



March 16, 2020

To our valued Calgary Humane Society Community,

The management team at Calgary Humane Society has been working diligently to ensure we are prepared with a coordinated response to protect our employees, volunteers and the public at large from transmitting novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

In light of the recent announcement of a local state of emergency in the City of Calgary, Calgary Humane Society is taking extra precautions to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

As of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Calgary Humane Society will be enacting the following protocols:

- Calgary Humane Society will be closed to the public
- Only essential staff will be permitted to enter the building and will be required to follow modified safety procedures
- Cancellation of all youth clubs, field trips, classes, tours, presentations, community events and animal behaviour classes
- Emergency animal intakes only, to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis
- All individuals scheduled to enter the building who are exhibiting any symptoms of, or have been in contact with anyone exhibiting any symptoms of, COVID-19 will not be permitted to enter the building.

All animals in-shelter at Calgary Humane Society will continue to be cared for as usual during this time.

There is no evidence to support that companion animals can develop the disease or transmit the disease to humans or animals and to date, there have been no reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Canadian Public Health Service are recommending that pet owners who have been diagnosed with COVID-19:

- Avoid close contact with their pets including snuggling, kissing pets or sleeping in the same bed
- Wash their hands before touching or feeding their pet
- Do not cough or sneeze on or near their pet
- Do not let the pet have contact with other animals or people

Calgary Humane Society will continue to protect the health and safety of both people and animals and will adhere to the strictest of health measures to ensure their welfare. Please visit our website at [www.calgaryhumane.ca](http://www.calgaryhumane.ca) or follow us on social media for informational updates as they emerge.