Hope for Wildlife's Annual Newsletter News of 2023/2024



We are thrilled to announce the opening of three new veterinary clinics to complement our existing Veterinary Hospital at 5909 Highway 207, Seaforth. Conveniently located in strategic areas, these clinics aim to provide comprehensive care for our wild friends. Here are our locations:

1668 Deep Hollow Road, White Rock, nestled in the valley close to Wolfville

312 Camperdown School Road, Middlewood, situated on the South Shore near Bridgewater

954 Hwy 105, Lexington, Cape Breton, in proximity to Port Hawkesbury

These facilities are equipped to triage animals and offer life-saving interventions such as warming, hydration, oxygen therapy, and pain management. By providing immediate stabilization, we ensure a greater chance of complete recovery and successful release back into their natural habitat. Remember, drop-offs are accepted at any time, and we urge you to bring animals to us as swiftly as possible for prompt attention and care. Meet Ember and Ash, two resilient fawns discovered in the

aftermath of the wildfires
near Shelburne. On June 1st,
2023, amidst the chaos,
Calen Goulden stumbled
upon them, just a short
distance from the flames,
alone and vulnerable.
Hoping for their mother's
return, they sought refuge
instinctively, though it was
clear that such hope was
unlikely given the
circumstances. Fortunately,
Calen's kindness intervened,
rescuing them from



imminent danger. Moved by compassion, Calen swiftly ensured their safety, first seeking assistance from the RCMP and then from Hope for Wildlife. Despite the tragedy, Nova Scotians continue to demonstrate their remarkable compassion and unity. Their acts of kindness, both big and small, highlight the resilience of the human spirit, reminding us of our collective strength during challenging times.

At Hope for Wildlife, our dedication to rehabilitating and releasing wildlife reached a remarkable milestone this year as we welcomed three otters within a twelve-month span—a rare occurrence for this mustelid species. These resilient creatures found themselves in our care due to various challenges, but we remain optimistic about their eventual return to the wild.

The first otter, a survivor with indomitable spirit, overcame a grave



injury that left a severe gash on its head, causing infection and necrosis. Thanks to the expertise of our skilled veterinarian, Dr. Mikaela, and a series of surgeries, the otter made a remarkable recovery. In the fall of 2023, we celebrated the triumphant release of this brave otter. On a lovely spring morning, we received a call regarding a great horned owl trapped in a truck grill.



The caller, driving at highway speed, collided with an owl with his work truck. Upon checking he found no bird on the ground. Assuming she had flown away, he proceeded to his workplace. Upon arrival, his boss noticed movement behind the damaged grill, revealing the trapped owl. They immediately called Hope for Wildlife for assistance. Using a net and gloves, our skilled rescuer Liz, safely extracted the owl from the truck as the callers carefully pried the grill forward. The owl, though not pleased, appeared unhurt. We transported her to Hope for Wildlife for a thorough check-up, x rays and recovery time. Due to the

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truck's significant damage, we could not help but be amazed at the Owls resilience!

Dawn Duffy successfully carved out a five-month hiatus from her career to dedicate herself to the fall and early winter working at Hope for Wildlife. Far from a novice, Dawn stands as one of Hope's very devoted volunteers, with a remarkable track record spanning over two decades. Reflecting on her immersive 35-plus hour work weeks with us, Dawn aptly expressed, "My time here has been nothing short of grand—a journey of passion, purpose, and profound connection with wildlife."



Hi, I'm Dee Doiron, a volunteer at Hope for Wildlife. Upon moving to Cole Harbour, I connected with another volunteer who encouraged me to join. I applied online and was quickly invited to visit the Wildlife



Centre. Despite uncertainties about what I could offer, Hope for Wildlife's flexible approach made me feel welcome. With my background in trauma and experience with PTSD, I empathize with the patients here. I handle cleaning cages and pens and manage extensive laundry needs to ensure the animals' comfort. Currently, I dedicate 11 hours a week to volunteering, which has become the highlight of my week, providing purpose and new friendships. It's an honor to contribute to the rehabilitation of these animals, guiding them back to the wild where they belong.

To join our team visit: WWW.HOPEFORWILDLIFE.NET

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