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## Volunteer Posting Hamilton/Burlington SPCA

<b>Position Title:</b>	Pet Visiting Volunteer
<b>Schedule:</b>	Monthly (flexible dates and times)
<b>Commitment:</b>	2-6 hours a month (minimum 1 visit/month for at least 1 year)
<b>Location:</b>	245 Dartnall Road & Various locations

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Pet Visiting Volunteers provide opportunities for children, youth, students, and seniors to interact with animals in ways that promote learning and well-being. Volunteers and their pets ambassadors visit classrooms, student centres, long-term care homes, hospices, and hospitals. To participate, you and your pet will need to successfully complete an HBSPCA animal behaviour assessment and all other program requirements. Help us share the healing presence of pets!

### This volunteer role is right for you if:

- You enjoy meeting and talking with people
- You are **PET** and **PEOPLE** focused
- Enjoy volunteering independently
- You are reliable and committed to representing the HBSPCA in a positive way

### Key Responsibilities

- Visit designated facilities at scheduled times
- Acquaint clients with the pet companion animal (name of the animal, age, breed, funny stories or habits) and answer any other questions they may have
- Engage individuals to meet, touch and interact with your pet
- Monitor your animal's participation and interaction to ensure the safety and well-being of your pet and the public

### Pet Ambassadors Qualifications

- Pet must be a minimum of 1 year old while being under owner's care for at least 6 months
- Pet must be spayed/neutered and be able to respond to basic commands
- Possess up-to-date record of required vaccinations (Rabies, Da2ppv, Bordatella, etc.)
- Does not consume raw food diet (including freeze-dried raw foods and treats)
- Eager to meet and interact with new people, without becoming overly excited (i.e. jumping, mouthing, pawing)
- Reacts well when faced with distractions, such as unfamiliar sounds or objects

### Qualifications to Volunteer

- Successful pass of animal behavior assessment
- Understand basic animal behavior and recognize stress signals in your animal(s)
- Able to control pet through verbal command and/or hand signals

- Provide proof of up-to-date pet vaccinations (required annually)
- Confident, knowledgeable and experienced with facilitating information/formal group learning sessions
- 18 years of age or older
- Valid Driver's licence and personal vehicle or if no access to personal vehicle, a valid driver's licence and clean driving abstract is required to drive one of the HBSPCA fleet vehicle
- Willing to obtain police background check (required)
- Negative TB Test, valid within one year of start date (if required)