

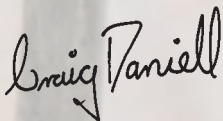
## Dear Friends,

**The mission of the BC SPCA** is to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia. We are exceptionally proud that for 120 years we have spoken for all animals and, through our Strategic Plan, will continue to significantly improve the welfare of all our province's most vulnerable animals.

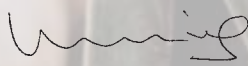
On the pages that follow we have highlighted just a few of the goals you have helped us reach this past year, all of which have had a profoundly positive impact on the lives of homeless, abused and injured animals in British Columbia and across Canada. In the past year, new standards for the dairy cattle industry have become law and the provincial government has recently announced it will regulate the breeding of cats and dogs in our province. These are far-reaching changes that will benefit millions of animals. The Government of British Columbia also provided \$5 million in funding for the BC SPCA's Facilities Development and Services Plan, an eight-year plan to replace or renovate 10 facilities across the province. This contribution, together with your incredible support, has allowed projects to be completed in Surrey and Kelowna and very soon in Nanaimo, with others already on the drawing board.

We would like to thank our dedicated staff and volunteers who give so selflessly of their time and energy to make this a better world for animals, and to you, our amazing supporters, for your belief in the essential work that we do throughout the province and across Canada.

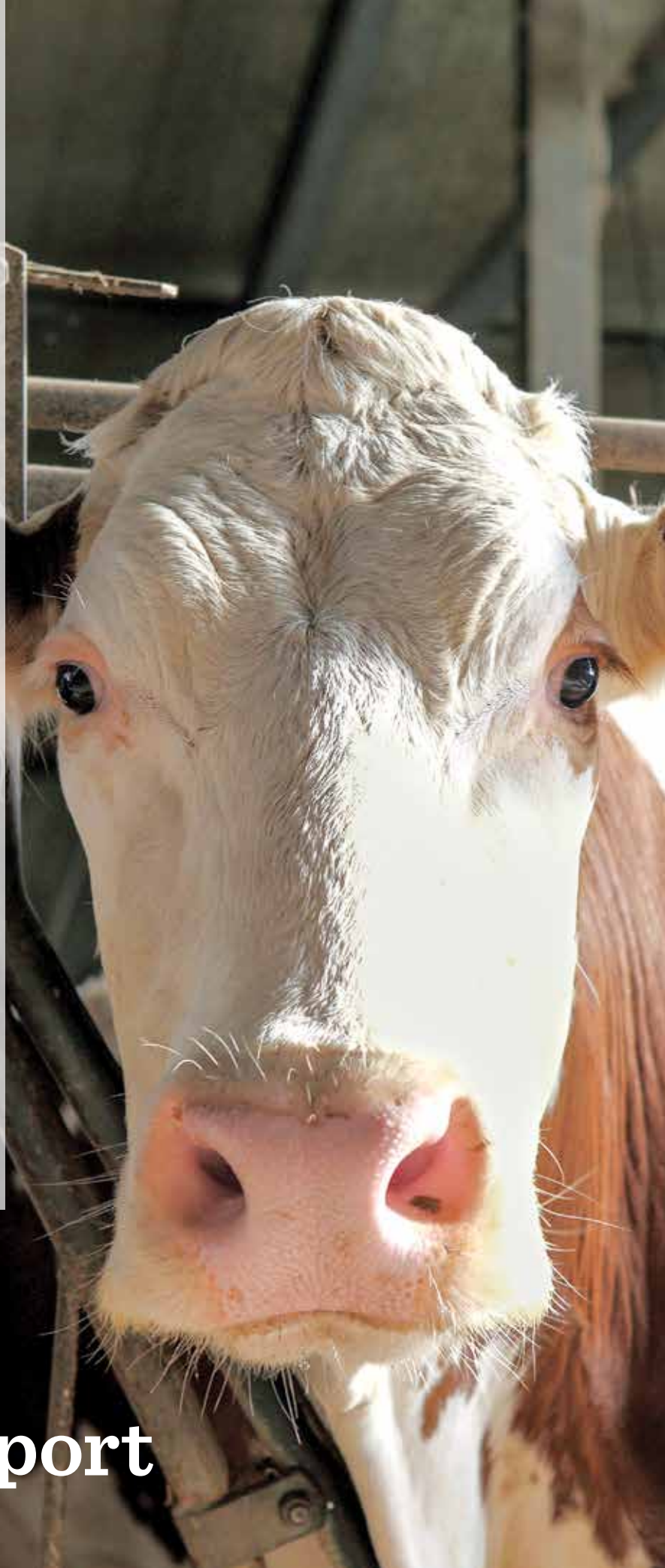
With sincere appreciation,



Craig Daniell  
Chief Executive Officer  
BC SPCA



Marylee Davies  
President  
BC SPCA

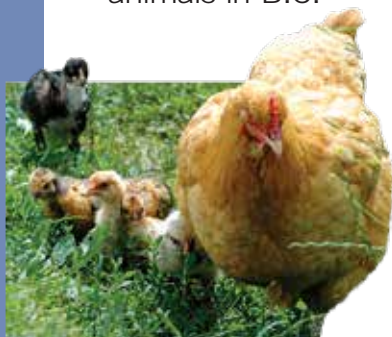


# BCSPCA 2015 Annual Report

# BC SPCA's Mission and Vision

## OUR MISSION

To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in B.C.



## OUR VISION

To inspire and mobilize society to create a world in which all animals who depend on humans for their well-being experience, as a minimum, five essential freedoms:

- 1 **Freedom from hunger and thirst**
- 2 **Freedom from pain, injury and disease**
- 3 **Freedom from distress**
- 4 **Freedom from discomfort**
