

BCSPCA 2016 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

This past year has once again seen significant advances in animal welfare across British Columbia and Canada and thanks to your ongoing commitment and support, the BC SPCA has continued to be the organization leading this positive change. Our annual report provides a brief overview of a number of initiatives that were achieved or are underway across the organization.

2016 was also a year filled with numerous large-scale animal seizures and puppy mill investigations, which reminded us that much work still lies ahead before we can claim to live and work in a humane community. As upsetting as these cases are, they do demonstrate the importance of the many facets of our work; from our special constables who intervene to remove the animals from deplorable conditions; to the staff and volunteers who lovingly nurse animals back to health and find new forever homes for them; to our provincial team members who have so successfully worked with the government to develop legislation that will regulate the breeding of cats and dogs in our province.

It was also a year that saw much progress in the implementation of our Facilities Development and Services Plan, with a new community animal centre opening in Nanaimo and plans well underway to construct new facilities in three other communities during 2017. We are extremely grateful to the Government of British Columbia for a further commitment of \$5 million to support the facilities plan.

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,



Jennifer Gore
President
BC SPCA



Craig Daniell
Chief Executive Officer
BC SPCA



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 to more than 26,000 abused, injured, homeless and neglected animals last year and helped another 16,000 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 the province's most vulnerable animals receive the best emergency treatment, shelter, rehabilitation and compassionate care possible.

In addition, in 2016, the BC SPCA operated full-service animal hospitals in Vancouver, Penticton and Burnaby, spay/neuter clinics in Prince George and Kamloops, as well as a provincial call centre in Victoria and our provincial office in Vancouver.



IN 2016, THE BC SPCA:

- Operated the BC Pet Registry, British Columbia's first centralized database for pets who receive permanent identification at any BC SPCA shelter, veterinarian or microchip clinic across the province. Since its launch in April 2015, more than 43,000 animals have been registered;
- Microchipped 175 animals through microchip clinics;
- Provided charitable work for local animal rescue groups and hundreds of low-income pet guardians through our Vancouver Animal Hospital;
- Held weekly pet food banks and 12 free outpatient veterinary clinics for low-income pet guardians in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, with more than 6,500 visits.

DIRECT CARE FOR ANIMALS	2016	2015	2014
Total number of animals assisted across B.C. (including community outreach programs)	42,970	43,249	42,244
Injured, abused, homeless and surrendered animals cared for in BC SPCA branches	26,213	27,187	25,942
Lost pets reunited with their guardians	3,692	3,949	3,829
Animals adopted into loving homes	15,594	15,811	15,335
Animals transported through BC SPCA Drive for Lives program	4,930	4,994	4,739
Injured and orphaned wildlife rescued at Wild ARC, the BC SPCA wildlife rehabilitation centre in Metchosin	3,013	2,937	2,508



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 2016, the society delivered humane education materials to every elementary school and library in the province (2,140), reached thousands of children through nearly 400 school presentations and school-based animal clubs, offered summer camps for 1,600 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 5,000 educators.



IMPROVING OUR FACILITIES

The society is making exciting progress on our eight-year Facilities Development and Services Plan to replace or refurbish aging SPCA facilities in 12 B.C. communities. In 2016, the BC SPCA celebrated the opening of a state-of-the-art community animal centre in Nanaimo and completed advanced planning for new facilities in Kamloops, Castlegar and Dawson Creek. The Government of British Columbia has generously contributed \$10 million towards the first two phases of the capital plan.

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 (30 full-time, one part-time, four 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 cruelty investigations costs are paid through the generosity of our donors.

To report suspected animal cruelty in your community, please contact our provincial call centre (animal cruelty hotline) at **1-855-622-7722 (1-855-6BC-SPCA)**.

