



**TORONTO
HUMANE
SOCIETY**

like no
other.

TRANSPORT NETWORK PROGRAM

Increasing our collective life-saving capacity

About Toronto Humane Society's Transport Network Program

In an effort to expand the life-saving capacity at Toronto Humane Society, we have created the Transport Network Program. The purpose of this program is to allow Toronto Humane Society to utilize its pre-existing network of Sending Groups to the maximum potential, by organizing the transport of animals to partnered Receiving Agencies. The ultimate goal of this program is to increase the number of animals being transferred out of high-volume shelters (Sending groups) and place them in high adoption demand locations (Receiving Agencies). Through this program, we can increase our collective life-saving capacity, and create a stronger collaborative network amongst our regional agencies.



Toronto Humane Society's Tole

Toronto Humane Society's role in this program is to act as an intermediary agent between the Sending Group and the Receiving Agencies. We will handle the logistics of screening potential animals and communication between the partners. We will also be handling the importation/transportation of animals, which includes the cost.

Apply To Be A Transport Network Partner

We are thrilled you are looking to partner with Toronto Humane Society's Transport Network Partnership program. In order to ensure a positive outcome for the animal's in the program we require all Receiving Agencies complete an application. In the application, you will be asked to provide the following information, but not limited to, your adoption numbers, euthanasia policies, housing policies, enrichment policies.

The application can be found here: [Transport Network Receiving Agency Application](#)

The MOU, Protocol and Transfer Contracts can be shared with you upon request. For further information regarding our program, please see our FAQ's and our attached policies.



Frequently Asked Questions

Is the Transport Network Program Right for My Shelter?

It is important to first ask, does your intake/transfer demand fall below your adoption demand/need? Do you find yourself getting more adoption requests than available for adoption? In compliance with the AAWA Best Practice for animal transport, animal transfers should only occur if your local intakes do not meet the demand of your adoption base. You may always contact rescue@torontohumanesociety.com if you any questions regarding the program.

How Will My Organization Benefit from Using the Transport Network Program?

- Access to a wide variety of animals of varying breeds and sizes.
- Ability to choose based on your Shelter's needs and requirements. Receiving Agencies are not obligated to take on animals at any time, and can select the animals they are interested in receiving from the options provided by our Sending Groups.
- No start-up costs! After being accepted into the program Receiving Agencies can sit back and wait for us to work our transfer magic. The only costs borne by Receiving Agencies are the ongoing costs of care once an animal has been transferred to their location.
- Access to information. Toronto Humane Society has a large database of protocols and procedures for dealing with many commonly occurring animal management issues, including the logistics involved in housing cohorts of transferred animals, that can be shared with partners upon request.
- A proven model. Toronto Humane Society has been transporting animals to our location from a number of Sending Groups for several years. We are confident in and happy with our current partners, and will be expanding our reach as the Transport Network grows.

What Kind of Behaviour Should We Expect?

Animals must be deemed behaviourally sound by the Sending Group prior to transfer. This means that they are friendly and social. Transparency is key at Toronto Humane Society, and we believe partners should receive all the information we can provide, so you can make the right choice for the animal and the organization. If there are any questionable behaviours such as a 'shy dog', it will be discussed with the Receiving Agency prior to you accepting the animal.



Important note: The behaviour described by the Sending Group may deviate from what the Receiving Agency experiences. This can be for a multitude of reasons, including the stress of transportation and being placed in an unfamiliar environment. We ask that Receiving Agencies allow the transported animals a few days to settle in prior to fully assessing any behavior issues that may be present. Some examples of unexpected issues Toronto Humane Society has encountered are:

- Nervousness/fearfulness
- Reactivity
- Excitability
- Aggression
- Resource guarding

Please note that the above issues have been noted in a very few animals when compared to the total number of animals that have come through our Transport Program. Many of our Sending Groups have been working with Toronto Humane Society for years and are very aware of our requirements in terms of behaviour. Should a Receiving Agency encounter a behaviour issue that they are unable to manage or address successfully, Toronto Humane Society may be able assist as our capacity allows.



What Can We Expect in Terms of Medical Care?

Every animal accepted into the program, with the exception of northern transfers, must have their treatment and tests completed prior to the transfer, as per outlined in our Intake Transfer Protocol, (included with this package). Any known medical issues will be discussed with the Receiving Agency prior to a commitment to accept the animal into the program. As with any animal, there is no guarantee that transfer animals who are considered healthy at the time of acceptance will remain healthy, or that unexpected issues will not be found upon intake.

Examples of unexpected issues Toronto Humane Society has encountered:

- Heartworm positive result on previously negative dogs
- Pregnancy
- Kennel Cough
- Unreported or new orthopedic issues
- Underweight animals



With the exception of Heartworm, the large majority of the unexpected medical issues we have encountered are relatively easy to manage or resolve. Similar to our behaviour requirements, the Sending Groups are asked to only transfer healthy animals as a part of this program, unless exceptions are granted*. Should a Receiving Agency encounter a medical issue they are unable to manage or address successfully Toronto Humane Society may be able assist as our capacity allows.

**Toronto Humane Society sometimes partners with Northern Rescue groups. In these transfers, medical history and status may not be available. **

What If We Are Considering Euthanasia for an Animal?

If you are considering euthanasia for an animal as a result of non-life-threatening medical concerns, or behavioural or length of stay issues, we require that you contact us so we can help find a live outcome for your transfer animal.

In cases where an animal is facing an emergent medical issue(s) that a veterinarian determines requires immediate euthanasia, we require that the Receiving Agency contact us after the euthanasia to advise us of this outcome. Please email rescue@torontohumanesociety.com with required information and outcome.

What Costs Are Involved?

There is no cost to become a member of the Rescue Transport Network, but we always appreciate any financial contributions you can make towards the transfer to recoup some costs.

Toronto Humane Society will cover the costs of the animal transport, including air travel and/or importation fees, administrative costs involved in communication of animal information. We will also coordinate the transport of the animals!

Upon the arrival of the animal(s) to the Receiving Agency, the ongoing costs of care involved for said animal(s) will be the responsibility of the Receiving Agency.

