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Thank you!!!



Thank you to The Beer Store for organizing the annual bottle drive which benefitted Home Again. And thank you to each of you who saved their bottles over the winter so that their deposits could be donated to Home Again. Thanks to your generosity over \$3000 was raised!! This donation, as always, will be fed back into Home Again so that we can rescue and provide initial vet services for adoptable cats and dogs in the Bancroft region.

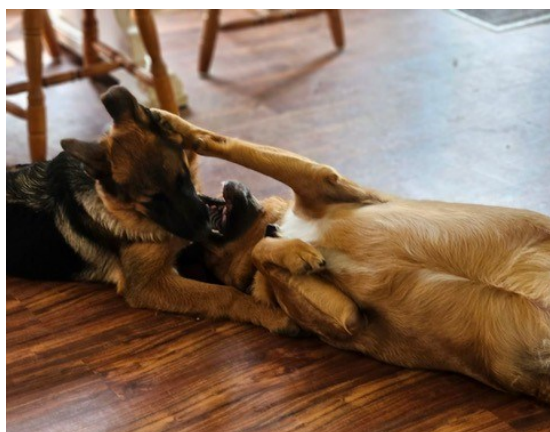
Stay tuned for our next fund raiser!!!



Hunter's Corner



This is Hunter with his bestie Cleo, Hunter was at camp for two weeks while we were in Europe, and then another two weeks while we battled an exceptionally nasty virus we picked up in Europe.



This is also Hunter and Cleo, and no, he is not trying to rip her head off. Because we knew little about Hunter's background, at times we were concerned he was being aggressive. However we soon learned about social play or dog play-fighting, which looks far rougher than it actually is.

In dog play-fighting, although the dogs look and sound a bit ferocious, you can see that they are actually holding back on force, even sometimes deferring to their play partner. They might play bow or have goofy, exaggerated movements. This play bowing is often a reminder to their partner that they're still playing, especially after a more aggressive move that might be misinterpreted.

Play fighting is often a mechanism for developing new friendships. It is a kind of language that dogs use. And it has other purposes to: it enhances cognitive and physical development, provides exercise and prepares for coping skills when something unexpected happens.

If you're still concerned that your dogs are not play-fighting, try holding one of the dogs back. If they lean into you and seem to be avoiding the other dog, they may be showing relief at the interruption and perhaps need the intervention. If they're continue to try to interact in a playful manner, or run towards the other dog, they're likely saying they want to keep playing.

Although Hunter and Cleo's play fighting may look aggressive, it's actually anything but. Look at Hunter on his back and relatively submissive. He is always gentle with Cleo, and they have developed a bond, through play-fighting, that we will continue to support with regular visits now that Hunter has come back home.

A Message from Christine Walker, President of Home Again, originally posted on Facebook

These special boys, and the many many like them, are the dogs who are falling through the cracks in the rescue world these days. Or, like the recent sinking ship post making the FB rounds, they are the dogs not getting into the lifeboats. Our special boys are the lucky ones; they have a place in rescue and are safe even if they don't have a home of their own.

This is not a whine, but an opportunity to showcase the boys and share the challenges that these guys and others are facing in the current rescue climate.

The term "behavioural issues" is a broad term encompassing everything from lack of training, to anxiety, to fear, to resource guarding, to situational aggression, and to any other undesirable behaviour. Dogs with "behavioural issues" have always been the norm in rescue. Not long ago there were places for them, people to help them, and people who adopted them and committed to them for life.

Now, the available spaces in rescues and shelters are given predominantly to the "sell well" dogs. The others who have history or don't show well are languishing for months and literally a year or more. Interest in these dogs is rare and serious interest even rarer. This is causing a bottleneck situation with rescues and shelters. When dogs come in, but don't go out, the system quickly grinds to a halt. This is the major reason intakes are closed at so many places and why rescues are having to be mindful of the dogs they choose to take in.

Foster based rescues, like Home Again, are finding it hard to find new foster homes for behavioural dogs. The existing foster homes are few and either have foster dogs already or the foster people are burnt out and in need of a break. An additional challenge when committing to a new rescue dog with possible behaviour issues is to have a backup plan. In essence this means having 2 foster homes at the ready in case the first one doesn't work out.

And that, friends, brings us to our beautiful misfit boys. All of them have history and are looking for their forever homes, but Bobby, Everest and Sonny are also looking for foster homes. The three boys have all been stellar for over 8 months, but we would still like them to be placed with dog savvy people who will continue to give them leadership, guidance and love. Opening your home to one of the boys will be very rewarding and will free a space for another misfit dog.

For more information about Bobby, Everest, Sonny, and Snow, and for more information about fostering and to learn about the boys' individual stories, please send a message, email info@homeagainbancroft.ca, or call 613-334-8471.



Available Cat Highlight — Canyon!!



If you are looking for a new cat to join your family, please take another look at **Canyon**.

