2016 WINNER!

PETS + US® presents the 2016

CHAMPION AWARDS

a celebration of **pet owner** happiness

VOLUNTEER: SHANE BATEMAN

LOCATION: GUELPH, ON

I would like to nominate Dr. Shane Bateman, veterinarian and co-director of Community Veterinary Outreach, for a Champion Award. Shane has been a dedicated volunteer, organizing and facilitating veterinary outreach clinics in the Kitchener-Waterloo and Hamilton regions as well as Kettle and Stony Point First Nation (near Sarnia) over the last several years. These clinics support pet loving owners with limited financial means the option of low-to-no cost veterinary care for their pets. Some clinics also offer "people" health care (in partnership with public health and social services) for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, taking a "one health and welfare" approach. Organizing such clinics requires compassion, dedication, and leadership, and the ability to build interdisciplinary and culturally sensitive relationships to achieve good outcomes. As a professor at the Ontario Veterinary College, mentoring our future veterinarians, Shane has expanded the curriculum to include an outreach rotation, helping students understand through firsthand experience what their role is in caring for the marginalized in society. Shane also volunteers with the Guelph Humane Society as a member of the Board of Directors, contributing countless hours to the direction and development of this registered charitable organization that serves approximately 3,000 animals in need per year. His fundraising initiatives have raised not only funds for animal care but also the profile of the Guelph Humane Society in the community. Caring for the marginalized -- making a difference in the lives of needy people and pets through the Community Veterinary Outreach and the Guelph Humane Society -- exemplifies the heart of who this veterinarian is. He is a veterinarian with many talents; perhaps the one that most distinguishes him is the talent of volunteerism -- the gift of giving to others to make their worlds a better place. It's a gift worth giving... and it's worth giving the Champion Award for volunteerism to Dr. Shane Bateman.