

MY GRANDFATHER'S CAT



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

[MYGRANDFATHERSCAT.CA](http://MYGRANDFATHERSCAT.CA)

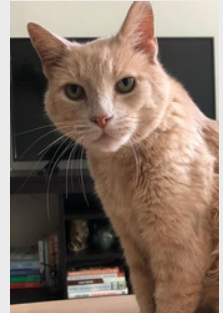
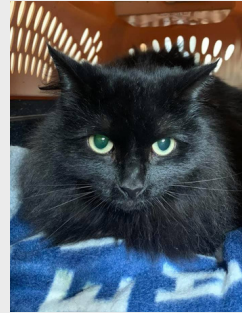


# CONTENTS

**our founders  
our mission  
our values**



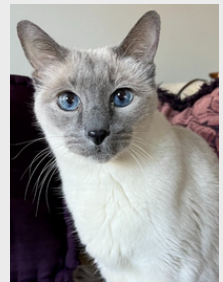
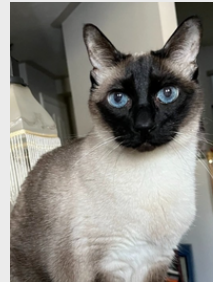
**our first adoption  
our second adoption**



**year one milestones  
anniversary surprise**



**our work in the media  
success stories**



**financial overview  
volunteer support  
reasons for support  
dedication**



# OUR FOUNDERS



## our founding human

My Grandfather's Cat was founded in Nova Scotia, Canada, by Angela Rafuse on May 18, 2021, her grandfather's birthday. She is a compassionate animal lover who believes you can be the change you want to see in the world.

She started My Grandfather's Cat at the age of 26 while living in her parents basement. She is the CEO of the organization.

## our founding cat

Mackenzie is a 16-year-old calico cat that lives in Chester, Nova Scotia, Canada. She enjoys hiking, kayaking, sunset walks on the beach and bacon. She has more than 750,000 followers on Instagram and TikTok.

She started going on adventures at the age of 15 while living with Angela in the basement.



# OUR MISSION

My Grandfather's Cat is a registered Canadian charity that helps seniors and terminally ill people arrange homes for their pets before they move into retirement homes or pass away.

Through the generosity of donors and merchandise sales, we are able to provide our service for free and not charge adoption fees. We are operational in all Canadian provinces and territories.

# OUR VALUES

At My Grandfather's Cat, our goal is to embody our values in every decision we make, with every adoptable we help, and every action we make.

## **Kindness**

We believe that you can be the change you want to see in the world.

## **Empowerment**

We will provide a service that is empowering to seniors and terminally ill people.

## **Transparency**

We will show you how your support is making a difference.

## **Inspiration**

We want to inspire others to take action and make change.





# OUR FIRST ADOPTION

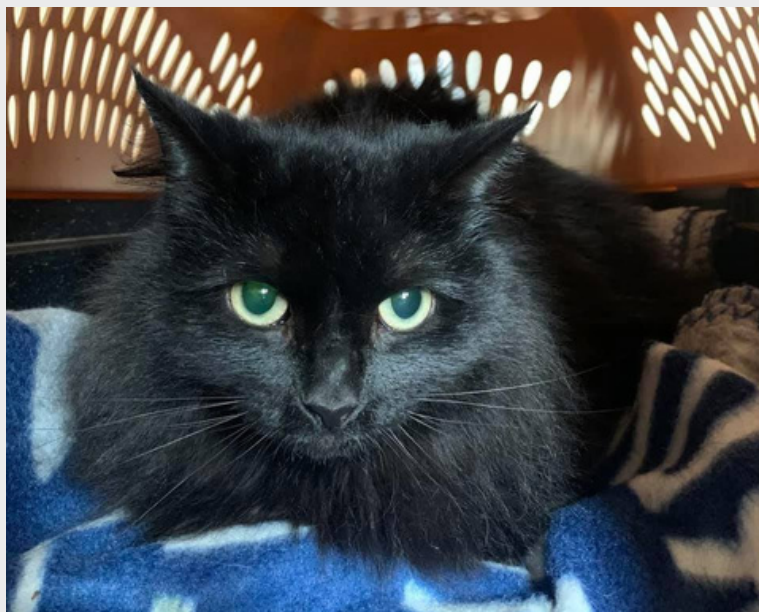
After her elderly human passed away in March 2021, Pepper was in need of a second forever home in Middleton, Nova Scotia.

While her human's daughter tried to welcome her into the family, she simply didn't get along with the other animals in the home. That's when she decided to reach out to My Grandfather's Cat after seeing our post on social media the same week we launched.

She worked with our founder, who wrote and posted Pepper's profile on our website and social channels. She was our first adoptable listed.

