



BCSPCA
2019
ANNUAL
REPORT

Dear Friends, 2020 marks the 125th anniversary of the establishment of The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. While we will take time to celebrate the incredible advances in animal welfare achieved in the past decades, it's just as important that we pay tribute to the group of dedicated individuals who took the initiative 125 years ago to advocate for vulnerable animals – specifically working animals – in towns and cities across the province. These pioneers were able to convince our provincial government of the need for a permanent animal welfare society and the passage of legislation to protect animals in distress.

The critical work of the BC SPCA is only possible because of the extraordinary generosity and steadfast commitment of our donors, members, community partners, volunteers and staff. On behalf of our province's most vulnerable animals, we thank you.

With sincere appreciation,

MELISSA BARCELLOS
President, Board of Directors,
BC SPCA

CRAIG DANIELL
Chief Executive Officer,
BC SPCA

inspire

CREATING A BETTER WORLD for animals through advocacy and education is at the heart of the BC SPCA's mission. Last year, with the help of our supporters, we empowered animal lovers of all ages to take action in their communities through our youth programs, website resources, social media campaigns and advocacy with all levels of government. In 2019, our work included successfully advocating for an end to the captivity of whales and dolphins, strengthening federal laws protecting animals used in fighting rings, closing the gap in legislation on bestiality and ensuring that those convicted of bestiality will now be listed on Canada's National Sex Offenders Registry, and new protections to eliminate the trade in shark fins imported to Canada. □



Inspiring youth to inspire the world

In 2019, people witnessed the great power of youth who spoke out for the planet calling for climate action. With more than 7,000 members in the BC SPCA Kids Club, over the past year we also experienced the power of kids making a difference for animals in their homes, schools and communities.

We were inspired, for example, by six-year-old Kids Club member Zara, who shared her copy of *Bark!* magazine with her class. The students were so moved by what they learned, they held a fundraiser in support of the animals at the Surrey SPCA.

Likewise, parents told us

that kids who attended our week-long summer camps were eager to have their families switch to using household products not tested on animals and to buy cage-free eggs instead of eggs from hens raised in battery cages.

We even had one parent tell us he was so influenced by a BC SPCA camp as a child that he enrolled his own kids in this year's camp.

"We are truly encouraged by our Kids Club members," says Gillian Ickert Plett, humane education coordinator. "With kids like these leading the way, we have great hope for the future of humane communities in B.C." □

26,000

KIDS ENGAGED IN OUR SUMMER CAMPS, WORKSHOPS, KIDS CLUB, SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS AND CLUBS

144,646

VISITS TO OUR "TAKE ACTION" ADVOCACY WEBPAGE

22

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS LAUNCHED TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ANIMALS

183,823

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS HELPING US TO SPREAD THE WORD

5,717,494

WEBSITE VISITS

A safe haven for outdoor cats

Ending the cat overpopulation crisis and the suffering of unowned cats are priorities in the BC SPCA's five-year Strategic Plan, with ongoing initiatives in education, advocacy and low-cost spay/neuter. As part of these efforts, the Kamloops Branch hosted sold-out workshops last year to teach the public how to build outdoor shelters to keep community cats safe and warm over the winter.

While making a hands-on difference for animals, these Cats & Crafts workshops provided participants with information about the struggles faced by unowned, free-roaming felines in their com-

munity. In 2019, the Kamloops SPCA took in 806 cats, nearly half of whom were kittens.

"Long-term social change takes education and community involvement, which we hope to create with this project," says Marieke van der Velden, BC SPCA outreach specialist. She notes that one of the dangers for community cats is suffering from frostbite on their ears and toes in winter. "Having access to a warm and safe shelter from the cold can help them survive over the colder months."

The workshops are part of a multifaceted pilot project on cat overpopulation and a guide is being

distributed to all SPCA branches this summer to help them plan similar programs. "The cat shelter workshops are low cost and a great tool to build community engagement and understanding," says van der Velden. □



Ava on the loose

When Ava escaped from the car while her family was travelling through Cache Creek on the way to visit a relative in 2018, her brokenhearted guardians thought they would never see the eight-year-old cat again. They had adopted Ava when she was just seven weeks old.

They stayed at the spot where she went missing, desperately searching, and even drove back to Cache Creek the following three weekends, knocking on doors in the area, putting up flyers and posting ads online. They received a few phone calls, but none of the cats people had seen turned out to be their Ava.

