



Ikea monkey trial set to wrap up today with more testimony from sanctuary owner

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A small monkey wearing a winter coat and a diaper apparently looks for its owners at an IKEA in Toronto on Sunday Dec. 9, 2012. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO, Bronwyn Page

OSHAWA, Ont. – The Ikea monkey trial is set to wrap up today after court has heard from both the woman who calls herself his “mom” and the owner of the sanctuary where he’s currently living.

Darwin the monkey escaped from a locked crate in Yasmin Nakhuda’s car in December while she was shopping at an Ikea in Toronto and he was sent by Toronto animal services to Story Book Farm Primate Sanctuary in Sunderland, Ont.

Nakhuda has sued the sanctuary in an attempt to get Darwin back and broke down in tears on the stand last month as she described their mother-and-son bond.

Meanwhile, Sherri Delaney, the owner of the sanctuary, has testified that legally she is Darwin’s owner now as Nakhuda signed a form surrendering her ownership.

Nakhuda alleges animal services officers misled her about the form’s true purpose, suggesting it was only a temporary surrender.

Delaney is set to be cross-examined today, then lawyers for both sides will make their closing submissions and the judge will likely reserve her decision for a later date.