



**SINCE 1887**

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**25,000 spay neuter surgeries – A milestone at the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA**

**February 1, 2018. Hamilton, ON** – It’s hip to snip in Hamilton and tomorrow will mark surgery number 25,000 in the Companion Animal Hospital at the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA since 2009. This milestone follows two banner years of more than 4,000 spay neuter surgeries in 2016 and 2017.

“Back in 2014, Tyson told his story, which remains true to this day”, says Karen Reichheld, Manager Animal Care and Adoptions. “Spay neuter is good for all pets’ health, reduces overpopulation of cats, and just makes good sense for urban dwellers and busy families everywhere. And donors make it all possible. Donors and supporters help equip our high volume Companion Animal Hospital”.

Surgeries are performed on homeless animals in care at the shelter and are available to owned pets as well. “Three important things that pet parents can do for their furry friends is spay neuter, microchip, and have a regular vet for preventative care”, says Marion Emo, CEO. “And we can help. Spay neuter for owned pets is affordable and helps families do the right thing. And with many thanks to a generous grant from PetSmart Charities™ of Canada for a third year, subsidized spay neuter is available to families in need in 2018 and to 1,200 pets”.

“We see the bond every day that owners have with their pets”, Reichheld goes on to say. “Our spay neuter program helps people continue to benefit from caring for their pet and being loved by their pet, often their best friend”.

**Tyson’s story**

“At four years young, I was ready for the snip! My mom Stefanie was talking about it for a long time. We had learned that getting “altered”, as they say, decreases the risk of cancer in both boy and girl pets. But where to go? Then we learned about the affordable spay/neuter program at the HBSPCA for pets in need like me. The application process was simple. The wait time was short. And the staff loved me! The aftercare instructions for my Mom were easy to follow – lucky me. And I learned a thing or two – one cat can have up to 100 kittens in her lifetime! Thank you donors for helping me and my feline friends in the Community Assistance Program – we know it’s hip to snip.



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The Hamilton/Burlington SPCA is a non profit registered animal welfare charity. About 2,000 pet companions find their forever homes every year. The HBSPCA provided 4,531 spay neuter surgeries in 2017.

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