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Website: pawedpals.org

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Adoption Policy

Pawed Pals Animal Rescue's (PPAR's) adoption policy is to ensure that every rescued animal is placed into a suitable permanent home where he/she will be loved and well cared for; that every effort is made to assess each potential adopter's ability to provide a home and care appropriate to the animal's needs; and that all adoption decisions are made in the best interests of PPAR animals.

Application and Screening

- Potential adopters must be at least 18 years old, and must complete, sign and submit an application form.
- PPAR does not encourage the adoption of an animal as a gift. The person who will be financially responsible for the animal and (if different) the person who will be permanently living with and providing care for the animal must both participate in the screening process.
- If a potential adopter's home is an apartment, other rental or condo, they must provide PPAR with a letter from their landlord or condo board indicating permission for a pet and identifying any restrictions in the species, breed, size or number of pets.
- If a potential adopter resides in the home of their parents, other relative or friend, the home owner must participate in the screening process.
- The adoption screening process includes a home visit by the adoption coordinator/volunteer, with the applicant in attendance, to inspect and ensure that the home and property will be suitable for a new pet and that any and all current resident pets are well cared for.
- If the adoption coordinator/volunteer determines that some corrective action is needed within the home or property before approving adoption, the homeowner will be asked to make the necessary adjustments and will be subject to another home visit in two weeks.
- Adoption applications may be approved or denied at PPAR's discretion.
- Other than disclosure to the Board of Directors and to the applicant themselves, reasons for denial will remain private and confidential within PPAR's Animal Care Unit (ACU).

Animal Selection and Disclosure

- The adoption coordinator/volunteer will recommend an animal if the potential adopter has not requested a particular animal, or if the one they had chosen is found not to be suitable during the meet and greet.
- An adoptable animal's suitability to the applicant cannot be guaranteed, just as their temperament, behaviour and health cannot be guaranteed.

- Any known behavioural issues or pre-existing medical conditions will be disclosed to the applicant.
- PPAR reserves the right to suggest or enforce the adoption of certain animals in pairs, rather than individually, at their discretion.
- Potential adopters must spend at least a half hour (preferably longer) getting acquainted with their chosen animal in the presence of the adoption coordinator and/or the animal's foster caregiver. If possible and practical, all members of the potential adopter's household should meet the chosen animal. The meet and greet will preferably take place at the foster caregiver's home, in order to avoid the stress of transporting the animal to another location. More than one visit is encouraged in attempt to ensure a suitable match between the animal and the family and their lifestyle. Screening and reference checks must be completed and the adopter approved before arranging a meeting in any foster caregiver's home.
- PPAR does not allow any animal to be put on hold and does not accept deposits to hold an animal. If an applicant chooses an available animal but wishes to wait before continuing or finalizing the adoption process, application forms will continue to be accepted and processed for that animal and their availability will not be guaranteed to the earlier applicant.

Adoption Contract

- The **Adoption Contract** document is available on the PPAR website for potential adopters to read all Terms and Conditions prior to proceeding.
- "Same day" adoptions are discouraged. The decision to sign the Adoption Contract should not be made the same day that the applicant meets the animal.
- The adoption coordinator/volunteer reserves the right to enforce a waiting period, at their discretion, after approving an Adoption Application and prior to placing the animal in their new home. For example, if an application is processed during the Christmas season, the animal will not be placed until after the New Year's holiday.
- When an Adoption Application has been approved and the applicant confirms their intention to proceed with the chosen animal, an Adoption Contract must be completed by the adoption coordinator/volunteer, dated and signed by the adopter (and co-signor if applicable) and witnessed by the coordinator/volunteer.
- If the person who will be financially responsible and the person who will be permanently caring for the animal are not the same person, they must co-sign the Adoption Contract.
- If a potential adopter resides in the home of their parents, other relative or friend, the home owner must co-sign the Adoption Contract.
- In special circumstances where an animal is re-homed prior to spaying or neutering, the adopter must initial the Special Conditions section of the Adoption Contract (completed by the adoption coordinator) which states that they agree to have the procedure completed by a PPAR veterinarian within a timeframe determined by PPAR's veterinary coordinator. In these cases, an appointment for spay or neuter will be made by the coordinator for a mutually agreeable date.

- Prior to releasing the animal into the adopter's care, the adoption fee must be paid in full, by cash or by cheque made payable to Pawed Pals Animal Rescue.
- Current adoption fees are \$125 for kittens and junior cats (up to 2 years old), \$100 for adult cats (over 2 years and up to 10 years old) and \$80 for senior cats (over 10 years old). With approval from PPAR's Board of Directors, discounts may be granted for cats/kittens adopted in pairs, cats in long-term care or special needs cats.
- The adopter is responsible for transporting the animal from their foster home to their permanent home and must provide their own cat carrier.
- By signing the Adoption Contract, the adopter agrees to all Terms and Conditions of adoption including PPAR's **Return Policy**.
- Although PPAR does not micro-chip the animals in their care, an animal may have already been micro-chipped upon intake. In this case, PPAR will transfer registration of the micro-chip into the new owner's name.
- PPAR will also contact the Winnipeg Humane Society (WHS) to transfer the animal's tattoo registration from PPAR into the new owner's name.
- The adopter will be given a copy of their contract, the animal's latest vaccination certificate and (if requested) their spay/neuter certificate.

Adoption by PPAR Fosters / Members

- Adoption is not guaranteed for PPAR foster caregivers or members. They are subject to the normal adoption application and screening procedures; their application must be approved by PPAR and they must sign a contract and pay the adoption fee.