

Second Chance Animal Rescue Society Members' Newsletter—Summer 2016

In memory of "Senior Dog" Jedd

ere is Jedd's story as told by his frank and funny foster mom, Terra Maclean:

To the jerk that dumped your dog; I want to thank you. In August 2014 Jedd a senior dog, losing both his eyesight and hearing was abandoned at a boarding kennel. We tried in vain to find any owner and we knew Jedd hadn't wandered away from anywhere. Now the human perspective on this is to "give people the benefit of the doubt." Perhaps his people were going through hard times (pre-recession), perhaps there was emotional trauma or they just didn't know what to do with their aged dog, and perhaps all those things apply, but deep down I think you are a gutless jerk, just sayin'.

However, for what is in my opinion a gutless cruel decision to abandon your senior dog, I thank you! Though I may never forgive you for putting him through the transition of being lost and trying to find his way in a new environment with new people while being partially blind and deaf, what you did do was give me and my family the best dog we could imagine.

Being at least 10 to 12 years plus of age and partially sighted, you can imagine how hard his transition was. He first found himself plunked at the kennel, but I couldn't exactly stick Jedd in my or anyone else's living room when he was a growling snarling 90 pound dog that we had to load with a broom and gates. Jedd had to learn his new name as we didn't know his last one. He took a few days and then decided he liked me. He panicked each time I left (still the effects of his earlier abandonment I'm sure). He would worry until he threw up. Clearly that wasn't acceptable, so up to the house Jeddy came, where our first hurdle was for him to not eat the kids (thankfully I have patient and agile kids). Next he had to assimilate to living as 1 of 5 other dogs, including another huge male that thinks he owns the vard (that was fun) but Jedd is smart and Doc (the resident male) is tolerant. Then we had to deal with his uncomfortable, unyielding focus on the cats. Although he would stare and guiver with excitement he never crossed the line and bit a cat (thankfully).

As days turned into weeks our transitioning and our trust of each other became normal. Jedd would sleep

on his bed in my room; he would follow the youngest kid evervwhere she went, play ball and worry himself silly when she and I walked in two different directions in the yard. Doc would roll his eyes and walk away when Jedd tried to boss him and all the cats eventually learned to accept his stalking paparazzi behaviour and even like it. We fostered a kit-



ten at one point and Jedd began to focus on it and our cats actually got jealous. Soon our cats cuddled Jedd and even mutually agreed to bathe each other. Seeing fully slobbered cats stroll through the living room you knew that they had shared a moment with Jeddy.

As the months turned into years we enjoyed his quirky habits and endearing personality. We got to proudly

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show him off to our friends and watch him learn what horses and chickens were. He really was magnificent, we all loved him.

It didn't take long (only two years) and we watched Jedd's hips begin to give out. We watched the formerly regal guardian shepherd struggle to get up, struggle to lay down, struggle to walk. Although he never lost his spirit or determination we watched his body fail him. Pain meds and management slowly failed to support his deteriorating body. We knew it was his time and we couldn't bear to watch him struggle any longer. So we did what responsible owners do when they love their dog, we set our emotions aside and made the choice we all dread for our beloved furry family member. We gave him as much time as we could, time for just him to be him. We called the vet and made a time for the vet to come here so Jedd didn't have to make the fateful journey. We wanted him to pass away in the comfort of his own home. We fostered a kitten at the same time and (safely) let him stalk and play with the kitten (a true passion for the old boy). Then the vet came and it just took a moment and the best dog we ever met left our side and went to heaven.



I only wish we had known Jedd longer, but even though our time was short I assure you we were his family, we were his friends, you were just the jerk that looked after him till we got him, and I really should thank you for that.

Jeddy you will always be in our hearts.

Childrens' fundraisers for SCARS

arkdale Out-of-School Care Centre, in Edmonton, has done it again! Last summer the kids and staff held a bottle drive for SCARS and donated \$200 to help our rescue animals.

They decided to hold another bottle drive this year, and enlisted help from staff and their families. This time, in only two weeks, they raised \$303. Thank you to all the staff, children and families who have worked so hard to help animals in need.





or their Lenten project, two of the kindergarten classes at **St. John XXIII Catholic School** in Fort Saskatchewan decided to raise money for SCARS. Sandy Weller and her students canvassed their families and drew other classes into their fundraising efforts. By June, they had collected a van full of items from our wish list and raised a whopping \$648. We are so grateful for their efforts.