More than a year later, a Good Samaritan found an injured stray taking shelter from the extreme cold under their deck and brought her to the BC SPCA's South Peace Branch in Dawson Creek. She was matted and had permanent damage to the tips of her ears from frostbite. SPCA staff rushed her to the vet, where her wound was stitched up and she was given pain medication to keep her comfortable as it healed.

Luckily, Ava had an ear tattoo that linked her to a veterinary clinic in the Lower Mainland. SPCA staff were able to contact her guardians, who were



overjoyed to learn their cat was alive after being missing for 16 months. Ava was transferred home to her family in the Lower Mainland via the BC SPCA's Drive for Lives program.

The BC SPCA is committed to helping every lost

pet get home safely. In addition to education about the importance of pet identification, the BC SPCA ensures that every dog, cat and rabbit adopted from an SPCA facility is microchipped. In 2015, the BC SPCA also launched the BC Pet Registry, the province's first centralized database for lost pets. More than 108,000 animals have been registered in the system since its inception. Visit bcpetregistry.ca for details. ■

care

LAST YEAR, staff and volunteers in our 36 branches provided emergency care and shelter for more than 21,000 companion, farm and wild animals. Together, we also administered spay/neuter surgeries for thousands of homeless and community animals to reduce the suffering of surplus animals and assisted more than 10,000 vulnerable pet guardians through charitable veterinary services, pet food banks and other outreach programs. As an evidence-based organization, the BC SPCA maintains close partnerships with academic institutions to ensure our veterinary, sheltering and rehabilitation services are based on leading-edge animal science knowledge and research. □



Incredible JOURNEY

Last April, when staff at an autoglass distribution company in Prince George were sorting through goods from a newly arrived shipping container from Shenzhen, China, they made a startling discovery. Cowering in the corner was an emaciated, terrified cat. The six-year-old feline was barely alive, having survived the three-week journey as a stowaway by drinking condensation that had formed on the walls of the 40-foot container.

Her rescuers called the BC SPCA's North Cariboo Branch in Prince George, who immediately rushed the critically ill cat to a local veterinary hospital. The prognosis was uncertain but she continued to receive intensive veterinary care while under quarantine.

Journey, as she was later named, gradually grew strong enough to be treated for other issues, including a liver parasite and the need for extensive dental work. Still, she remained very frightened of people.

When she was well enough, Journey was transferred from North Cariboo to the Maple

and welfare. With Dr. van Haaften's care, Journey's playful personality began to emerge. "At first she would not even come out from under the bed, but she is much more comfortable now and enjoys interacting and playing," Dr. van Haaften explains. "She may never be a cat who seeks out physical attention, but she is at the point where she will sit quietly while being pet." After nearly a year in SPCA care, Journey is ready to find her forever home with a guardian who understands her special needs and will ensure she has a safe harbour to live out the rest of her days. □

41,806

ANIMALS ASSISTED
ACROSS B.C.

21,208

HOMELESS ANIMALS
PROVIDED WITH
EMERGENCY CARE
AND SHELTER

14,314

ANIMALS ADOPTED INTO
NEW LOVING HOMES

3,024

INJURED AND
ORPHANED WILDLIFE
REHABILITATED

5,235

ANIMALS TRANSPORTED
THROUGH THE *DRIVE
FOR LIVES* PROGRAM

14,336

SPAY/NEUTER
SURGERIES FOR
HOMELESS AND
COMMUNITY ANIMALS

IN 2019, BC SPCA special constables rescued thousands of animals from cruel, dangerous and neglectful situations. From starving farm animals, puppy mills and large-scale hoarding cases to animals at risk from natural disasters, your support means that our constables are there to protect animals and to ensure that the people who inflict suffering on them are held accountable through the justice system. □

protect

SPCA rescues 15 bichons frises from a Fraser Valley breeder

When SPCA constables received a complaint about badly neglected dogs being kept on the property of a Fraser Valley breeder, they immediately took action. On May 29, 2019, officers executed a warrant to seize 15 sick and injured bichons frises, several of whom were pregnant. The dogs, who ranged in age from one to 14 years old, were suffering from multiple medical issues and were filthy and badly matted.

“Their fur was caked in urine and feces and they had painful eye and ear infections, dental disease, significant hair loss, badly overgrown nails and skin infec-

tions,” says Marcie Moriarty, chief prevention and enforcement officer for the BC SPCA. “Puppy mills and substandard breeders continue to be a serious animal welfare issue in B.C. and this case highlighted the urgent need for breeder regulations to monitor this industry.”