Within the next couple days, we began receiving emails from interested families. After interviewing each family, she chose a retired couple who recently moved to Annapolis Valley to give Pepper her second forever home.

She settled in well, and just like that we completed our first adoption.



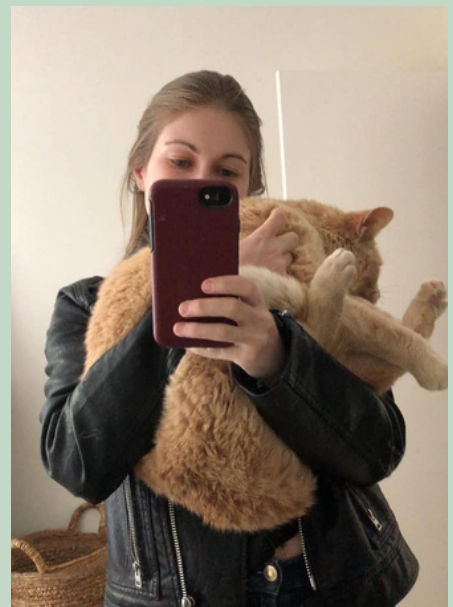
# OUR SECOND ADOPTION

When his elderly human decided it was time to move into an assisted living facility, Bore was in need of a second forever home. After seeing My Grandfather's Cat on CTV Evening News, he reached out and our founder posted Bore's profile with just one day until he moved from his home in Windsor, Nova Scotia

Our community worked quickly to share his post and applications immediately came in. Just three hours after his profile was posted, a home was found, but after a change of heart the family decided not to adopt him.

Without a place to go, Bore spent the night with our emergency foster, who happened to be our founder, Angela. He made himself at home instantly, taking up the entire bed and snuggling all night. When we found him another home and dropped Bore off, he made it clear that he wasn't going to settle and was simply waiting for Angela to come and get him.

In this very unique story, Bore chose his own second forever home and was adopted by Angela. They live together in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Bore, now nicknamed Bo, still takes up the entire bed every night.





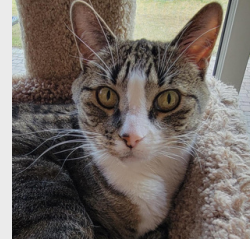
# YEAR ONE MILESTONES



**my grandfather's cat  
launched**  
May 18, 2021



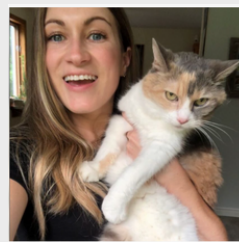
**we completed  
our first adoption**  
June 6, 2021



**10 second forever  
homes found**  
July 28, 2021



**25 second forever  
homes found**  
November 22, 2021



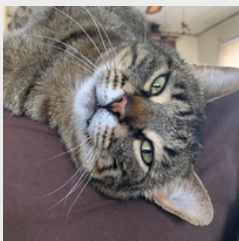
**our work was featured  
in People Magazine**  
January 11, 2022



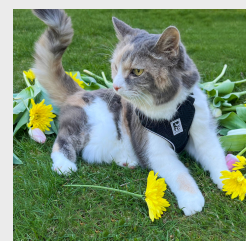
**30 second forever  
homes found**  
February 10, 2022



**we became a registered  
Canadian charity**  
March 22, 2022



**44 second forever  
homes found**  
May 18, 2022



**we celebrated  
our first anniversary**  
May 18, 2022

# OUR ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY SURPRISE

To celebrate our one year anniversary, we wanted to give back to our community for being so kind and trusting during our first year of operation. We decided to ask our community to nominate 10 animal-loving seniors and terminally ill people and we would surprise them on our one-year anniversary with a delivery of flowers, chocolates or balloons.

As soon as we announced the surprise, our community began to nominate seniors and terminally ill people they loved who would enjoy this surprise gift. Within the first few days, we had received 25 applications. We simply couldn't decide who to choose, so we decided to surprise all nominees.

On the morning of May 18, 2022, the gifts began to arrive. Each surprise made the recipient feel joy, love and appreciation, the same way we felt about our community during our first year of operation.

"I was tickled pink," said one senior lady. "It made my whole day."





# IN THE MEDIA

We are so fortunate to have been featured in People Magazine, CTV News, CBC News, The Chronicle Herald, Global News, Breakfast Television Toronto, Halifax Wire, Sickboy Podcast, Blog TO, The Dodo, Power of Positivity and more.

