

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Lakelands Public Health and Community Partners Offer Reduced-Cost Rabies Clinic**

*Regional clinics are setup to support animal health ensuring pets remain protected.*

**(September 8, 2026)** – [Lakelands Public Health](https://lakelandsph.ca) is gearing up for its fall campaign of reduced-cost rabies vaccination clinics. Partnering with local animal welfare organizations and veterinary clinics across the regions, this initiative ensures pets are protected, while reducing financial barriers for pet owners. This in turn protects the health of the public in our region through prevention of rabies.

“For many residents, pets provide friendship, comfort, and companionship every day, but there is a financial stress for some pet owners,” said Richard Ovcharovich, Manager of Environmental Health with Lakelands Public Health. “These reduced-rate rabies vaccination clinics make it easier for pet owners to keep their animals healthy and protected from rabies, while supporting a safer community for everyone.”

While human cases are extremely rare in Canada thanks to prevention in animals and management of human exposures, rabies still kills an estimated 59,000 people worldwide. World Rabies Day will be held September 28<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness and improve prevention. Rabies is a preventable but fatal viral disease that affects the nervous system of mammals, including humans. While bats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes are the wildlife species most linked to rabies in Ontario, unvaccinated pets and livestock can also become infected. Exposure can occur through bites, scratches, or contact between infected saliva and broken skin or other vulnerable areas of the body. Keeping pets vaccinated is one of the most effective ways to protect animals, their owners, and the community from rabies.

Under Ontario Regulation 567 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, all cats, dogs, and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies at three months of age and remain up to date with regular vaccination throughout their lives.

### **Reduced-cost rabies vaccination clinics will be offered at the following locations:**

- September 19 | 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Cardiff Community Center - Hosted by Dr. Hima
- September 19 | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Wilberforce Community Center - Hosted by Dr. Himan
- October 2 | 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Pine Ridge Veterinary Clinic
- October 3 | 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. | Presqu’ile Animal Hospital\*
- October 3 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Omemee Veterinary Hospital
- October 3 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Fenelon Animal Clinic
- October 3 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Alderville First Nation Community Centre\*
- October 17 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Lakefield Animal Welfare Society\*

\*Clinic also offers microchipping

The reduce rate for the rabies vaccine is \$40 and some clinics are also offering microchipping at a reduced rate ranging between \$40-\$60. When attending a clinic, dogs must be leashed and cats must be in carriers or otherwise securely restrained. Owners should bring proof of previous rabies vaccination if available.

These clinics do not include a full veterinary examination. Pet owners are encouraged to schedule regular veterinary appointments to ensure their pets receive comprehensive care.

For more information about rabies and clinic details, please visit [LakelandsPH.ca/RabiesClinics](https://LakelandsPH.ca/RabiesClinics)

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**About Lakelands Public Health**

Lakelands Public Health serves the County of Haliburton, the City of Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland County, and the City and County of Peterborough. The organization works to protect health, prevent illness and injury, and promote overall well-being for everyone who lives, works, and learns in the region, including urban and rural communities as well as Alderville, Curve Lake, and Hiawatha First Nations.

Established through the voluntary merger of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and Peterborough Public Health, Lakelands Public Health combines local knowledge, public health expertise, and a strong community focus to deliver programs and services that respond to local needs. These include infectious disease prevention and control, healthy living initiatives, environmental health, school and family health programs, and emergency preparedness. For more information, visit [LakelandsPH.ca](https://LakelandsPH.ca).