

Sanctuary Takes In All Kinds Of Farm Animals; New Registered Charitable Status Will Help It Grow Sustainably, Owner Says

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Campbellford – A western Ontario woman moved east two years ago changing her future, and that of a variety of farm animals she has since rescued.

While Kat Krylov continues to be a graphic designer, she works from her farm on Burnbrae Road East near Campbellford, runs a small B&B there, and has taken in a menagerie of farm animals, including guard dogs and cats.

It started with one rooster who was being aggressive to a friend's children and has grown, through word-ofmouth, to a total of 78 animals and poultry. That group includes five sheep, eight horses, two goats, a similar number of pot-bellied pigs, plus ducks, chickens, four dogs and five cats.

Her lifestyle change occurred after Krylov's grown daughter moved out. For years, she had boarded her horses and this seemed "like the perfect time for me to find land of my own," she said during an interview looking through kitchen windows over hilly pastures, a forest and a pond.

Krylov's search took her eastward from Cambridge where land was expensive, across Ontario, to where it was more affordable in the Campbelford area, she said.

"It was by accident," she discovered this former goat-and-mushroom farm but it was a perfect location for her, she said.

"Now it's just me and my animals."

Krylov's website https://www.promisedlandsanctuary.org/about-us describes her farm as a "refuge for animals who have been neglected, abused or forgotten.

"We care for horses, chickens, ducks, pigs, goats, sheep, dogs and cats...all our farm friends receive lifelong care and shelter. While we do adopt some animals to appropriate homes, we also provide a permanent home to those who need it."

One common request is for new homes for pot-bellied pigs. People buy them as small, indoor pets and they are very intelligent and can be trained, she said, but they grow large and are no longer a house pet, and many places don't have zoning that permits them.

At this time, however, she said she cannot increase the number of them on the farm, or any animals for that matter, until she receives more support.

In addition to her own resources, Krylov has received donations and support from individuals, plus some physical labour from Trent University students who come out periodically - but without more financial and physical support, she said she has reached her limit and cannot shelter any additional rescues.

With that realization, Krylov set about researching how to become a registered charitable status and on November of this year, achieved it.

She proudly displays her number, #784783516 RR 0001, on her website.

The site also lists the types of animal care items needed which includes everything from hay and straw to minerals, wormer and medical wraps. There is also a need for larger items, including used ones like a used tractor, manure spreader or a horse trailer.

With registered charitable status, Krylov's mission is to create sustainability for the future along with "providing love, shelter, quality nutrition and the best possible veterinary care."

She also wants to educate the public. To that end, farm tours are already available.

In the future, the 48-year-old hopes to fence parts of the forest so her animals have access to this, too.

In addition, Krylov's future goal is to build two cabins in her woods and have summer camps for children where they can learn about nature and animal care.

While her lifelong dream of living and working with farm animals has been achieved, her goals of involving more people and helping more animals are still out there.

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