- 5 **Freedom to express behaviours that promote well-being**



## Emergency shelter and care

*With your generous support, the BC SPCA provided emergency medical care and shelter for nearly 28,000 abused, injured, homeless and neglected animals last year and helped another 14,000 community animals through pet food banks, free veterinary clinics and low-cost spay/neuter programs. Staff and volunteers at our 36 branches across B.C. and our wildlife rehabilitation centre (Wild ARC) in Metchosin work tirelessly to ensure that B.C.'s most vulnerable animals receive the best emergency treatment, shelter, rehabilitation and compassionate care possible.*



DIRECT CARE FOR ANIMALS	2015	2014	2013
Total number of animals assisted across B.C. (including community outreach programs)	43,249	42,244	41,691
Injured, abused, homeless and surrendered animals cared for in BC SPCA branches	27,187	25,942	24,636
Lost pets reunited with their guardians	3,949	3,829	3,742
Animals adopted into loving homes	15,811	15,335	14,259
Animals transported through BC SPCA Drive for Lives program	4,994	4,739	3,285
Injured and orphaned wildlife rescued at Wild ARC, the BC SPCA wildlife rehabilitation centre in Metchosin	2,937	2,508	2,298





## Humane education

Helping youth develop compassion and empathy for all living things is at the heart of the BC SPCA's humane education programs. In 2015, the society delivered humane education materials to every elementary school and library in the province (2,140), reached thousands of children through more than 400 school presentations and school-based animal clubs, offered summer camps for 1,400 children, engaged nearly 6,000 youth through the BC SPCA Kids Club, provided school holiday workshops for 450 children and provided humane education lesson ideas and resources to 5,129 educators.



## BC PET REGISTRY

In April 2015, the BC SPCA launched the BC Pet Registry ([bcpetregistry.ca](http://bcpetregistry.ca)), an innovative centralized database for pets who receive permanent identification at any BC SPCA shelter, veterinarian or microchip clinic across the province. Since its launch, more than 17,000 animals have been registered in the system, enabling them to be quickly reunited with their anxious guardians should they become lost.