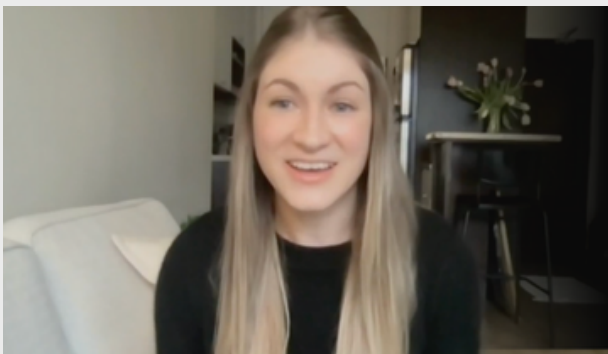
**This non-profit in Toronto is desperately trying to find homes for adorable cats**



blogTO



The Chronicle Herald



CTV Morning Live



The Dodo

People **EXCLUSIVE**

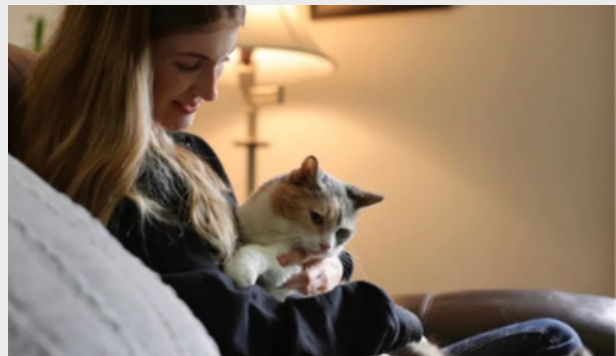
**Woman Starts Nonprofit to Help Senior and Terminally Ill Animal Lovers Find New Homes for Pets**

Angela Rafuse decided to start My Grandfather's Cat as a tribute to her late grandfather, who resisted going to the hospital because he didn't want to leave his wife's cat behind

By Michelle Boudin | January 10, 2022 05:26 PM



People Magazine



CBC News

# SUCCESS STORY

When their senior human passed away, Dori, Autumn and Mia were in need of a second forever home in Toronto, Ontario. Her daughter posted on her personal social media, but she knew it was going to be hard to find a special person willing to adopt all three of the senior gals together. That's when someone suggested she contact My Grandfather's Cat.

The daughter worked with our founder to write their profile and send it out to our community. While everyone worked hard to share the post, a month passed and that special human still wasn't found. Then, one Sunday afternoon, by nothing short of a miracle, My Grandfather's Cat was discovered by a journalist at blogTO, who wrote a story featuring the girls.

Meanwhile, Jane was sitting in her living room in Muskoka, Ontario, reading the news and came across the article. She saw the girls photo, and Dori's sweet face spoke to her. She knew the girls were meant to be hers.

She reached out to My Grandfather's Cat, along with other kind applicants, but it was decided that the girls truly belonged with Jane. They now are living their retirement years in Muskoka, spending every day in their cuddle puddle.





# SUCCESS STORY

When their human was diagnosed with terminal cancer and given six months to live, her first thought was "what is going to happen to my cats". She had adopted Koko and Lily from a local shelter six years ago in Truro, Nova Scotia. They were now 13 years old and had spent every day with her at her home in Halifax, Nova Scotia, ever since. She didn't know anyone that would be able to take them in and the idea of taking them to a shelter broke her heart.

While she spent the next four months making peace with her diagnosis, she still worried constantly about what would happen to her girls. Once she built up the courage, she contacted a local shelter hoping to make a plan for them. That's when the shelter recommended she contact My Grandfather's Cat.

Our founder, Angela, happily agreed to help find a family for when the time comes. They talked for an hour, until she mentioned she didn't use email and didn't have a way to send photos to My Grandfather's Cat. So, Angela drove to her home to take photos and write the girls profile.

Once it was posted, more than 20 applications came in, so Angela asked for help from our volunteer, Vivian. While Vivian interviewed applicants and gathered information, Angela drove to her home to provide the information to their human.

In the end, she made plans with a lovely family in Truro, Nova Scotia, to adopt them when the time comes. Until then, she will be spending her very last days with her two best friends by her side.



