

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*November 26, 2024*

### **Give the Gift of Second Chances to Wildlife This Holiday Season**

**Calgary, AB** — The Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (Calgary Wildlife) has more than two thousand reasons for you to join its holiday campaign this year—each of them a patient who needed a second chance. To date, more than 2,200 wild animals have come through Calgary Wildlife’s doors, and over 7,500 calls from concerned citizens to its wildlife hotline have been answered. By supporting this year’s Holiday Giving Campaign, wildlife enthusiasts can help ensure that Calgary Wildlife can continue to provide life-saving care, rehabilitation, and hope for every future patient in 2025.

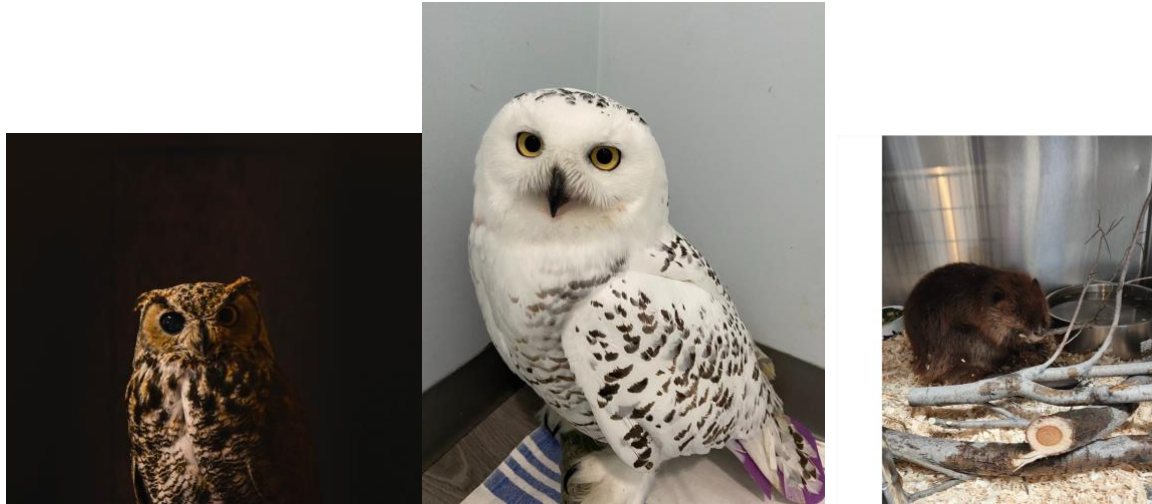
"Every day, Calgary Wildlife sees firsthand the resilience of our local wildlife," said Executive Director Beki Hunt. "This summer, for example, we treated a Great Horned Owl, one of just 40 owl patients in 2024, who arrived battered and bruised after the severe August hailstorm. The owl had a fractured beak, a broken toe, and bruising inside its mouth. But despite its injuries, it made a full recovery and was released back into the wild just 14 days later."

Severe weather events are becoming more frequent, leading to an increase in devastating injuries among local wildlife. "Stories like that of the injured owl remind us why our work is so vital," Hunt continued, "and why we need our community’s support now more than ever. Our work is only possible because of the generosity of those who care about the future of our wild neighbours."

As the holiday season approaches, Calgary Wildlife invites everyone to take part in its Holiday Giving Campaign, which offers several meaningful ways to support local wildlife. "There are many ways to get involved this year", said Hunt. "Our biggest 50/50 cash raffle to date is already selling quickly, with an early bird prize of a WestJet Gift of Flight voucher being drawn on Giving Tuesday-December 3rd. This year's silent auction has just opened up for bidding and is full of amazing items donated by local restaurants, hotels, spas, salons, and more, offers wonderful holiday gift opportunities that also help wildlife in need."

Hunt emphasizes that every contribution, whether \$10 or \$100, makes a difference. "Our supporters aren’t just donating; they’re giving an injured owl a second chance to fly, an endangered bat a warm place to heal overwinter, or an orphaned fox kit the opportunity to grow strong."

Calgary Wildlife's Holiday Campaign has officially launched and will continue through the end of December. For full information and to participate, please visit [www.calgarywildlife.org/holiday](http://www.calgarywildlife.org/holiday).



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The Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (Calgary Wildlife) is a registered charitable organization that was established in 1993. Calgary Wildlife provides expert compassionate care to injured and orphaned wildlife in and around the City of Calgary. As an accredited veterinary hospital (ABVMA), Calgary Wildlife is open 365 days a year and is the only wildlife rehabilitation centre located within the city. Calgary Wildlife also provides valuable outreach and educational services to the community. For more information, please visit [www.calgarywildlife.org](http://www.calgarywildlife.org)