



August 10, 2017

## **REWARD OFFERED: Raccoon severely burned in Barrie**

***Wildlife non-profit offers \$1,000 for identification, conviction in case***

HAMILTON, ON – A reward is being offered in the case of a raccoon who was severely burned in a Barrie-area park this week. Wildlife protection non-profit The Fur-Bearers believes members of the public may know who is responsible for the extreme suffering of the young animal.

The 3- to 4-month-old raccoon was taken to Procyon Wildlife Centre in Beeton by a Barrie resident on August 6. Severe burns across his face and body have left the raccoon in extreme pain, which is being managed by the wildlife rehabilitators as part of her treatment. He is currently in critical condition.

“There are a lot of questions about what happened to this poor boy,” says Michael Howie, spokesperson for The Fur-Bearers. “If this was a case of intentional cruelty, it is paramount that the public come forward so investigators can identify and charge the person or persons responsible.”

The young raccoon was found near Huronia North Park in Barrie, and it is believed the injuries were sustained on either Saturday, August 5, or Sunday, August 6.

“We are extremely grateful that a concerned resident brought him into the Procyon Wildlife Centre, and eternally thankful that such good people stand ready to help injured, ill, and orphaned animals in our communities,” says Howie. “We expect that the public will see how disturbing this case is, and report any information to police.”

Anyone with information is asked to contact Barrie Police at 705-725-7025.

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The Fur-Bearers is a national non-profit based in Vancouver. It was formed in 1953 and advocates on behalf of fur-bearing animals in the wild and in confinement, and promotes co-existence with wildlife. More about their history and campaigns can be found at [thefurbearers.com](http://thefurbearers.com).

Attached photos can be attributed to Procyon Wildlife Centre.

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