CALLS TO PROVINCIAL CALL CENTRE	2016	2015	2014
Total calls	26,671	25,923	21,746
Reports of animal cruelty	46%	49%	52%
Assistance with wildlife issues	26%	25%	27%
General enquiries	20%	21%	21%
Pet Registry enquiries	8%	5%	N/A

CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS ACTIVITIES	2016	2015	2014
Number of animal cruelty complaints investigated	9,788	10,205	8,848
Animals removed from their owners	1,515	1,110	1,276
Number of warrants executed under the Criminal Code of Canada, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act or the Offense Act	140	148	160
Charges of animal cruelty and neglect submitted to Crown counsel	26	53	53

BC SPCA online

The BC SPCA's online community grew significantly in 2016 as thousands of supporters connected with us through our social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and YouTube), our website and our e-newsletters to share their animal stories and find out the latest news on BC SPCA advocacy campaigns, animals available for adoption, pet care information and animal welfare.



ONLINE SITES	2016	2015	2014
Website visitors (spca.bc.ca)	4,623,037	4,277,286	2,910,409
Facebook fans	73,223	59,535	41,211
Twitter followers	24,203	21,287	16,814
Anim@ls e-newsletter subscribers	98,465	88,535	82,928

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 2016, the BC SPCA and community members:

- Secured a national phase-out of barren battery cages for egg-laying hens which will transform the lives of millions of animals in perpetuity;
- Advocated for the provincial government to regulate dog and cat breeders and provided input for new legislation passed in early 2017 that will enable the new regulations;
- Called for B.C. veterinarians to support their professional college's ban on tail-docking of dogs and horses, and celebrated this groundbreaking victory;
- Represented Canada internationally to set new global guidelines for auditing farms on animal welfare;
- Worked with municipal and provincial governments and local community groups to advocate for urban deer and oppose indiscriminate culls;
- 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 and humane wildlife control;
- Supported the first year of a new national non-profit organization dedicated to advocacy for animals in science – Animals in Science Policy Institute;



- Developed or revised four animal welfare position statements for the society through an evidence-based process with broad consultation;
- Provided academic support for 26 senior undergraduate students in applied animal biology practicums;
- Certified more than 300,000 farm animals and more than 1.1 million eggs on 22 farms participating in the SPCA Certified farm certification and food labelling program;
- Hosted 15 SPCA Certified information booths at local farmers' markets throughout the year.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS CARED FOR AT BC SPCA BRANCHES

LOCATION	2016	2015	2014
100 Mile House (no shelter)	40	65	68
Abbotsford/Langley	992	1,001	965
Alberni/Clayoquot	612	634	764
Burnaby	1,151	1,128	1,131
Campbell River	484	533	191
Chilliwack	943	1,078	1,133
Comox Valley & District	777	813	720
Cowichan & District (Duncan)	755	758	699
East Kootenay (Cranbrook)	798	832	754
Haida Gwaii (no shelter)	54	76	96
Kamloops	1,362	1,432	1,098
Kelowna	1,528	1,458	1,747
Maple Ridge	957	1,358	971
Nanaimo & District	1,123	1,103	1,114
Nelson (storefront)	617	398	464
North Cariboo (Prince George)	1,427	1,386	1,530
North Peace (Fort St. John)	953	912	936
Parksville/Qualicum Beach & District	437	435	415
Port Coquitlam (Education & Adoption Centre)	285	310	272
Powell River & District	456	494	450
Prince Rupert	346	472	372
Quesnel & District	1,014	835	948
Richmond (Education & Adoption Centre)	422	560	373
Salt Spring Island	181	145	145
Shuswap (Salmon Arm)	748	957	805
South Okanagan/Similkameen (Penticton)	779	790	856
South Peace (Dawson Creek)	607	691	543
Sea to Sky (Squamish)	333	225	308
Sunshine Coast	459	443	504
Surrey	361	318	231
Trail Regional	547	580	559
Vancouver	1,544	2,043	2,011
Vernon	765	719	711
Victoria	1,503	1,608	1,629
West Vancouver	986	1,106	957
Williams Lake & District	1,360	1,186	1,115