We are also grateful to volunteers like Kathy McCartney who donate their time and talent to do public speaking engagements for SCARS.



Sebastian's Story



CARS helps pets in all kinds of situations. Rumour had it that Sebastian was an owned dog that had been given away, and the new owner had dumped him.

Our volunteers tried to find him in the location where he had been repeatedly sighted, a rural intersection near Athabasca, but he wasn't around. They set up a humane trap and left it there for a few hours at a time. No luck. As a last resort they set up the trap and left it overnight. This is not ideal, but we knew this little dog desperately needed help. It was a just a matter of time until he was injured or worse.

Most of the time, trapped dogs are not aggressive when we bring them into our care. But Sebastian was truly terrified that we would do him harm so he did the only thing possible. He tried to make himself appear as "scary" as possible. Because of his aggression, he was transported to the care of dog trainer and SCARS foster home, Terra MacLean, CCPDT-KA. Terra assesses dogs with behavioural concerns and fosters many of the ones that need rehabilitation before they can be adopted.

Every dog is unique and we had no way to know if Sebastian's aggression would be temporary or something that would require long-term management. Fortunately, it turned out he was more bluff than bite. It wasn't long before he felt safe in our care and his behaviour changed. Turns out he loves people, especially kids. Sebastian is an unneutered male that is 1-2 years old. He weighs only 20 pounds and is a Dachshund through and through. He like things his way, but he is absolutely adorable and has been great with the kids in his foster home. We are so glad

we were able to give him the second chance he deserves!

If you come across an animal that appears to be lost or in distress, please try to help it. If you can safely catch it, please do and take it to the closest veterinary clinic or animal care facility (pound or shelter). You can also contact the Alberta SPCA at 1-800-455-9003 for advice. Whenever possible, SCARS will try to help as well. Feel free to contact us.











Look At Me Now

CARS does not typically announce adoptions, but this adoption update is very special for many volunteers and we are sure for our supporters as well... Barthalamu is adopted! Bart was in care with us for over 8 years as he struggled to be seen by anyone as pet material. He loved life but was unlucky at the adoption game. He got to go camping and horseback riding/running along side. He enjoyed life with us and his foster family, but never had a place of his own. As the years crept past SCARS did several motivated pushes to promote Bart, and he would eventually get adopted but only to be quickly returned.

With each return Bart always unloaded the same way, happy to be back and unconcerned with the folks he briefly met. They were all great families but just not to Bart's liking, as it would seem. Recently, Bart had the opportunity to meet and be adopted by a great couple, George and Bev Thomas, and their current dog, Kali. Their initial time together went well and things seemed to be looking like this could be permanent (but we had thought so before). Here is a note from one of our volunteers who knows Bart well....

So how do you know when it's the real deal? Well SCARS supporters, at my bitter-sweet farewell to BART, I knew right then and there. You see, a couple of weeks after George and Bev adopted Bart, they had a wedding to go to and they were unable to book Bart into the same kennel as Kali. I jumped at the

chance to dog sit my good friend. Due to a scheduling conflict I had to scoop Bart up at my friend's house the day they left for the wedding, Bart was happy to see me, but when we arrived home he seemed solemn. Although



Bart is a steady and happy guy, he just wasn't quite himself. It was the first time in all of Bart's returns to our house that he didn't seem thrilled to be back. When Bev came to collect him, Bart flew to her, jumping giddily at her feet. She opened the car door and he hurled himself inside saying a quick "HI" to Kali before circling and laying down. He gave me a quick nod and looked at Bev with love and admiration. That's when I knew Bart FINALLY found his people, he was finally at home. I will admit I cried when he left with them the first time, but I was happy to cry the second time when I saw how overjoyed he was to go home with a family that not only loved him, but had also won his approval.

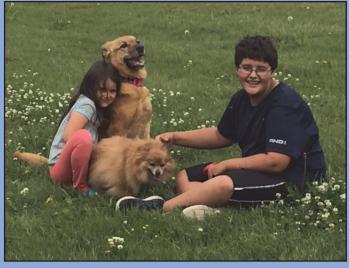


i SCARS, it's Teri. Remember me? I'm the mom dog from the Teri and the blue baby blanket rescue story. My puppies and I were abandoned on a lonely country road in the coldest part of winter, and SCARS saved us. I came to my new home on June 6th in 2009, and

since then much has changed. My boy who adopted me has grown. He now plays football and I sit and watch every practice. I also have a girl now that I have watched over since a baby,

she is like my own puppy now. Then suddenly one day a fluff ball came right on into my house and made himself right at home! His name is Teddy and he's a funny little mutt.

