



The Canadian Foundation  
for Animal Assisted Support Services

# Animal-Assisted Services A Burgeoning Sector

## Fostering Learning Communities & Sector Innovation.



**1995 - 1997**

The Foundation's Founder & CEO discovered a number of gaps & systemic challenges within this unregulated, but promising sector. As a disability advocate and participant of National Access Awareness Week she was invited to meet with the event steering committee to discuss their mutual concerns. When asked what needed to change she suggested that it would be great if a national organization was created to fill the gaps and connect the dots.

To her surprise, shortly thereafter, she was presented with a cheque to put the wheels in motion.



**1998 - 2021**

Formation of a national non-profit organization in 1998. In 2003 the organization applied for a public foundation designation with CRA. The application was approved in 2004. In 2019 the charity transitioned from a public foundation to a registered charity to focus on developing its charitable programs.

[Read more...](#)



**2021 Notices of Intent**

On February 25, 2021 Standards Council of Canada (SCC) announced the Foundation's intentions to develop four National Standards of Canada (NSC) in partnership with HRSO an accredited Standards Development Organization (SDO).

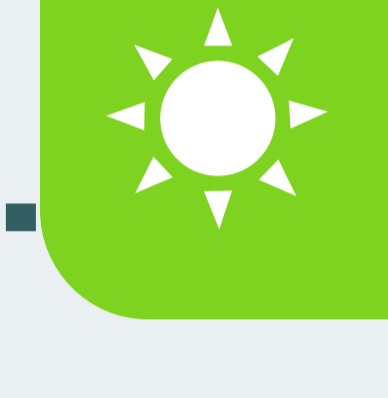
[Read more...](#)



### One Health for People, Pets, and Partners™

"Animal-Assisted Services (AAS) are mutually beneficial relationships that nurture One Health for People, Pets, and Partners™.

Health in this context includes the physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being of people of all ages and the welfare of pets and other animals in service."  
[www.cf4aass.org](http://www.cf4aass.org)



**Uniting & Engaging Communities, Service Providers, Disciplines & Sectors to promote quality, public safety, the well-being of Canadians, and animal welfare.**



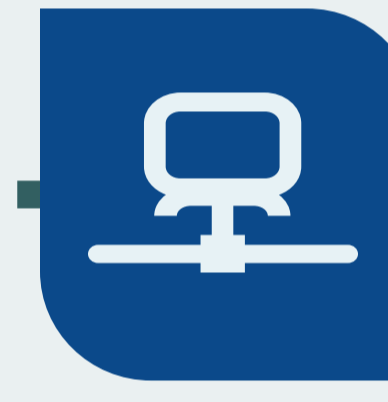
### The Process

- Information sessions
- Solicitation of prospective Technical Committee (TC) Members
- Selection of balanced TC Members
- Training including, but not limited to the standards development process, roles, and responsibilities [Read more..](#)



### Standards Development

- The Human Research Standards Organization (HRSO) will guide the development of National Standards of Canada (NSC)
- Following public consultation the TC will revise the draft NSC if required
- HRSO then submits the final NSC to Standards Council of Canada (SCC) for approval and publication



### Published Standards

- Promote the NSC
- NSC can be accessed by interested stakeholders for educational purposes, to inform choices, & promote best practices
- NSC can be referenced in legislation/regulation & inform public policy
- If referenced, NSC can become mandatory
- NSC not referenced in legislation are voluntary



### Together Everyone Achieves More

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Mahatma Gandhi



### Voluntary Conformity

- Introduction to types of conformity assessment options
- First party
- Second party
- Third party



### Maintaining Quality

National Standards of Canada (NSC) are reviewed every three to five years to ensure relevance and usefulness



### About Us

The Canadian Foundation for Animal-Assisted Support Services (CFAS) is an impartial national registered charity. We promote and support the well-being of Canadians and the welfare of pets and other animals involved in the delivery of services.

CFAS connects and collaborates with communities, service providers, disciplines and sectors to pay forward the human-animal bond, the gift that keeps on giving.

CFAS fosters unity in diversity to enhance and cultivate Canada's burgeoning Animal-Assisted Services Sector.

[Please Get Involved!](#)



### Benefits of National Standards of Canada (NSC)

- Protect end-users & consumer interests
- Ensure the welfare of animals involved in the delivery of services
- Cultivate a skilled workforce, enhanced credibility, & ongoing innovation
- Work collaboratively to meet the needs of consumers, end-users, & multiple stakeholders
- Educate the public, donors, sponsors & other funders