BC SPCA Senior Management Team

Craig Daniell, *Chief Executive Officer*

John Andrew, *Chief Financial Officer*

Bob Busch, *General Manager, Facility Development*

Lorie Chortyk, *General Manager, Community Relations*

Shoni Field, *Chief Development Officer*

Marcie Moriarty, *Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer*

Craig Naherniak, *General Manager, Humane Education*

Mark Takhar, *Chief Operations Officer*

Geoff Urton, *General Manager, Strategy and Innovation*

Jolie Wist, *General Manager, Human Resources*



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 2016. Some highlights of our efforts to reduce pet overpopulation across the province included:

- Providing free or subsidized spay/neuter surgeries for 10,082 community animals through the BC SPCA's Vancouver Animal Hospital, BC SPCA spay/neuter clinics in Prince George and Kamloops, and branch-administered spay/neuter funds across the province;
- Sterilizing 6,879 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;
- Achieving a 50 per cent decline in surrendered kittens through aggressive spay/neuter programs in Campbell River, Cranbrook and Port Alberni, thanks to generous funding from PetSmart Charities™ of Canada.
- Helping communities across British Columbia address overpopulation through our BC SPCA Community Animal Spay/Neuter Grant funding to animal rescue groups, municipalities, veterinarians and First Nation communities.

Our supporters & volunteers



OUR VOLUNTEERS

The work of the BC SPCA would not be possible without the skills and incredible commitment of the nearly 5,000 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 2016, 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 BC SPCA 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 its obligations and powers. 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:

Jennifer Gore, CHAIR	Shawn Ireland
Lynn Armstrong	Rosolynn Kalb
Melissa Barcellos	Sheila Kullar
David Budd	Sabrina Qureshi
Lindsay Curry	Carol Richards
Louise Egan	Romany Runnalls (to Dec. 2016)
Linda Greville	Jason Scultety
Peter Havlik	Mary Lou Troman

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 gratitude to the following generous supporters whose 2016 contributions were truly exceptional:

TOP INDIVIDUALS

1. Claudia Richter & Trent McClements
2. Don & Lorraine Moore
3. Susan Bloom
4. David Wright
5. Charlotte Chou

FOUNDATIONS

1. Emily Elizabeth Stoneham Fund through the Victoria Foundation
2. Elizabeth Thomi Endowment Fund through the Shuswap Community Foundation
3. Eldon & Anne Foote Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation
4. The River Foundation
5. The Highbury Foundation

Note: This does not include one anonymous foundation donor.

CORPORATIONS

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

EMPLOYEE GIVING

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

EVENTS

1. Surrey Dodgeball League
2. Doreen Ram – Pints for Pups
3. Glenn Keryluk – Keryluk Laser Dental
4. Lucas Nasu Nielsen
5. Kelly Hudson

LEGACY

1. Maggie Carpenter – Vancouver
2. Shirley Ruth Jachnowiec – Victoria
3. Norma Jean Fleury – Powell River
4. Louise Elsie Frances Druce – Victoria
5. Jack & Versal Hales – Quathiaski Cove



Hockey players with heart

FANS KNOW the Vancouver Canucks for their gritty performance on the ice, but these men and their spouses also have soft spots in their hearts for animals.

The team has supported the BC SPCA with fundraisers like National Cupcake Day parties, photo booths with players and their dogs, and selling



autographed pucks. Last year, upon hearing the news of the 66 sick and injured dogs seized from a Langley puppy mill, several players and their families quickly organized a game day collection of funds and supplies. In January 2017, after a young boy held up a sign at a game that said his dad would get him a “wiener dog” if Bo Horvat scored a goal (which Bo did!), the Canucks turned the viral #HotDogHorvat story into another SPCA fundraiser,

racking up more than \$5,600 in one game!

Canucks players have also filmed videos to spread the word about the importance of treating animals well and getting your family’s pets fixed, and have shared videos on social media about what their dogs mean to them.