## Protecting animals from abuse

**THE BC SPCA** is the only animal welfare organization with the mandate and authority to respond to complaints of animal cruelty in B.C. Our special constables work closely with pet guardians to provide information and guidance on the humane and responsible treatment of animals and, thankfully, most of the complaints we receive are resolved through education and support. However, if individuals do not take steps to immediately relieve the distress of their animals, our special provincial constables (28 full-time, one part-time, two auxiliary and one branch-based) execute warrants to remove animals from dangerous or neglectful situations and prepare reports for Crown counsel recommending formal charges of animal cruelty. All of our cruelty investigations costs are paid through the generosity of our donors.

The creation of our provincial Call Centre and animal abuse hotline in March 2013 has led to a significant increase in individuals reporting cases of suspected animal cruelty and neglect across the province. To report animal cruelty in your community, please call the hotline at **1-855-622-7722 (1-855-6BC-SPCA)**.

CALLS TO PROVINCIAL CALL CENTRE	2015	2014
Total calls	25,923	21,746
Reports of animal cruelty	49%	52%
Assistance with wildlife issues	25%	27%
General enquiries	21%	21%
Pet Registry enquiries	5%	N/A

CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS ACTIVITIES	2015	2014	2013
Number of animal cruelty complaints investigated	10,205	8,848	7,839
Animals removed from their owners	1,110	1,276	1,340
Number of warrants executed under the Criminal Code of Canada, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act or the Offense Act	148	160	102
Charges of animal cruelty and neglect submitted to Crown counsel	53	53	23

## BC SPCA online

The BC SPCA's online community grew significantly in 2015 with thousands of our supporters connecting with us through our social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and YouTube), our website and e-newsletters to share their animal stories and to find out the latest news on SPCA advocacy campaigns, animals available for adoption, pet care information and animal welfare.



ONLINE SITES	2015	2014	2013
Website visitors (spca.bc.ca)	4,277,286	2,910,409	2,544,235
Facebook fans	59,535	41,211	21,405
Twitter followers	21,287	16,814	12,163
Live Kitty Cam views	49,200	62,000	57,000
Anim@ls e-newsletter subscribers	88,535	82,928	84,029

## Advocating for companion, farm & wild animals

**Advocacy is at the heart of the BC SPCA's mission. Through our many donor-supported initiatives to address the root causes of animal suffering we are a voice for those who "cannot speak for themselves." In 2015 the BC SPCA and community members:**

- Worked with municipal and provincial governments and local community groups to advocate for urban deer and oppose indiscriminate culls;
- Advocated for municipal bylaw revisions to prohibit exotic animals as pets and increased provincial regulations;
- Partnered with Port Moody to create a resolution on oiled wildlife preparedness that was endorsed by the Union of B.C. Municipalities;
- Advocated for more humane and ethical practices in the provincial management of wolves, coyotes, bears and all species in wildlife rehabilitation;
- Participated in international and national conferences, presenting on topics such as compassionate conservation, humane wildlife control, the fur industry and animals in science;
- Helped to found a new national non-profit organization dedicated to advocacy for animals in science – Animals in Science Policy Institute;
- Developed six new animal welfare position statements for the society through an evidence-based process with broad consultation;
- Provided academic support for 22 senior undergraduate students in applied animal biology practicums;
- Certified more than 310,000 farm animals and more than 11.3 million eggs on 19 farms participating in the SPCA Certified farm certification and food labelling program;
- Hosted 12 SPCA Certified information booths at local farmers markets throughout the year.