The 15 canines received emergency medical triage and ongoing care in SPCA shelters and were all adopted into loving homes. Charges of animal cruelty were recommended in the case. Thank you to our loyal supporters, who funded more than 8,000 cruelty investigations across the province last year. ■

8,058

ANIMAL CRUELTY
INVESTIGATIONS

31,482

CALLS TO THE BC SPCA
ANIMAL HELPLINE



FINANCIAL STRENGTH, effective governance, a culture of innovation, leading-edge training and state-of-the-art facilities are key to fulfilling our mission to end animal suffering. The BC SPCA was once again among the top 10 in *MoneySense* magazine's 2019 survey that rates 100 Canadian charities for overall efficiency, transparency and donor stewardship. The BC SPCA also received four stars – the highest rating possible – in Charity Intelligence Canada's annual list of top charities. A key initiative in the society's new five-year Strategic Plan is to ensure that the BC SPCA has a strong governance structure to empower its mission work. Last year, the society engaged in an external evaluation and carried out extensive stakeholder consultations to promote the highest level of governance and leadership. ■

BC SPCA Offleashed Gala Fundraiser.



grow

Volunteer HEROES

When Kris McLeod retired, she began looking for opportunities to give back to her community of Prince George. As an animal lover and the guardian of two rescue cats, she was immediately drawn to an opportunity with a community pet food bank operated by the BC SPCA North Cariboo Branch. Every Wednesday, Kris volunteers at the shelter to prepare pet food packages that are distributed to low-income residents in Prince George in



partnership with the Salvation Army food bank. "My role is to sort through the donations of pet food we've received, organizing them by food brand and what type and age of pet they are

595

SKILLED AND CARING STAFF

5,433

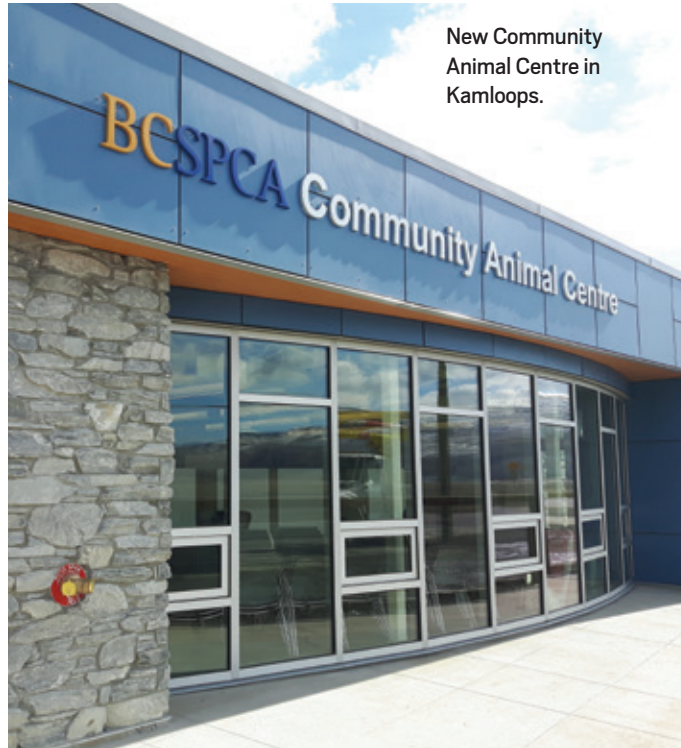
DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP US EXPAND OUR SERVICES TO ANIMALS

118,929

VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED

44

BC SPCA FACILITIES DEDICATED TO THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF ANIMALS



New Community Animal Centre in Kamloops.

Improving our facilities

The BC SPCA continues to make exciting progress on its eight-year Facilities & Services Plan to replace or refurbish aging SPCA facilities in 12 B.C. communities. In 2019, we opened our new \$6.5 million, 10,500-square-foot Community Animal Centre in Kamloops. This centre includes a 2,340-square-foot spay/neuter clinic, modern designs to ensure the highest levels of health and welfare for animals, designated areas for temperament and behaviour assessments, a specialized isolation area for sick and injured animals, a retail area for pet supplies, office space

for regional animal cruelty investigators, a dog-wash station for the public and a community room for dog training, humane education, SPCA youth camps, workshops and other events for the community. Last year, the society also opened a contemporary Sea to Sky Education & Adoption Centre in Squamish and completed work on a 4,450-square-foot, state-of-the-art Community Animal Centre to serve animals and pet guardians in South Peace (Dawson Creek).

Thank you for the incredible support that has made it possible to help more animals in these communities. ■

intended for,” she says. “I then divide large bags of food into smaller bags and label them for distribution at the food bank.”

