

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE GREAT WALK

All Together for Our Community Cats (Our Strays)

April 4, 2026, at noon | Montréal, Québec City, Sherbrooke, Mont-Laurier, and Îles-de-la-Madeleine.

Québec, February 23, 2026

An Urgent Citizen Mobilization to End Feline Overpopulation

Feline overpopulation in Québec remains a major animal welfare issue. It is estimated that nearly one million cats live outdoors, exposed to hunger, disease, injury, and the many dangers of life on the streets. Despite efforts undertaken in several communities, the lack of a coordinated, province-wide approach continues to limit the overall impact of existing initiatives.

This situation does not begin on the street. It results from human decisions, including the lack of sterilization, abandonment, and the absence of a consistent, province-wide regulatory framework. While citizens, organizations, and municipalities are making efforts, addressing this reality requires coordinated, structured action focused on prevention, accountability, and ethical population management.

It is in this context that **The Great Walk for Our Community Cats** will take place on **April 4, 2026, at noon**, with simultaneous walks in **Montréal, Québec City, Sherbrooke, Mont-Laurier, and Îles-de-la-Madeleine**.

This citizen-led mobilization aims to bring visibility to a reality that is too often overlooked and to emphasize the importance of shared responsibility and a long-term vision.

Why We Walk

The Great Walk for Our Community Cats was born out of a shared observation:

- The uncontrolled and growing number of stray and community cats across Québec.
- Animal shelters and rescue organizations operating at full capacity.
- Limited financial resources to support spaying and neutering.
- The physical and mental toll on rescues, shelters, volunteers, and farms.
- The constant dangers faced by cats living outdoors.
- The need to raise public awareness of this reality and of our collective responsibility.

Clear and Practical Calls to Action

Through this walk, organizers are calling for concrete measures to address feline overpopulation at its source:

- Mandatory spaying and neutering of owned cats, with affordable options and a clear, province-wide regulatory framework.
- Free spaying and neutering of all community and stray cats throughout Québec.
- Provincial government funding to support municipalities in implementing effective and sustainable spay-neuter and responsible adoption programs.
- Mandatory identification (microchipping) of owned cats as a tool for accountability and the prevention of abandonment.
- Concrete public awareness initiatives addressing the causes and consequences of feline overpopulation, as well as the responsibilities associated with adoption.

A Calm and Inclusive Civic Mobilization

The Great Walk for Our Community Cats is a peaceful, inclusive, and accessible citizen initiative. It is not a protest, but a collective call for responsibility and compassion.

Protecting cats begins with human accountability. By working together — citizens, municipalities, and governments — lasting solutions can be implemented to bring an end to feline homelessness in Québec.

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