Canyon was originally being fostered with his brother Branch. Branch was adopted last month, and there were concerns that Canyon might decline when the two were separated. The opposite has happened!! Branch has come more out of his shell and found his voice — he talks and erps whenever possible!! He is acting more relaxed and showing some curiosity in the dog — what *is* that other furry creature that isn't another cat??

Branch plays with the other cats and loves his toys. He loves sleeping with his humans at night, and is asking for lots of attention. Branch is still shy with people (although showing more and more interest in pets from new humans), and will need to be adopted by someone who will give him the time to be more confident and relaxed.

Canyon LOVES full body and tummy rubs and will turn into a contortionist so that you're scratching and rubbing all parts of his furry body! Any bond with this sweet boy will be returned with companionship for life.

The adoption fee for Canyon is \$150. He is up to date with all vaccinations.



Available Dogs and Puppies



Meet **Hugo**, a male mixed breed and Walker cross who is about two months old.

Hugo is a handsome pup, and is very well socialized to other dogs, cats and children. He is very affectionate and is a cuddle bug. House training and crate training are going well, and he will sleep through the night.

Hugo is vet checked, dewormed, had his first vaccinations and is microchipped. His adoption fee is \$650.



Seneca is a male Akbash who is about 9 months old and 85 lbs. He is a magnificent dog, born on a working farm and has been a working companion to people, goats and horses.

Seneca is sensitive and smart, affectionate with people he trusts and shy with strangers. He is devoted to his family, but is happiest at home where he is comfortable and has a job to do.

Seneca would love his family to be on a homestead, farm or other rural setting. He is a wonderful companion and is becoming a fabulous guardian.

Seneca has been neutered, microchipped, and his vaccinations are up to date. The adoption fee for Seneca is \$600.



Our sweet little **Grace** is the smallest pup in the litter with the biggest personality!! She is about two months old, and is a female mixed breed and Walker Cross.

Grace has an inquisitive nature, but is very content to stay with the pack while she sets off on adventures. She is well socialized and loves her fosters' cat and kids, other dogs and people. But what she *really* loves is human snuggles!!

The lucky human who gives Grace lots of consistent training, exercise and love will have the perfect doggo!

Grace is vet checked, dewormed, has had her first set of vaccinations and is microchipped. The adoption fee for Grace is \$650.



And take another look at **Ginny**, an approximately two month old gorgeous Great Pyrenees puppy.

Ginny is a bit shy, but adjusts quickly and is cuddly. She is a bit smaller than her litter mates, born and raised on a farm to a working Great Pyrenees mom who protects sheep and fowl.

Ginny is fun, playful and full of personality!! She would make an incredible companion, working dog, or the best of both worlds, a working/companion!!

Ginny has been vet checked, microchipped and has had her first set of vaccines. The adoption fee for Ginny is \$650.

Available Dogs and Puppies



Meet the rest of the mixed breed/Walker cross puppies!

Meet **Fergus!!** Fergus is a male pup about two months old.

Fergus is a well socialized puppy who LOVES toys. And belly rubs — who knew that if he cuddles with my people they will rub his belly! Fergus is also learning to walk on a leash, and is doing very well.

Fergus will need a new family who will give him lots of consistent training and exercise and LOVE!! In return he will be a wonderful canine companion.

Fergus is vet checked, dewormed, has had his first set of vaccines and is microchipped. The cost to adopt Fergus is \$650.



And this is **Geoff!!** Geoff is also a male pup about two months old.

Geoff is an outgoing puppy with a huge sense of adventure and curiosity. He is wonderfully cuddly and playful and really loves his people and toys.

Geoff is well socialized and is good with cats and other dogs. He mostly sleeps through the night, but will let his foster know if HE REALLY HAS TO GO!!!. He is sleeping in his crate and will go there if he needs a nap. He is being leash trained and getting better every day! Geoff will need consistent training combined with love and play-time!

Geoff is vet checked, dewormed, had his first set of vaccines and is microchipped. The cost to adopt Geoff is \$650.



Finally we have **Jupiter!!!**

Jupiter is male and about two months

He is fantastic on leash and beginning to learn basic commands. This little beastie loves to fall asleep in his foster mom's lap and to be cuddled. Like the other doggos in his litter he is friendly with dogs cats and people. Overall he's just a friendly, confident puppy.

Like the others, Jupiter will need a new owner who gives Jupiter lots of consistent training as well as plenty of exercise and lots and lots of love and cuddles.

Jupiter is vet checked, dewormed, had his first set of vaccines and is microchipped. The cost to adopt Jupiter is \$650.

Cats and Kittens Available for Adoption



Raven was born in May of 2023, and is a friendly and playful kitty who has fun with the cats and dogs in his current home.

Meet the **Rainbow Collar** kitties!! These kittens were born in March, inside a home, and loved well by their initial family. They are each domesticated, loving and playful. They have been showcased at Pet Valu in Bancroft, and are (mostly) happy to be picked up and cuddled.



Lime Green Collar

Female short hair tuxedo



White Collar

Female grey and white tabby

Green Collar

Male grey and white short hair