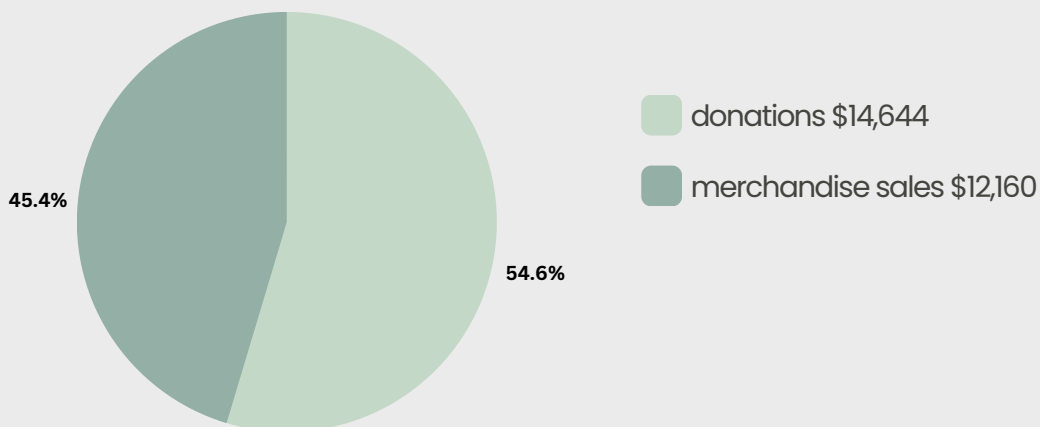
# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

My Grandfather's Cat is committed to being transparent and showing how your support is making a difference.

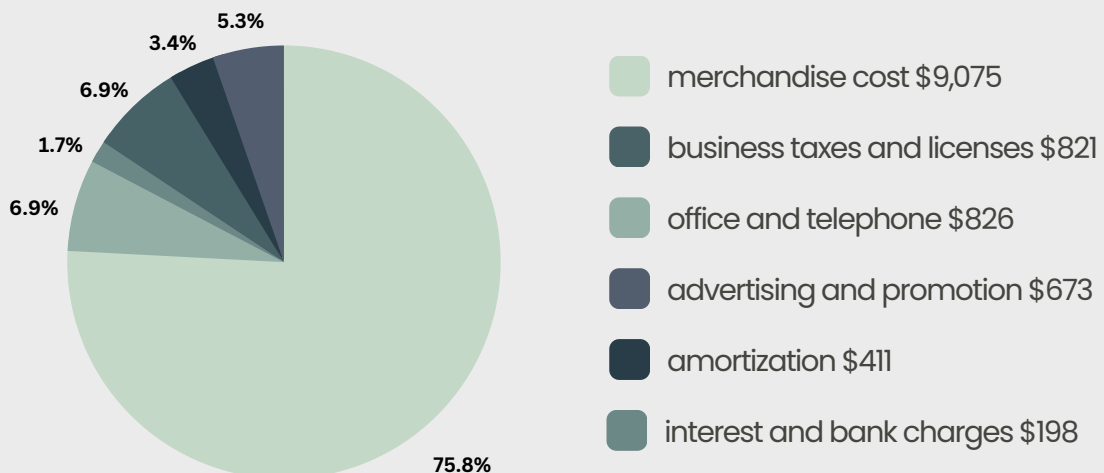
We began issuing tax receipts when we became a registered Canadian charity in March 2022. Tax receipts have been issued by our friends at CanadaHelps.

Our financial statements were prepared by Lyle Tilley Davidson Chartered Professional Accountants in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

## revenue



## expenses





# VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

In July 2021, My Grandfather's Cat began experiencing a high demand for our service across Canada, and decided to create a team of volunteers to help facilitate adoptions.

To date, we have 20 volunteers, including our founder, that are located in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. Each volunteer position is remote.

Each adoptable submission is first vetted by our founder before being passed along to an available volunteer. Volunteers each complete one adoption at a time, which includes an initial phone call with the family, writing the adoptables profile, interviewing potential applicants, and working with the family to choose an applicant.

Each adoption takes approximately 8-12 hours over 2-4 weeks. This is dependent on the number of applications received and the timeline for finding the animal a home.



# REASONS TO SUPPORT OUR WORK

## **One-of-a-Kind Service**

My Grandfather's Cat provides a unique service to help seniors and terminally ill people find homes for their pets. By not housing the animals, we are allowing them to stay with their human up until the very last day, providing comfort and companionship.

## **Relieves Pressure on Shelters**

Before My Grandfather's Cat, many animals who belonged to seniors and terminally ill people would end up in their local shelter. Through our service, we are relieving this pressure which was once on shelters.

## **No Adoption Fees**

We are proud to provide our service for free and not charge adoption fees. Our costs are covered through the generosity of donors and merchandise sales.





# DEDICATION

The work of My Grandfather's Cat is, and always will be, dedicated to our founder's grandparents, Esther and Byron Rafuse.

They were proud parents to three children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. They filled their home with love, laughter and animals, including many cats, dogs, birds, rabbits, chickens, and one pig named Oinky.

They loved when their home was filled with family, especially their birthdays, which is why Angela chose to launch the organization on her grandfather's birthday.

We know they are beaming with pride as they watch from high above the clouds.





My Grandfather's Cat  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
[mygrandfatherscat.ca](http://mygrandfatherscat.ca)

Charitable Registration  
76082 1264 RR0001



@mygrandfatherscat