Suggested clause: *“I give _____ (%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to the Brant County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) to be used for its general charitable purposes.”*

3) Contingent Bequest – You make a provision in your Will that your gift only takes effect if your primary intention cannot be met (e.g. if the primary beneficiary and alternate beneficiaries do not live longer than you).





Suggested clause: *“If neither (name of primary beneficiary) nor (name of alternate) survives me for 30 days, then I give (description of the amount of cash, percentage of residue, etc.) to the Brant County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) to be used for its general charitable purposes.”*

Other Ways *To Give*

There are other ways to leave a legacy gift to the Brant County SPCA, including gifts of Life Insurance, Securities, RRSP or RRIFs, Charitable Remainder Trusts and more. Consulting your professional advisor is the best way to determine if these are **good options for you**.



Our Promise *To You*

-  We value and respect **your privacy**.
-  **Everything you tell us** will be kept in confidence and you are under no obligation.
-  Your gift will be used to have the greatest impact on animals and our community. **Every single gift, no matter the size**, is important and valued. We deeply appreciate the confidence and trust you have in the Brant County SPCA.
-  We are proud of our **effectiveness and efficiency**. We will apply both to your gift.
-  Your Will is an intensely personal document. We understand and support the notion that **your loved ones come first**.
-  Your pet is part of your family, and if needed, **we will take care of them** upon your passing.
-  We will **provide you and your loved ones** with special opportunities to learn about our work in any ways that are meaningful to you.
-  We are **here for you** if you want to have a conversation about areas of our work that interest you most, ensuring your gift has the most impact and lines up with your values.
-  We would **love to hear from you** if you have made a gift in your Will to the Brant County SPCA so that we can recognize your generosity and share your story to inspire others. Whether you choose to tell us or not is entirely your decision. If you wish, you can also remain anonymous.

For All That They Do For You—*Will You Do This For Them?*

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about how you can provide hope and love to animals for years to come with a gift in your Will to the Brant County SPCA. If you have further questions, you are welcome to contact us anytime to start a confidential conversation. **We would love to hear from you!**

Robin Kuchma

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