NUMBER OF ANIMALS CARED FOR AT BC SPCA BRANCHES			
LOCATION	2015	2014	2013
100 Mile House (no shelter)	65	68	90
Abbotsford/Langley	1,001	965	1,098
Alberni/Clayoquot	643	764	779
Burnaby	1,128	1,131	909
Campbell River	533	191	239
Chilliwack	1,078	1,133	1,167
Comox Valley & District	813	720	786
Cowichan & District (Duncan)	758	699	650
East Kootenay (Cranbrook)	832	754	830
Haida Gwaii (no shelter)	76	96	112
Kamloops	1,432	1,098	1,100
Kelowna	1,458	1,747	1,527
Maple Ridge	1,358	971	918
Nanaimo & District	1,103	1,114	1,193
Nelson (storefront)	398	464	476
North Cariboo (Prince George)	1,386	1,530	1,613
North Peace (Ft. St. John)	912	936	883
Parksville/Qualicum Beach	435	415	472
Port Coquitlam Education & Adoption Centre	310	272	288
Powell River & District	494	450	437
Prince Rupert	472	372	286
Quesnel & District	835	948	720
Richmond Education & Adoption Centre	560	373	333
Salt Spring Island	145	145	163
Shuswap (Salmon Arm)	957	805	556
South Okanagan/Similkameen (Penticton)	790	856	898
South Peace (Dawson Creek)	691	543	530
Squamish	225	308	308
Sunshine Coast	443	504	447
Surrey	318	231	7
Trail Regional	580	559	559
Vancouver	2,043	2,011	1,569
Vernon	719	711	624
Victoria	1,608	1,629	1,653
West Vancouver	1,106	957	650
Williams Lake & District	1,186	1,115	983



## Reducing pet overpopulation

Addressing the suffering of the tens of thousands of abandoned and feral cats in B.C. was a major focus of the BC SPCA's activities in 2015. Some highlights of our efforts to reduce pet overpopulation across the province included:

- Providing free or subsidized spay/neuter surgeries for 8,988 community animals through the BC SPCA's Vancouver animal hospital, BC SPCA spay/neuter clinics in Prince George and Kamloops and through branch-administered spay/neuter funds across the province;
- Sterilizing 6,703 shelter animals prior to adoption to meet the society's goal of 100 per cent pre-adoption spay/neuter of dogs, puppies, cats, kittens and rabbits;
- Accessing funding from PetSmart Charities® of Canada to conduct large-scale spay/neuter programs in Campbell River, Cranbrook, Port Hardy, Port Alberni and Haida Gwaii.



# Our supporters & volunteers



## OUR VOLUNTEERS

The work of the BC SPCA would not be possible without the skills and incredible commitment of the nearly 4,000 individuals who volunteer at SPCA locations across the province. From dog trainers to fundraisers, shelter volunteers to website contributors, these compassionate individuals are an integral part of our organization. In 2015 our volunteers saved thousands of animal lives by participating in rehabilitation and fostering programs, adoption counselling, dog walking, special event coordination, grooming, cat care, photography, social media promotion, small animal care, fundraising campaigns, administration assistance and advocacy initiatives. Thank you to all those who gave so generously of their time and skills during this past year to create a more humane world for animals.

## BC SPCA Board of Directors

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meets throughout the year to oversee the affairs and business of the society and to establish policies, rules and regulations to carry out the obligations and powers of the organization. The hard work and expertise of this dedicated group of leaders is essential in developing and guiding the strategic direction of the BC SPCA. Our very sincere thanks to:

Marylee Davies, <b>PRESIDENT</b>	Shawn Ireland
Lynn Armstrong	Rosolynn Kalb
Melissa Barcellos	Ryan Layton
David Budd	Sabrina Qureshi
Dawn Davies	Carol Richards
Jennifer Gore	Romany Runnalls
Peter Havlik	Eric Stebner

## Special thanks

The BC SPCA is grateful to the more than 80,000 supporters across British Columbia and beyond who help us care for and protect animals. We would like to offer our special thanks to the following generous supporters whose 2015 contributions were truly exceptional:

### INDIVIDUALS

1. Don & Lorraine Moore
2. Charlotte Chou
3. David & Bess Wright
4. Susan Bloom
5. Penny Boyd

### FOUNDATIONS

1. PetSmart Charities® of Canada
2. Emily Elizabeth Stoneham Fund through the Victoria Foundation
3. Elisabeth Thomi Endowment Fund through the Shuswap Community Foundation
4. Vancouver Foundation
5. Eldon & Anne Foote Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation

### CORPORATIONS

1. Hill's® Pet Nutrition Canada Inc.
2. BMO Bank of Montreal
3. Petsecure Pet Health Insurance
4. TELUS
5. Scotiabank

### EMPLOYEE GIVING

1. Provincial Employees Community Service Fund
2. United Way of the Lower Mainland
3. Team TELUS Cares
4. Scotiabank
5. BC Housing Management

### FUNDRAISERS

1. Prince George Motors/Wood Wheaton GM
2. Glenn Keryluk – Keryluk Laser Dental
3. Jo Faloona
4. Linda Mah
5. Shawna Willan

### LEGACY

1. Annie Margaret Costain
2. Rebecca Johnson Peterson
3. Rachel Oak
4. Jean Ridgway
5. Eleanor Alice Louise Stiffe



## Creating a better world for animals

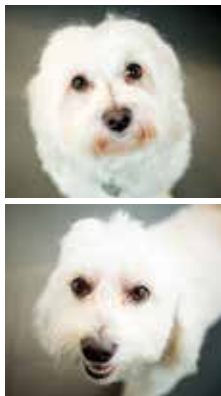
**WHEN IT COMES TO** inspiring generosity in others, Linda Mah of BiiG Financial Co. is truly a leader of the pack. One of the BC SPCA's top fundraisers last year, Linda credits her success to forming strategic alliances with other animal lovers. Joining with Jim Murray and Brian Jessel BMW for National Cupcake Day, their team raised more than \$36,000 in two years. Linda has continued her efforts as a true Champion for Animals in 2015, raising a further \$8,500.



Linda Mah

Linda attributes her fundraising success to her varied approaches: she makes donations herself, requests matching donations from businesses and taps her professional and personal networks for support. Linda's biggest piece of advice to fundraisers is: "Talk to everybody. Everyone supports your cause when you really believe in it, never be afraid to ask."

In addition to her incredible commitment to fundraising, Linda has been a PAW Plan monthly donor for 10 years. Her continued commitment is inspired by her own dogs: "Looking at how happy and well cared for Remy and Scarlett (right) are makes me want to help other animals who don't have that love and nurturing in their lives. Every animal deserves that."



## How can I help?

**WAYNE DEANS**, co-founder, chairman and CEO of wealth management firm Deans Knight Capital Management, has supported the BC SPCA in many ways over the years. He has been a BC SPCA donor, sponsor, volunteer fundraiser and a frequent "go-to" for advice. Currently, he is serving as the advisory chair of the BC SPCA's 2016 Offleashed gala in Vancouver. It's a position he also held in 2015, at which point his first order of business was to sign up as a sponsor himself. He then personally connected with friends, contacts and colleagues, inspiring them to join him in supporting the work of the BC SPCA. In a matter of just a few short weeks, Wayne surpassed the sponsorship target and had attracted other volunteers and donations of support. The event raised more than \$266,000 in one night!

Wayne's love of animals is very close to his heart. He and Leslie have adopted a rescue dog named Missie – their sidekick, travel companion and running partner. Despite his very busy schedule, Wayne makes himself available to help the BC SPCA and is always just an e-mail or phone call away. "Just let me know how I can help!" he often says. Wayne is passionate and dedicated to making the world a better place for animals. We are grateful for that, indeed.

## GIVING THE GIFT OF HOPE

**EACH YEAR** the BC SPCA is faced with overwhelming medical costs for the tens of thousands of sick and injured animals who enter our shelters. To help offset these extraordinary costs faced by branches, the BC SPCA Medical Emergency campaign was created to highlight animals who need additional support for their treatment and recovery.