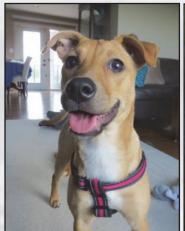
So my family has grown, but my roots stay firmly planted in rescue. My family continues to foster and help out other dogs. They say its a labour of love. My life is good, my kids are wonderful and my yard has nice warm sunny spots to lay in. What more could a dog want. Thank you again SCARS.





Adorable and Adoptable

Here are a few examples of adoptable pets. To see more, visit www.scarscare.org. There are approximately 200 companion animals of all ages, types and sizes currently in our care. We are always looking for adopters and more foster homes. If you have room in our home and in your heart for a new friend, contact SCARS.



Kitsune is 1-yr-old male pincher mix



Paws is a 1-yr-old senior male Husky



Dario is a 9-mo-old male Shepherd mix



Girlie-Girl is senior male, Terrier mix



Romeo is an adult, male mixed breed



Chomper is a male that born during Aug. 2016

SCARS Needs Foster Homes!

Please consider fostering for SCARS. As a foster home, you will provide temporary care for an animal until we can find it a suitable permanent home. Becoming a foster home is easy and there is absolutely no cost or long-term obligation. Foster homes are vital to our success. Simply put, they saves lives. Sadly, every day in Alberta there are hundreds of pets waiting to be rescued. Our goal is to make the fostering experience as enjoyable as possible for you and your family.

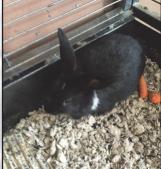


Rubby is a 1.5 year old female mixed breed



Toddy is 1.5 year old male mixed breed





Flora and Coral are female, mixed breed rabbits that were born during May 2016



Fort McMurray Wildfire Animal Rescue

By Terra MacLean

he May 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire was a catastrophe of epic proportions. It's almost impossible to try and get your mind around what the people from Fort McMurray went through.

SCARS was very proud to have been part of the teams that worked behind the scenes to rescue the animals in Fort McMurray. The dedication and heart that went into locating and extracting pets that we knew existed, but couldn't always find, was beyond imaginable. Frightened cats, for example, DO NOT readily come out when strangers enter their home no matter what amount of treats or number of times checking and rechecking or humane trapping.

There were many organizations that sent in staff and it was much appreciated and needed. There were also many volunteers. They took time off from their day jobs so they could use their skills to do this work. Volunteers slept on desks and on cots, and in buildings without heat or water. They got scratched and

nipped. They crawled under decks and patios, through windows, and up ladders. No creature was too small to rescue. For



example, we were able to save a butterfly collection that belonged to some children. We also fostered pets for families until they were able to claim them.

I am so happy and proud to have been part of this effort. The groups we met and worked with were impressive and dedicated. In no way am I saying these were the only groups involved, there were many. But it's a work of art to see The Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force and the Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (AARCS) set up a triage centre with Saving Grace Animal Sanctuary—Canada assisting. SCARS is lucky to have such groups to call friends and companions in animal rescue.





Rescue Stories

As of early August, SCARS had almost 200 companion animals in its care. Since January 1 of this year, we have taken in 590 animals and found homes for 516. Here are some examples of animals that were recently saved from tremendous suffering. We often wonder who could be so cruel, but we take comfort in knowing there are so many caring people, like you, and that is why SCARS is able to exist. Visit www.scarscare.org for updates on these and other animals.

MISS IRENE

have had quite a journey to the safe SCARS world and there is still a long road ahead for me. I was a stray cat in a small community. Someone decided they would feed me, but I couldn't eat. Skinny and in rough condition, I would sniff at food offerings but wouldn't eat. That is pretty



strange behaviour, you must admit, for a cat that appears to be starving. The person trying to feed me took me to a vet. The vet identified that I had dental issues and recommended I go to a different clinic for assessment. Without resources but with good intentions, my rescuer drove me to the Westlock Veterinary Center. This is where my life would change.

