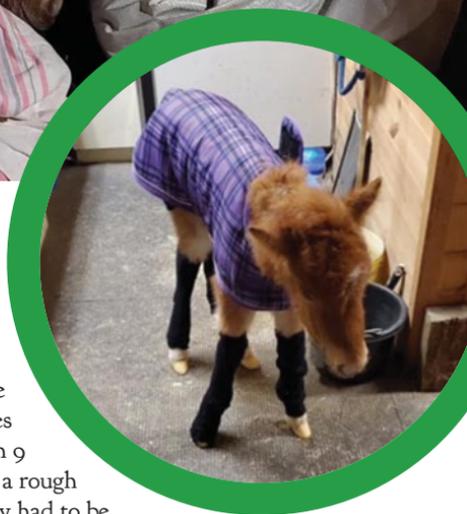




Hope for Rory The First Foal of 2021

They say that that hope creeps in when we least expect it. In the case of a wee foal named Rory, we know this is true. On February 17, one of the mares we rescued from a property in Ontario (along with 9 others) gave birth to an unexpected foal. He's had a rough start to life and he's not out of the woods yet. Rory had to be separated from his mother for feeding as she's too dangerous to work around. She has spent years unhandled and hasn't had many positive interactions with humans. She's a reactive mare who kicks when she feels threatened. Over time she will learn to trust again but the arrival of her foal has not been easy.



Little Rory was nursing from a bottle but has since developed a joint infection. He has never been very strong and 3 days after his birth, the local vet advised that we take him to the CHUV Hospital in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec where he will get the care he needs. It will cost between \$4000-\$6000 in vet bills and we know there are no guarantees. It was a difficult decision, but this is a critically endangered breed and each foal is important. The impossible question is always what to do? The owner who adopted the mare was not prepared for a foal and we are helping as best we can with the costs.

At the time of the drafting of this article, CHUV reported that Rory is much improved; he's drinking, peeing and pooping with no fever! His left hind coffin joint doesn't need surgery, at this time. The most concerning issue is that he can't get up or lie down on his own – this appears to be an issue with his hock.

Rory means 'red-haired king' in Irish. He's our little King as the first Newfoundland Pony foal of 2021. On this the 40th anniversary of the Newfoundland Pony Society, we hope to create as much awareness as possible for this critically endangered breed. Extinction is forever and the Newfoundland Pony deserves better. Thanks to all who donated and sent well wishes for Rory. We will update you and hope Rory pulls through.

For more information please visit

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