Thanks to generous supporters like you, more than \$304,000 was raised in 2015 through the Medical Emergency program to help save 167 cats, dogs and horses who required extra care.

"2015 was the first full year of operation for the Medical Emergency program and it was incredibly heartwarming to have so many people from across B.C. and right around the world rally to make a life-saving

difference for the animals," says Jane Talbot, BC SPCA director of regional operations. "The compassion and support of our Medical Emergency donors has meant that animals who

were once suffering and without hope are now leading healthy, happy and cruelty-free lives."

To help save the life of an animal in need, visit [spca.bc.ca/medicalemergency](http://spca.bc.ca/medicalemergency). ■



# BC SPCA on the national stage

## National welfare work for animals

The BC SPCA is a leader in advancing animal welfare at the national level. As a member society of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS), BC SPCA staff and volunteers regularly contribute their expertise to advance animal welfare across the country. These contributions include:



### **CRUELTY PREVENTION CRUSADER** –

*Marcie Moriarty, chief prevention and enforcement officer*

- \* Spearheaded the creation of the National Centre for the Prosecution of Animal Cruelty, a database of animal cruelty convictions to aid enforcement officers and prosecutors in bringing animal abusers to justice;
- \* Instrumental in leading national animal cruelty prosecutor training to assist prosecutors across Canada in using the Criminal Code of Canada to get animal cruelty convictions.



### **OF MICE AND MEN** –

*Shawn Eccles, senior manager, cruelty investigations*

- \* Serves on the

board of the Canadian Council on Animal Care, the organization responsible for setting welfare standards and accrediting facilities that use animals for research purposes.



### **A VOICE FOR FARM ANIMALS** –

*Geoff Urton, senior manager, stakeholder relations*

- \* Represents CFHS

in the development of improved federal codes of practice for the transportation, care and handling of farm animals including beef, dairy, veal calves, laying hens, meat chickens, turkeys and pigs;

- \* Recruits, coordinates and mentors additional animal welfare

experts to represent CFHS at the code development table for other species including mink, fox, turkey, sheep, horse, goats, farmed deer, bison and meat rabbits.



### **NATIONAL LEADERSHIP** –

*Craig Daniell, chief executive officer*

- \* Provides leadership to CFHS and member

societies as well as other animal stakeholder organizations across the country.



### **SETTING THE NATIONAL AGENDA** –

*Craig Naherniak, general manager, humane education*

- \* Serves as vice-president of CFHS, advancing welfare issues including national strategies to reduce cat overpopulation, higher standards for the welfare of animals in shelters and advancing tougher cruelty legislation.



### **RABBIT WHISPERERS** –

*Meghann Cant (above left), animal welfare educator, and Erika Paul (above right), senior animal protection officer*

- \* Meghann, an expert in small animals, is applying her welfare knowledge for CFHS in the creation of a national code of practice for food rabbits.

- \* Likewise, Erika is applying her expertise to ensure the new code is enforceable to animal cruelty laws.



### **SPEAKING FOR WILDLIFE** –

*Dr. Sara Dubois, chief scientific officer*

- \* Spearheading national humane

wildlife control standards to ensure enforceable welfare standards within the wildlife control industry.



### **RAISING FARM STANDARDS** –

*Brandy Street, manager, SPCA Certified*

- \* Oversees the

national expansion of SPCA Certified, a program certifying farms meeting high welfare standards set by the BC SPCA;

- \* Serves on the national organic standards body lobbying for higher welfare requirements for farm animals within the organic standards.



### **AIDING THE HUMANE MOVEMENT** –

*John Andrew, chief financial officer*

- \* Serves as board

treasurer of the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada, which provides grants to humane organizations across Canada.



### **PRESIDENTIAL SKILLS** –

*Cindy Soules, former BC SPCA president*

- \* After nine years

advancing the animal welfare agenda for the BC SPCA, Cindy now serves as a volunteer board member for CFHS. ■



