

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**Date:** 12/17/2024 8:58:02 AM  
**Subject:** Upcoming news release: Home for the Holidays: foster a shelter dog this holiday (December 17, 2024)

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below news release on Tuesday, December 17, regarding Animal Services' dog fostering program over the holiday season. Please keep this news release embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account on Tuesday afternoon.

Maria will reply to this email with the relevant Vancouver.ca link and social media links, once these are live.

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)  
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

**City of Vancouver**  
**News release**  
**December 17, 2024**

## **Home for the Holidays: Foster a shelter dog this holiday**

With many animals in need of homes, the City of Vancouver's Animal Services department is encouraging residents with pet-owning experience to consider fostering a shelter dog for two weeks this holiday season. Dogs available for fostering range in age from newborn puppies to senior dogs.

"Fostering a dog during the holidays will help bring comfort and joy to a shelter animal in need," said Kim Rosenmayer, Assistant Manager of Animal Services. "Our team carefully reviews each foster application to ensure our animals are placed in safe and nurturing homes. And who knows? Many fosters experience what we lovingly call a 'foster fail,' where they decide to officially adopt their foster pet, creating a forever home for the holidays and beyond."

### **How to Foster**

Interested foster parents can apply by emailing [animal.shelter@vancouver.ca](mailto:animal.shelter@vancouver.ca) with the following information:

- Name, address and phone number
- A description of your household, including whether you have children or other pets – this will help staff match potential foster parents with a shelter dog
- Indicate whether you're interested in fostering, adopting or fostering to adopt

Once approved, foster parents can meet and pick up their dog anytime before December 22 and return the dog on or after January 2. Animal Services will provide food and toys for the foster dogs.

Animal Services is not able to accept walk-ins. To view a list of dogs and small animals available for adoption, please visit our pages on [Adopt-a-Pet](#) or [Petfinder](#).

### **Pets are not presents**

While it may be tempting to surprise a loved one with a pet as a gift this holiday season, Animal Services strongly encourage thoughtful consideration before adopting or purchasing a pet. Pets are a life-long responsibility, and it's important to ensure that everyone involved is ready for the commitment. Please consider factors such as lifestyle, willingness to care for an animal long-term and prior pet experience before adopting. Treating an animal as a gift may not provide the level of consideration and responsibility that a pet deserves.

### **Other ways to help**

Not everyone may be in a position to foster or adopt an animal. For those interested in helping in other ways, Animal Services have put together a [wish list](#) of items for the animals at the shelter.

To learn more about the City's animal shelter, and how to adopt a pet, please visit: [vancouver.ca/adopt](http://vancouver.ca/adopt).