

## New Animal Shelter for Uxbridge Scugog Project Status

### Background

#### **Oct. 2023 Project Status:**

The donation announcement on October 14, 2023 brings the total funds available for a new shelter to more than \$2,800,000. This total includes the Rennie donation, the NASUS (New Animal Shelter for Uxbridge and Scugog) donation, private donations, as well as interest earned and the Township's of Scugog and Uxbridge's pledged amounts.

The total funds available enable both Townships to now explore the feasibility of a new shelter and undertake a current costing analysis phase to determine options to move forward. This includes re-evaluating the 5500 Lakeridge Road site for suitability.

In 2011, two members of the community presented their vision to the Township of Uxbridge and Township of Scugog Councils for a gift of a new, turnkey, state-of-the-art Animal Shelter. The new animal shelter was proposed to replace the existing aging municipal animal shelter located on Reach St. in Port Perry. NASUS (New Animal Shelter for Uxbridge Scugog) was formed in 2012 and began fundraising for a new Animal Shelter.

NASUS commissioned design plans for the new shelter and presented the fundraised monies to the municipalities to proceed with the shelter build. The project was tendered. The successful bidder costed the project and the estimated project costs greatly exceeded the funding available to support the project. The project was put on hold until a path forward could be identified.

A significant donation in excess of \$1,100,000 from the estate of Marlyn Ruth Rennie, announced in 2023, boosted the total funds available to enable both Townships to now explore the feasibility of a new shelter and undertaking of a current costing analysis phase to help determine options to move forward. This includes re-evaluating the 5500 Lakeridge Road site for suitability. The New Animal Shelter for Uxbridge Scugog (NASUS) group will be part of these discussions.

The donation brings the amount of funds available for a new shelter to more than \$2,800,000. This total includes the Rennie donation, the NASUS (New Animal Shelter for Uxbridge and Scugog) donation, private donations, as well as interest earned and the Township's of Scugog and Uxbridge's pledged amounts.

Both Municipalities remain committed to moving the project forward and will meet with the NASUS fundraising group regularly to discuss further fundraising efforts and eventually updated project costs. The funds raised to date remain in reserve for the future facility.