“Many of our players have pets who are part of their families and they are very proud to have the chance to show fans how much animals mean to them,” says Jessica Hoffman, manager of community partnerships for the Canucks.

A GIFT IN PARTING

WHAT A LIFE-CHANGING difference thoughtful planning can make! When Ms. Maggie Carpenter sat down to create her will, she had no idea that she would someday make one of the largest estate gifts ever received by the BC SPCA.

This wonderful gesture, issued on behalf of both Ms. Maggie and Mr. Robert Carpenter, will save thousands of animals throughout British Columbia from abandonment, abuse and distress for years to come. Their generosity is

helping to partially fund:

- Three large cruelty seizures at Lower Mainland puppy mills and breeding establishments during 2016;
- The purchase of a 10,000-square-foot veterinary hospital in Penticton;
- The future construction of a new veterinary and spay/neuter hospital in Kamloops, a large animal recovery and adoption barn in Prince George, a new community animal centre in the Fraser Valley and a new veterinary hospital in Vancouver;
- The initial expansion of the provincial “Drive for Lives” animal transport program.

In memory of Brian Harwood

“I FIRST MET BRIAN at the BC SPCA Offleashed Gala in Vancouver last year,” recalls BC SPCA CEO Craig Daniell. “His body was frail and his mobility was limited in his wheelchair, but his face just lit up when he saw the animals his support had helped. The puppies and kittens were full of energy that night and Brian took the opportunity to pat as many as he could. When we thanked him, he shed a few tears. I won’t forget that moment. His expression spoke volumes – I am lucky to have met such a kind man.”

Brian Harwood’s love of animals took many forms: he had pets of his own; he always greeted neighbours’ pets; he adopted from the BC SPCA; and he generously donated to the BC SPCA.

There was one dog years ago who had a special place in his heart. “If you knew Brian, you knew Simba,” says friend and BC SPCA supporter Larry Van Hatten. Brian and his wife, Diane, were guardians to Simba, a golden Labrador retriever who was full of personality and even smiled when asked. “Simba was the centre of their world,” says Van Hatten.

“What was particularly amazing is that Simba had a gold tooth,” laughs Peter Brown, Brian’s friend of many years and another BC SPCA supporter. “Brian wanted only the best for that dog.”

“Throughout the years, Brian’s compassion and care made life brighter for so many animals, including those at the BC SPCA, and we are grateful,” says Daniell. Brian passed away peacefully this past January, surrounded by loved ones.

Ms. Carpenter was known for her kindness and generosity and for the many people she helped during her life. Through her generous bequest, that kindness will continue to touch thousands of animals. Many tails are wagging in Ms. & Mr. Carpenter’s honour!

Maggie Carpenter



BC SPCA on the national stage

The BC SPCA is a leader in advancing animal welfare in B.C. and at the national level. While much of our work occurs in partnership with the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS), BC SPCA staff were involved in a wide range of national work in 2016.



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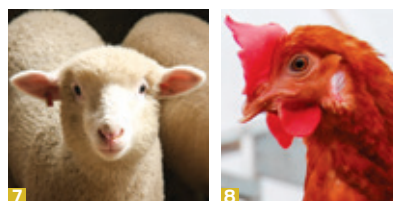
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1 WORKING WITH CFHS

The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS) is the largest national animal welfare organization in Canada, representing more than 50 humane societies and SPCAs across the country. The BC SPCA was a founding member in 1957 and the organization is a respected voice for animal welfare with the federal government and national organizations such as the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the Canadian Council on Animal Care and the National Farm Animal Care Council.

2 A VISION OF A HUMANE CANADA

BC SPCA staff actively participate in the governance and leadership of CFHS by advancing welfare issues including national strategies to reduce cat overpopulation, higher standards for the welfare of animals in shelters, protecting farm animals and advancing tougher cruelty legislation, such as Bill S-203 currently before the Senate, which would end the keeping of whales and dolphins in captivity in Canada.

