



Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary Accredited by Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries

First Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility in Canada to be Approved

February 6, 2025 (Rosseau, Ontario, Canada) – The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), the only globally recognized organization providing standards for identifying legitimate animal sanctuaries, awarded Accredited status to Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary (AVWS) as of January 27, 2025.

Accreditation means that AVWS meets the criteria of a true animal sanctuary and is providing humane and responsible care of the animals. To be awarded Accreditation, an organization must meet GFAS's rigorous and peer-reviewed animal care standards which are confirmed by a site visit and they must also adhere to a demanding set of ethical and operational principles. Accreditation also provides a clear and trusted means for the public, donors and grantors to recognize AVWS as an exceptional organization.

“We are thrilled to announce the Accreditation of Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, a highly ethical and skilled organization that rehabilitates and releases a host of Canadian species. For those animals deemed unable to be returned to the wild, Aspen Valley provides a peaceful permanent home in expansive natural habitats,” said Kristin Leppert, GFAS Program Director-Wildlife. “AVWS is the first GFAS certified wildlife rehabilitation center in Canada and we are grateful for their commitment to the protection and preservation of wildlife in need of a second chance.”

“We are deeply honored to receive this prestigious accreditation, which affirms our commitment to providing the highest standards of care for the animals.” said Linda Glimps, Executive Director, Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary. “This recognition from GFAS not only acknowledges the hard work and dedication of our team, it reinforces our commitment to putting wildlife first. It also signals to the public, our donors and partners that we are dedicated to achieving meaningful, long-term impact in animal welfare.”

About Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries

Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the sole purpose of strengthening and supporting the work of animal sanctuaries, rescues, and rehabilitation centers worldwide. The goal of GFAS in working with and assisting these animal care

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facilities is to ensure they are supported, honored, recognized and rewarded for meeting important criteria in providing care to the animals in residence. GFAS was founded in 2007 by animal protection leaders from a number of different organizations in response to virtually unchecked and often hidden exploitation of animals for human entertainment and financial profit. The GFAS Board of Directors guides the organization's work in a collaborative manner. www.sanctuaryfederation.org.

About Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary (AVWS) is a Canadian registered charity dedicated to keeping wildlife wild. With over 50 years of experience, the Sanctuary specializes in rehabilitating sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife, and returning them to their natural habitats. AVWS also provides forever homes for native species that cannot be released due to human interference. Their education programs raise awareness about living in harmony with wildlife, encouraging the public to understand and protect local ecosystems. As a not-for-profit, AVWS relies on the generosity of its supporters to continue its critical work. Donations, volunteer time, and community-driven fundraisers help sustain the Sanctuary's programs. To learn more or contribute, please visit www.aspenvalley.ca. AVWS is also proud to be the only facility in Ontario actively rehabilitating moose and is a leader in caring for semi-aquatic mammals. Your support helps ensure a future where wildlife thrives.

Photographs of wildlife in care at Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary have been attached. All Images Credit Follow Me North Photography.

Video available upon request.

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