



## Paws for Hope Animal Foundation Gift Acceptance Policy

Paws for Hope Animal Foundation is committed to creating more sustainable animal welfare and purposeful companion animal protection in British Columbia. We are the only BC charity to directly help animals and to assist animal rescue charities with their different areas of need. By filling the gaps with our own direct animal assistance and educational programs, while simultaneously strengthening and empowering the existing animal support network, we are one step closer to realizing our vision of a Province providing the utmost care and protection for its companion animals today and over the long term.

In support of its mission and values Paws for Hope may accept unrestricted gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, life insurance policies and tangible or intangible personal property in any amount as outlined within this policy. Paws for Hope will seek the advice of legal counsel in matters relating to gift acceptance when appropriate.

Paws for Hope reserves the right to decline any gift that it believes might negatively impact its ability to attract volunteers, raise money from other sources, or otherwise accomplish its mission. Additionally, Paws for Hope reserves the right to decline any gift from any source whose practices are inconsistent with Paws for Hope's values.

Gifts to Paws for Hope may not be directly or indirectly subjected by a donor to any material restriction or condition that prevents Paws for Hope from freely and effectively employing the transferred assets or the income derived therefore, in furtherance of its tax exempt purposes.

Paws for Hope is a registered charity. All gifts made to Paws for Hope are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

### Lifetime Gifts

- A. **Money** – Paws for Hope accepts cash, cheques, credit cards, electronic funds transfers and money orders.
- B. **Publicly Traded Securities** – Paws for Hope accepts gifts of publicly traded stocks, bonds and mutual fund shares. Many donors choose this method as it reduces the amount of tax required on capital gains. When a donor sells an appreciated stock they are required to pay a certain amount of tax on the capital gains. However, if they make a donation to Paws for Hope, they are exempt from capital gains tax (*per 2006 Federal Budget*). Donors will receive a

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tax receipt for income tax purposes based on the full market value of the securities at the time of transfer.

To donate a stock certificate the donor must sign a Letter of Authorization to transfer the shares. Once the stock is received into the Paws for Hope brokerage account, the value for the shares will be determined as the date for the tax receipt.

- C. **Life Insurance Policies** – Donors can name Paws for Hope Animal Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy and receive donation receipts for insurance premiums paid.
- D. **Gifts of Real Estate, Stock in Privately Owned Companies and Tangible or Intangible Personal Property** – Gifts of this type will be accepted only after consultation with the Paws for Hope Executive Committee. The donor will provide an independent qualified appraisal, a description of the property and proof of ownership. It is the responsibility of the donor to determine the tax consequences of any gift. Before accepting these types of gifts, the Executive Committee will consider any liabilities, restrictions or other conditions related to the gift. Paws for Hope will typically sell or transfer the asset immediately and use the proceeds to support its mission.
- E. **Daily Living Items** – Daily living items that meet the goals of Paws for Hope are welcome gifts. Items needed include pet bedding, clothing, leashes, litter, litter boxes, food and other supplies. To arrange for pick up or drop off of items, please contact Breanna at [breanna@pawsforhope.org](mailto:breanna@pawsforhope.org).

### Planned Gifts

Paws for Hope depends on community support. One of the best ways to support Paws for Hope is through planned giving. A planned gift is a gift arrangement that takes into consideration the effect the gift will have on the donor's income, assets and tax liabilities. The gift is generally of a size that requires planning in order to complete, with the assistance of a professional legal and/or financial advisor.

Planned giving is an area of estate planning that requires careful consideration and professional advice. Paws for Hope strongly encourages you to consult with your lawyer and/or financial advisor to determine which methods of giving are most beneficial and appropriate for you. We suggest that you contact us afterwards so we can help you find the best way to help Paws for Hope. We are happy to discuss these options and any other method of contribution to Paws for Hope.

### Third Party Fundraising

Businesses or individuals who wish to sell a product or service and donate a portion of the proceeds to Paws for Hope must be approved in advance of the event. Applications for consideration can be found on our website – [www.pawsforhope.org](http://www.pawsforhope.org).

Paws for Hope reserves the right to deny any application that is considered a contradiction to or not beneficial to its missions.

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Initiatives that have been approved will not be issued a tax receipt for the contribution as per Canada Revenue Agency regulations. However, Paws for Hope can issue an acknowledgment receipt in addition to providing public recognition of the business or individual's support.

### **Annual Review**

Paws for Hope will review these guidelines on an annual basis.