First the bad news. I have a condition called Stomatitis. It is an excruciatingly painful autoimmune disease that causes inflammation in the mouth. Mine is an extreme case. The worst these very experienced vet's have seen. So what to do. The individual who found me as a stray did not want me and could not afford to help. The clinic could have chosen humane euthanasia, but they are animal lovers and I was using all my charm on them. Even in such great discomfort, I let them know how special and sweet I am. The answer of course was SCARS - would they help? All you loyal supporters already know the answer to that question. But with my life hanging in the balance, I anxiously waited for their answer. So this is where the good news starts. SCARS said they would bring me into the family.

Now my case of Stomatitis was so severe that I needed to be treated at the Mayfield Veterinary Hospital, which handles more complex dental situations. The treatment for this condition is removal of all my teeth, and this should stop the auto immune attack on my mouth. My first surgery was scheduled for the week of July 11. Until then I get to hang out at the Westlock clinic on a special liquid diet and I receiving strong pain meds by injection. I can't take

pills or liquid by mouth. The staff have become my foster family and I couldn't be happier. My diet and pain treatment have allowed me to gain much needed weight and I am so much more comfortable. The surgery has risks, and the severity of my condition makes it even harder. Success rates are usually quite high with teeth removal so everyone is hopeful. If at all possible please support SCARS in any way you can – donate, adopt, volunteer, foster. Any of those things can change a life like mine forever.

PUPPY RESCUE & COMMUNITY SNR

CARS visited two of our partner communities in early June 2016. In one community we were able to provide spay-neuter-return for

seven owned dogs. Providing this service helps prevent dogs from roaming which can result in packing and dog fights, and unwanted litters.

We also got a call from a family in another community that had found an injured puppy alone in a wooded area. The puppy was only about six weeks old and had a swollen. bruised belly and a broken leg. We don't know what happened, but it could have been stepped on or kicked. We don't want to assume that a person did this, it could have been an animal such as a horse.

The puppy has since had surgery for a hernia and to fix the broken leg. We are grateful to people who contact us when they find animals in distress.













12 Annual Tails on the Trails Paws-a-thon

hank you to all dedicated volunteers, supporters and sponsors who contributed to our 12th Annual Tails on the Trails Paws-a-thon on June 12, 2016 at Lion's Park in St. Albert. This year we raised just over \$20,000 for SCARS.

The SCARS rescue pack led the walk again this year. They are previously rescued dogs who came together to show their support for SCARS.

Congratulations to our prize winners:

- 1st prize Melissa Kemp who won a \$500 gift card & a 60-min massage from Bao Massage
- 2nd prize Bruce Peachey won a \$250 gift card & a 45-min massage from Bao Massage
- **3rd prize** Jill St. Laurent won a \$100 gift card & a 30-min massage from Bao Massage
- Top team pledgers—Team Loki

Congratulations to Nathaneal Greter who won \$300 in our 50/50 draw with winning ticket #4212911.

Our raffle prizes were won by Ashley Metherell (dog basket), Carl Pedersen (beer & chairs) and Joanne 780.xxx.3564 (decorative globe & stand).

Thank you to our amazing sponsors:

Gold Sponsors: Instabox | Paradise Pet Centre

Silver Sponsor: Part Of The Family Pet Memorial Centre

Centre

Bronze Sponsors: New Paradigm Engineering | Bao Massage | G&E Pharmacy

Thank you to our vendors:

- Berkeley's Place
- Part Of The Family Pet Memorial Centre
- Pawsitively Purrfect Pampering
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- Camp Wohelo
- Paradise Pet Centre
- Bao Massage
- LifeLine Network
- Norwex
- Cheryl L. Smith Tupperware Independent Star Director
- Expressions & Images Custom Framing Inc.
- Paws For Synerchi
- Bohemian Alchemist
- Sadie's Pet Stop
- Barker's Pet Motel & Grooming
- Nutmeg Photography

Thank you to Instabox for donating the gift card prizes and to Bao Massage for donating massages. Everyone who raised \$500 or more received a Tails on the Trails hoodie, those who raised \$100 or more received a Tails on the Trails T-shirt or SCARS market bag.

Participants browsed our bake sale, silent auction and SCARS merchandise. They also checked out kids







face painting, our phoDOGraphy booth, and the SCARS adoption event and info booth. There were also pet games and demonstrations, vendors and our BBQ and beer garden.

A special thank you goes out to St John's Ambulance for being onsite to keep us safe.

