



# Callander Animal Wellness Centre

Earlier this month, the Callander Animal Hospital opened a branch in East Ferris, the Callander Animal Wellness Centre. Both the Callander Animal Hospital and the Callander Animal Wellness Centre are owned and operated by Dr. Neil Lawrence, a licenced veterinarian, and his wife, Meghan Lawrence, the director of operations. Dr. Neil has been a practising veterinarian since he moved to North Bay in 2005. After thirteen years of honing his craft, he purchased the Callander Animal Hospital in 2018.

The Wellness Centre is situated upon fourteen acres of beautiful grounds just North of Highway 17 on Centennial Crescent. It has 1 km of trails available for clients to walk their dogs (with a leash), a dog park, kennels, as well as an underwater treadmill. At the Wellness Centre, they offer a variety of services, including vaccines, nutritional care, physiotherapy, mobility exercises, euthanasia, behavioural training, day boarding, and night boarding (for cats only).

When asked what advice Meghan and Neil had for future entrepreneurs, they said that while everything may not always go according to plan, it is good to pursue your dreams and stick with your intentions. They also spoke about the importance of working with local businesses. This is something they themselves practice as the Callander Animal Hospital is partnered with five other veterinarian clinics in the area to offer around the clock emergency services.

East Ferris, North Bay, and the surrounding area are suffering from an acute shortage of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and assistants. The staff at the Wellness Centre have adapted to this challenge by implementing a hybrid business model, which allows veterinarian technicians and assistants to coordinate with a remote veterinarian and more effectively meet the needs of our community and pets.

The Wellness Centre is now accepting new clients; however, priority will be given to those locals without veterinarian care.

With the cutest patients in town, we are delighted for them to have joined us!

