

CATS

Lending a paw

Digby County feline fosters sought, but wheels are needed

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SALTWIRE NETWORK

WEYMOUTH, N.S. - A potential foster in Weymouth who would like to care for cats and kittens through a Digby County non-profit society is not permitted to do so because of the lack of a vehicle.

Last month, Aaryn Tremblay applied to the Society for the Friends of Ferals, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping control the overpopulation of cats by spaying and neutering feral and abandoned cats.

The society also catches feral kittens at a young age and arranges for them to be fostered until they are tame and adoptable.

Foster co-ordinator Linda Titus says fosters have to be available to take kittens to the vet if needed, so they do need to have a vehicle.

"The vets we work with are there 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday only. If a kitten gets sick they (fosters) need to be able to get it to a vet pretty quickly and also be able to take a little bit of time off work if they have to," she said.

Tremblay doesn't believe not having a vehicle should be an issue with fostering cats.

"First, I think that chances of having an emergency are rather low, unless for some reason a disease went unnoticed at a vet checkup and I ended up with a sickly cat," she said. "Secondly,



Since it began, the Society for the Friends of Ferals has had more than 1,000 cats surgically altered and rescued countless other cats and kittens that were found abandoned, and in many cases injured. **SUBMITTED**

there is public transportation and if an incident occurred when the bus system was not running, I could ask someone for a lift." The Society for the Friends of Ferals helps cats from Bear River

to Brier Island, including the Town of Digby. Since it began, the society has had more than 1,000 cats surgically altered and has rescued countless other cats and kittens that were found abandoned and, in many cases, injured. Funds for veterinary treatment and food are raised through sales of homemade crafts made by volunteers, donations, bequests, special fundraising events and grants from

the Municipality of Digby and the Town of Digby.

Titus says she's fostered for close to 35 years in Denver, Colorado, and that she always was required to have a vehicle.