3 IMPROVEMENTS FOR FARM ANIMALS

Over the course of 2016, BC SPCA animal welfare and cruelty experts, with CFHS, were at the negotiating table to improve federal Codes of Practice for the welfare of farm animals, including egg-laying hens, broiler chickens and turkeys, meat rabbits, veal calves and bison. These codes set minimum welfare standards for how farm animals are treated from B.C. to Newfoundland.

4 HELP FOR RESEARCH ANIMALS

To ensure there is a strong animal welfare voice for research animals (from mice to primates), the BC SPCA continues to serve on the board of the Canadian Council of Animal Care (CCAC). The CCAC sets welfare standards for animals used for product testing and research.

5 CRUELTY CASE LAW DATABASE

To aid prosecutors, the BC SPCA spearheaded with CFHS the creation of the National Centre for the Prosecution of Animal Cruelty. The centre's database of animal cruelty case law helps cruelty officers build

stronger cases to help increase convictions of animal abusers across Canada.

6 MORE CRUELTY CONVICTIONS

The BC SPCA also plays a lead role in training Crown prosecutors, police, judges and cruelty officers through a national annual training conference – another joint CFHS-BC SPCA partnership. The training helps keep the judicial system informed about the seriousness of animal cruelty, leading to more cruelty convictions.


7 BREEDER AND KENNEL ANIMAL CARE STANDARDS

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association creates welfare standards for dog breeders, catteries and small animal breeders (in development through 2017). BC SPCA experts are invited to participate in the creation and updates of these national standards.

8 RAISING ORGANIC FARM STANDARDS

The BC SPCA serves on the national organic standards body to lobby for higher welfare requirements for farm animals within the organic standards. ■

**FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU GAVE IN 2016,
HERE IS HOW YOU HELPED THE ANIMALS**



Providing a temporary home
for **26,213** abandoned,
abused and injured animals.



Each animal gets an initial health check and is spayed or neutered. Sick or injured animals receive further treatment.

A cartoon illustration of a light brown dog with dark brown spots, wearing a red collar and a red leash. The dog is standing on a light orange background, looking up towards the right. To the right of the dog are the lower legs and feet of a person wearing blue jeans and light blue sneakers with white laces. The person's feet are positioned as if they are standing next to the dog.

We conducted **9,788** new cruelty investigations* in **2016** and removed **1,515** animals from dangerous or neglectful situations.

Humane education and advocacy help stop the cycle of violence and make our communities safer.

It takes a team to care for the animals. Nothing fancy, but essential.

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?

REVENUES (IN \$000S)	2016	2015	EXPENDITURES (IN \$000S)	2016	2015
Donations & Fundraising	\$14,966	\$13,957	Sheltering, Kenneling, Bylaw Enforcement & Social Enterprise	\$12,810	\$12,413
Legacy & Life Insurance*	\$6,845	\$8,706	Veterinary Care & Spay/Neuter	\$2,898	\$2,622
Kenneling & Bylaw Enforcement	\$1,990	\$1,922	Cruelty Investigations	\$3,558	\$3,020
Sheltering, Medical, Clinical Services & Social Enterprise Services	\$7,329	\$6,338	Humane Education	\$829	\$792
Lotteries & Raffles	\$815	\$729	Advocacy & Volunteer Development	\$711	\$819
Other Grants	\$1,229	\$859	Hospitals & Clinics	\$3,698	\$2,996
Investment Income & Capital Gains	\$1,593	\$429	Animal Health & Welfare	\$725	\$769
Total	\$34,767	\$32,940	Administration & Program Support	\$3,141	\$2,913
			Revenue Development	\$4,060	\$3,896
	2016	2015	Amortization	\$721	\$559
Surplus/Deficit	\$1,256	\$1,784	Other	\$360	\$357
Expenditures, less amortization	\$32,790	\$30,597	Total	\$33,511	\$31,156

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.

*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.

