



HOPE.
CARE.
COMPASSION.

VOLUNTEER VETERINARY SURGEON **Guelph Humane Society-Community Veterinary Outreach-Barn Cat Program**

ORGANIZATION:

The Guelph Humane Society advocates for all animals, and in particular those animals whose lives it can influence, through care, education, community support, protection, and leadership. Founded in 1893, the Guelph Humane Society provides care and shelter for approximately 3,000 homeless, stray, injured and abused animals each year in Guelph and Wellington County. GHS is a registered charitable, non-profit organization that does not receive government funding. The GHS is interested in finding people who are passionate about animal welfare, who want to make a difference in the community, all while working as part of a positive and productive team of people. Visit www.guelphhumane.ca to discover more.

PROGRAM:

The Guelph Humane Society has received a grant from PetSmart® Charities of Canada to help develop low-cost spay neuter clinics in the City of Guelph, Guelph-Eramosa and Centre Wellington. This grant will support a partnership between GHS, the University of Guelph's Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) and Community Veterinary Outreach, a charity that provides free preventive veterinary care for pets whose owners are homeless or who are vulnerably-housed. These clinics will also support the Barn Cat Program, providing spay and neuter services to owners of barn cats

POSITION SUMMARY:

The veterinary surgeon is responsible for the assessment of surgical candidates, surgical sterilization of patients and their care throughout the perioperative period. The veterinary surgeon should also be available to help oversee the flow of the clinic and answer questions to guide other clinic volunteers.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

Veterinary surgeons will:

- perform pre and post-operative physical examination and assessment of patient needs
- perform surgical sterilization of patients (ovariohysterectomy, orchietomy, ovariectomy, etc.)
- inoculate patients with required vaccinations

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- supervise handling and recording of controlled substances alongside veterinary technicians
- ensure accurate completion of medical records
- provide recommendations for follow-up care
- effectively communicate any issues concerning medical or surgical protocols, staff and patients or the clinic's disease control protocols with Spay Neuter Coordinator
- behave in a manner that upholds both personal and professional standards, as an ambassador of the Guelph Humane Society and the Ontario Veterinary College, at all times
- oversee and provide guidance to other clinic volunteers
- All other duties, as assigned

SURGICAL TECHNIQUES AND SKILLS:

The Veterinary Surgeon will:

- adhere to aseptic/sterile techniques while scrubbing, gowning, and gloving as well as maintain a sterile field throughout the surgical process
- perform efficient and concise entrance into abdomen and attractive closures
- demonstrate principles of gentle tissue handling
- be capable of performing CPR and delegating roles to support staff in the event of an emergency
- competently handle surgical complications
- effectively critique breaks in sterility and suggest additional disease control measures
- understand and effectively teach the basics of anesthesia
- understand and practice low stress animal handling
- communicates collegially and effectively with clients and colleagues

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

The Veterinary Surgeon must:

- be a licensed Veterinarian in the province of Ontario (through the College of Veterinarians of Ontario)
- maintain all current and correct licensure

Physical Requirements:

- Volunteers must be:

- physically fit enough to work standing or sitting for an 8-hour work day and be capable of bending down, crawling and lifting patients of varying sizes repeatedly throughout the day
- relatively agile and able to move through tightly cramped areas
- able to use a ladder and step stool
- possess good hand-eye coordination

Emotional/Mental Requirements:

- Volunteers must be able to:
 - work efficiently and effectively under stressful conditions
 - assist in responding quickly in the case of a medical emergency
 - cope with death due to surgical complication or euthanasia
 - recognize the need for assistance, rapidly and accurately process information and make decisions

Exposure:

- Volunteers may be exposed to:
 - various aqueous solutions including dish soap, hydrogen peroxide, chlorhexidine, formalin and alcohol solutions (accommodations can be made for those with sensitivities)
 - isoflurane gas
 - quaternary ammonium cleaners and bleach
 - pressurized steam
 - sharps; needles, surgical blades