



**PAWS FOR HOPE  
ANIMAL FOUNDATION**

**Network Partners**  
**Terms of  
Reference**

## **PURPOSE**

Paws for Hope Network Partners is a collection of volunteer members and a steering committee that supports strategies and initiatives associated with animal welfare in British Columbia.

## **MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA**

- Must be a subject matter expert (such a certified fear free trainer or veterinarian) , or represent a not-for-profit society registered under the BC Society Act and/or a registered charitable organization.
- Each person can represent only one organization (if belong to more than one organizations) or as an individual.
- Must be guided by and adhere to the principles of the “Five Freedoms” per the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies
  - Freedom from hunger and thirst—by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour.
  - Freedom from discomfort—by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
  - Freedom from pain, injury and disease—by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.
  - Freedom to express behaviours that promote well-being—by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal’s own kind.
  - Freedom from fear and distress—by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.
- Must abide by Paws for Hope Animal Foundation’s values and ethics.
- Must not have been charged, convicted and/or had animals seized through a warrant pursuant to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCAA), the Criminal Code or other provincial animal protection legislations.
- Must operate using standard accounting practices and make financial records available on request by Paws for Hope.
- Must apply best administrative and operational practices, and make documentation available on request by Paws for Hope, such as:
  - Intake and outgoing animal records
  - Animal health records
  - Policies and/or other documents relevant to the member organization

## **MEETINGS**

- Member meetings occur once a month via zoom.
- All meetings must be documented.

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Must maintain Network Partners membership in good standing (i.e. meet the membership criteria).
- Be an advocate and promote the work of Network Partner initiatives.
- Follow the Paws for Hope's code of ethics.
- Participate in continuing education on best practices and new concepts.
- Must adhere to and promote best practices in their own organizations.
- Member organizations and their representatives will not publicly criticize other member organizations and their representatives.
- Must agree to have member organization listed on the Paws for Hope website

## **GOVERNANCE**

- The Network Partner initiative is accountable to Paws for Hope Animal Foundation, through the Foundation's Executive Director, who reports to the Board.
- Conflict Resolution:
  - Conflicts amongst Network Partner members: If members cannot resolve the issue on their own, members may request the Paws for Hope Board of Directors to facilitate a resolution.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **NETWORK PARTNER MEMBER APPLICATIONS PROCESS:**

- Potential members can submit applications to Paws for Hope at any time of the year.
- There is no fee to become a Network Partner member.

### **NETWORK PARTNER MEMBER TERMINATION:**

- Failure to abide by Terms of Reference and Collaboration Agreement may result in termination of membership.
- Termination of a member will be decided by the Paws for Hope Board of Directors and requires a 6/8 vote, except if member has been charged with animal cruelty, which would result in automatic termination.
- Actions to be taken upon completion of inquiry:
  - Immediate termination
  - Continued suspension, pending completion of required corrective actions
  - Reinstatement of membership.