

HAMILTON AVIARY EST. 1927

Mission

Thee Friends of the Aviary aims to establish a vibrant, healthy, attractive avian exhibit in the city, where the citizens of Hamilton will have the opportunity to volunteer and interact with these amazing creatures, educate and delight visitors, and be a source of pride for the City of Hamilton.



Vision

- To be a leading example in the care for exotic birds
- To be a comprehensive community centre that engages the community and citizens of Hamilton
- To be a worthwhile, encouraging place to volunteer
- To run frequent events, activities, and outreach, engaging and involving the community of Hamilton with these birds and their care





- To educate visitors about environmental destruction and habitat loss
- To educate all our visitors on the responsibility and work required to take care of exotic birds
- To add an aviary experience to the list of unique and wonderful recreational activities that Hamilton has to offer



Our Inspiration

- Aviaries around the world are significantly and successfully run by volunteers in the community
- They are very active in their community

 - SchoolsAt-risk youth programs
 - Event outreach
 - Educational opportunities
- Notable positive impact on the community
- Mutually beneficial relationship if Aviary is connected to another attraction





Vet's Input

- Dr. Shannon Lee mentions that rehoming these birds is unrealistic and difficult
- Homes failed a significant amount of our birds prior to coming to the aviary due to home-incompatible behavior. Other birds have never been pets.
- There is a long list of birds that need to be rehomed in the community for a wide range of reasons. Our birds are no different than those birds. Many birds will go through 2-3 homes, if they're lucky, and if not, they can end up dead via euthanization

Closed Flock

- Birds can easily become carriers of diseases if exposed to other birds
- If the flock were separated and brought back together once an new aviary is constructed, they risk exposing the rest of the flock to the disease



OSPCA

- The city states that they are legally responsible for the OSPCA orders and we were not able to address of the orders
- As of November 6th, 2017, the city-hired exterminator has come in and started the vet-approved bait program
- Volunteers already note a significant drop in the signs of mice



OSPCA

- As of November 8th, 2017, a quote has gone out for the full-spectrum lighting
- OSPCA notes that if incomplete, extensions on order deadlines may be issued if there are signs of progress



OSPCA-Our actions

- Notifying our city contact that poison bait is safe to use with the birds
- Improving enrichment levels of aviary: Fundraised and purchased toys, necessary for birds mental wellbeing
- Had Skedaddle quote for mice control ready 4 days after Public Works Meeting





Our Promise to You

- 1. The FOA will work at fulfilling its vision of being a centre for the community: a valuable and engaging learning tool for schools and other youth programs, a place of enjoyment for families and volunteers, a shining example of healthy and interactive bird care, a place where people can appreciate these amazing creatures.
- 2. The FOA will work towards its tourism goals, increasing awareness through marketing, social media, and reaching out to advertising in public. The FOA will also update their public image, their website and logo in collaboration with Chris Farias.



Our Promise to You

- 3. The FOA will cut down on costs by reaching out to old and new contacts for donations and discounts, including shops, companies, and the public. This is already in effect
 - Food used to be donated year-round by Hagen
 - Petsmart Charities
 - The Urban Zoo
- 4. The FOA will increase day-to-day revenue by running successful donation drives (with the coaching of professionals), running frequent aviary tours, partnering up with the community for events and opportunities, raising awareness of the aviary, and selling feathers and other products.

Our Long-Term Plan

- The FOA will write and apply for grants, collaborate with professional fundraisers and marketers, and collaborate with a professional experienced with constructing aviaries and transporting birds to raise funds and draft a plan for a new aviary.
 - Have commitment from professionals currently in discussion with professional fundraisers



Our Long-Term Plan

- The new aviary will be in a very accessible and public location.
 We are exploring options such as Gage Park, Victoria Park, among others.
- This will most likely be on the scale of a few million dollars, which
 we are prepared to raise. We predict that this will take 3 to 5
 years to raise funds, draft, execute, and construct the new aviary.





We Propose

- 1. We propose the FOA and the City meet to update the FOA-City agreement.
 - a. FOA gaining full responsibility and ownership of the birds and their care.
 - b. Discuss being moved from under Horticulture to Tourism.



Short-term Proposal: Option One

- To our understanding, although the building is old, there are no immediate structural concerns with the current building
- We propose the FOA and the birds remain at the current location while we fundraise and construct a new building
- Our estimated timeline for this is 3-5 years
- If required the FOA is willing to take over the lease with the RBG from the City

Short-term Proposal: Option One

 Current Action: We met with Mark Runcimen, CEO of RBG, on October 30th to discuss the lease. Mark stated that he would need to discuss it with RBG's board and further discussion with the City is needed as they are currently on the lease



Short-term Proposal: Option Two

- We propose that the FOA is given one year at the current building in order to find a healthy and suitable alternative building to remain at, until a permanent aviary is funded and built
- The FOA will be responsible for the lease
- Done in past successfully cages built to move

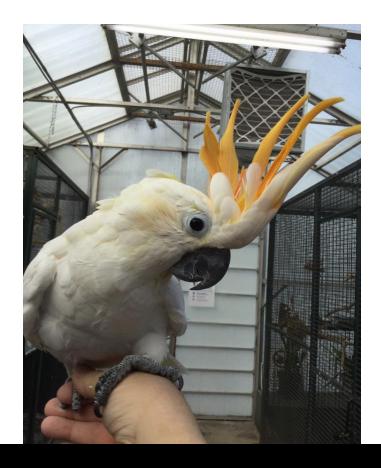


Short-term Proposal: Option Two

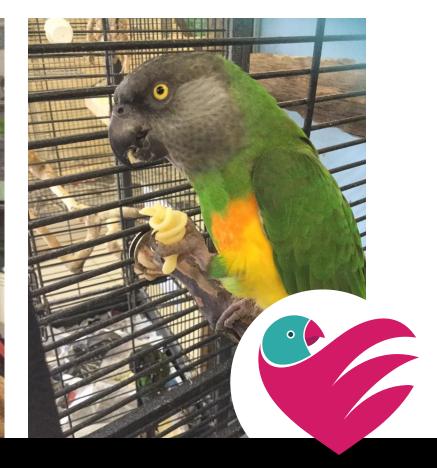
 Current Action: The FOA has been reaching out to suitable empty buildings and greenhouses in the Hamilton region. At the time of writing this presentation, we have drafted one proposal to an owner of an empty greenhouse



Some of our Residents











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