Last, but certainly not least, thank you to our MC, Sara Klapstein, our music DJ (David McBean), our event planning committee and all the volunteers who helped during the event.



















Once a SCARS Pet, Always a SCARS Pet

ometimes we get to rescue a dog more than once. Penny (formerly Bride) was part of an unwanted litter that came into our

care in March 2015 from a rural community. She was adopted to a loving home in May when she was eight weeks old.

ADOPTED SCARS DOG "MISSING"

On July 12, 2016 we received the following private message via Facebook:

"Hello, I'm Terri, an admin with the Edmonton Lost Pets pages on Facebook here in Edmonton, and am being trained by Alberta Lost Pets Locators. One of your adopted rescues is on the loose in the city, for the past SIX weeks now. Just letting you know, we are working with ACC on bringing her in. Let me know if you need more details."

Our response was "Yes please. We would have been on this, helping, six weeks ago had we known. Once a SCARS dog, always a SCARS dog."

TRYING TO GET HOME

Penny had escaped the care of someone who was dog sitting for her family. Not understanding why her family left her behind, she was likely just trying to find her way home. Being a naturally timid dog, Penny was not keen to be approached by strangers. So began her two month adventure as a stray.



Myles & Jennifer with SCARS volunteer Sharon

RELENTLESSLY PURSUED

Many well meaning people tried to catch Penny, but she became increasingly suspicious of their intent to the point where she would run if someone so much as looked her way. If we could share one key message it is this – PLEASE do not chase after a stray dog. You cannot outrun them and you will increase their fear of humans. The best thing to do is to crouch down and calmly call to them. If they will not come to you, there is no point chasing them! Get photos if you can and report the sighting to local animal care and control, and share the info with local rescues and social media sites. Someone, somewhere is probably desperately looking for that pet.

ATTEMPTS TO CATCH PENNY

As lost dogs often do, Penny wandered from area to area until she found a space where she felt somewhat safe. By the time we found about her plight, she was residing in the fields that back onto the Clareview





Recreation Centre in NE Edmonton. It was here that she was spotted by a caring family (Myles & Jennifer and their two daughters) that would eventually help catch her.

The City of Edmonton Animal Care and Control (ACC) came out when sightings were reported to them, but they had not been successful catching Penny. To this point, she had been spotted in a wide range of areas. We are glad that so many people knew to call them. That is the right thing to do!

At one point Penny's forever dad had eyes on her from a distance and called out, but Penny ran. He was shocked that a dog that had literally been like his shadow and best friend would run from him. This left the family feeling very distraught and wondering if their beloved pet had become feral. They began to lose hope that anything could be done to help her.

OUR PLAN

SCARS began to collect details about Penny through Terri from Edmonton Lost Pets who connected us with Myles and Jennifer. We also touched base with ACC and left a message for the developer who owned the land Penny was living on.

One of our volunteers visited the location and saw her at a distance, but Penny trotted away immediately. The volunteer scouted for the best location to leave our humane trap and then organized a team to monitor it. As much as we needed to catch Penny, we couldn't risk putting her in greater jeopardy by leaving her unattended in a trap.

That's where we were really in luck. In addition to having a team of volunteers willing to check the trap every few hours, we had Myles and Jennifer who could see from their home whether or not the trap door was closed.

CATCHING PENNY

Our team set the trap in a shady spot near an area where we knew Penny liked to nap in the afternoons. Bait was added to trigger plate at the back of the trap with a trail of smaller pieces outside, the trap was

covered with a blanket and we left the area at 7:30 PM on Saturday, July 16. We taped a sign to the trap that indicated who set it and why, and who to contact.

Our volunteers began checking the trap from a distance every two hours until late evening and our first check was 5 a.m. in the morning. Nothing as of 7 AM. But then we got this text at 9 a.m. from Jennifer. "No words!!!!" was all she said and it was followed by a photo of the trap with Penny inside!

We rushed to the location and found poor Penny with her whole body trembling uncontrollably. She was so VERY scared. Our volunteer sat quietly beside the trap and talked to her. Very soon, the shaking stopped and she began pressing her nose against the wire. She was ready to begin trusting people again!

Penny was driven to the home of Terra MacLean so she could do a behavioural assessment. Had her family been uncomfortable taking Penny back, we would have been pleased to keep her in our care. But it was clear that Penny was ready to resume her normal life. No rehab would be needed. She was seeking attention and offering gentle kisses moments after she came out of the trap! Her family was contacted and they came to get her the same day.