Through her volunteer role, Kris knows she is not only helping animals, but the people who love them. “I believe animals are so important to people, and that no one should have to give up a pet because they’ve fallen on hard times.” Last year, the BC SPCA helped more than 10,000 low-income residents through pet food banks across the province.

Thank you to Kris and to each one of our amazing volunteers who made such a difference in 2019! □



Leadership Team

BC SPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Melissa Barcellos**
President
- **Roselyn Boarman**
- **Victoria Brydon**
- **Lindsay Curry**
- **Louise Egan**
- **Linda Greville**
- **Shawn Ireland**
- **Rosolynn Kalb**
- **Sheila Kullar**
- **Sabrina Qureshi**
- **Carol Richards**
- **Jason Scultety**
- **Mary Lou Troman**
- **Erin Van Zant**
- **Andrea Wilhelm**

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

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Chief Executive Officer
- **John Andrew**
Chief Financial Officer
- **Lorie Chortyk**
General Manager, Communications
- **Shoni Field**
Chief Development Officer
- **Marcie Moriarty**
Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer
- **Craig Naharniak**
General Manager, Humane Education
- **Mark Takhar**
Chief Operations Officer
- **Geoff Urton**
General Manager, Strategy and Innovation
- **Jolie Wist**
General Manager, Human Resources

YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION



**FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU GAVE IN 2019,
HERE IS HOW YOU HELPED THE ANIMALS**



40¢ EMERGENCY SHELTER & COMMUNITY OUTREACH	21¢ CHECK-UPS & MEDICAL TREATMENT	10¢ CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS
Provided a temporary home for 21,208 abandoned, injured & abused animals, helped 2,869 injured and orphaned wildlife and assisted 17,592 vulnerable animals in the community.	Animals get an initial health check and are spayed or neutered. Sick or injured animals receive further treatment.	We conducted 8,009 new cruelty investigations* in 2019.
5¢ PREVENTING FUTURE SUFFERING	Humane education and advocacy help stop the cycle of violence and make our communities safer.	
10¢ SUPPORTING THE ANIMALS	It takes a team to care for the animals. Nothing fancy, but essential.	
13¢ INVESTING IN RELATIONSHIPS	Fundraising ensures we can continue to take care of the animals. Thank you!	

* Did you know we're the only animal welfare organization in B.C. with the authority to enforce laws related to animal cruelty?
Note: Above breakdown does not include amortization, surplus and other.

REVENUES (IN \$000s)	Jan. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2019*	Jan. 1, 2018 to Dec. 31, 2018	EXPENDITURES (IN \$000s)	Jan. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2019*	Jan. 1, 2018 to Dec. 31, 2018	TOTALS (IN \$000s)	Jan. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2019*	Jan. 1, 2018 to Dec. 31, 2018
Donations & Fundraising	\$11,726	\$16,730	Sheltering, Kenneling, Bylaw Enforcement & Social Enterprise	\$11,425	\$14,234	Operating surplus before the undernoted	\$4,779	\$5,299
Legacy & Life Insurance**	\$8,973	\$12,839	Veterinary Care & Spay/Neuter	\$2,707	\$3,263	Amortization	\$1,487	\$1,690
Kenneling & Bylaw Enforcement	\$1,590	\$2,009	Cruelty Investigations	\$2,902	\$3,425	Bank charges and interest	\$359	\$481
Sheltering, Medical, Clinical Services & Social Enterprise Services	\$6,527	\$8,785	Humane Education	\$878	\$1,025	Net Operating Surplus	\$2,933	\$3,128
Lotteries & Raffles	\$1,096	\$900	Advocacy & Volunteer Development	\$740	\$791			
Other Grants	\$643	\$1,365	Hospitals & Clinics	\$3,565	\$4,667			
Endowment Contributions	\$10	\$76	Animal Health & Welfare	\$527	\$668			
Investment Income & Capital Gains	\$4,028	(\$456)	Administration & Program Support	\$3,082	\$3,711			
Disposal of Property, Buildings, Equipments & Intangible Assets	(\$18)	(\$6)	Revenue Development	\$3,970	\$5,159			
Total	\$34,575	\$42,242	Total	\$29,796	\$36,943			

* The BC SPCA changed its fiscal year-end to Sept. 30 starting in 2019. The financial statements for 2019 cover the nine month period from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 2019.

** A significant portion of Legacy gifts are designated. Designated gifts are not recognized as revenue in our financial statements until the terms of the designation are met, which may be in future years.

The BC SPCA is proud to be accredited by **Imagine Canada**. This accreditation means we've demonstrated excellence in financial accountability and transparency, board governance, fundraising, staff management and volunteer management.