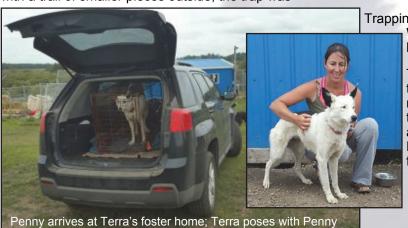
They said they would keep a very close eye on her and would be taking her to their vet for a checkup. She would need to be dewormed and they were anxious to help her return to a normal weight. The children in her family would be so thrilled so see her again (that's the part we like best!).

A HAPPY ENDING

SCARS was so pleased to get this message from Penny's forever mom shortly after Penny arrived home. She said, "It's amazing! She kissed me right off the bat, walked in the house and started playing with our other dog. If she wasn't so skinny you'd think she'd never left. She even remembers where the water is kept! Thank you again. So much." To the SCARS volunteers who caught her, "I'm in awe of all of you."

Trapping dogs like Penny is what we love to do.
We were glad to help, and we love happy endings!

Thank you to Terri, Jennifer & Myles, and all the SCARS volunteers who helped with this rescue. We wrote this story as a reminder that SCARS is always willing to help a past adopted pet, or any lost pet if we can! Please visit http://scarscare.ca/lost-pet/for tips on how to help a lost pet.





What We Do and How to Help

econd Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) is a non-profit, registered charitable organization (Reg. no. 863478467RR0001) that is dedicated to reducing the number of abandoned animals in Alberta. Since 2002, SCARS has rescued, rehabilitated and rehomed thousands of homeless cat and dogs, and we have helped communities become safer and healthier.

Our mission is to promote the humane care and protection of all animals and to prevent cruelty and suffering. We take in as many animals as our resources allow and typically have close to 200 in care at any given time. The animals live with our volunteers who get to know the pet and begin the training process in a positive environment. For dogs, that includes crate training, leash training, house training, etc. We provide our volunteers with training and ongoing support. This helps us match pets to families that are suitable to that pet's needs and the needs of the family adopting them. All pets are spay/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped, and provided with whatever veterinary or behavioural care they need. Our adopters can return pets to us for any reason for the life of that pet. Once a SCARS pet, always a SCARS pet.

In addition to our rescue efforts, we provide education, spay and neuter, and resources like dog houses to families in rural communities where poverty and lack of pet services can lead to animal neglect. Our goal is to reduce the number of unwanted pets and help people who own pets provide adequate care. Stray animals can create health and safety risks to people (especially children), but happy, healthy owned pets bond with their families and contribute positively to their community.

We can only take in as many animals as our resources will allow. Here are some ways you can help:

Donate or sponsor—our veterinary expenses are enormous. Please consider donating to our rescue efforts. We issue tax receipts for all donations of \$20 or more.

Foster an animal—we rely on our volunteer foster homes to provide temporary care until we can find suitable permanent homes. There is no cost to becoming a foster home. We will provide everything you need.

Adopt an animal—provide a needy animal with a loving, permanent home. To see pictures of adoptable animals, visit www.scarscare.ca.

Volunteer—we need help with fundraising, adoption events, animal care and transportation, and our daily operations. As a volunteer, you will

become an integral part of a team that saves animals' lives.

Please be a responsible pet owner—spay or neuter, microchip and vaccinate your pets. And remember, all pets need food, water, shelter, healthcare, exercise, love and attention.

Buy our merchandise—purchase SCARS clothing, totes, leashes, lunch bags, or one of our "Gifts from the Heart" certificates.

ResQWalk—Log your walking miles in support of SCARS with the ResQwalk app

Please subscribe to our electronic newsletter at www.scarscare.ca, watch us on Global TV Edmonton every Saturday morning at 9:50 AM, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We welcome feedback or suggestions for this newsletter, please contact:

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Look for them on our website under animals/
adoption information/participating vets. For
pet emergencies in the Edmonton area, trust:



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Please Support Champion Petfoods



At Champion Petfoods, our mission is clear and strong: we make BiologicallyAppropriate Dog and Cat foods from Fresh Regional ingredients in our own local kitchens. With shared passion to support those cats and dogs who need us most, we thank SCARS for their work in communities, and we are pleased to support them with ongoing ACANA and ORIJEN food donations.

