



BCSPCA 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends, We are pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report of the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA). Thanks to your incredible generosity and ongoing support, the BC SPCA was able to assist more than 118,000 animals over the past year, either through the direct provision of services such as our animal protection and sheltering programs or through community support initiatives such as our pet food banks, BC Pet Registry and veterinary outreach programs.

Despite the challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, your steadfast support has enabled the BC SPCA to maintain and grow our programming across British Columbia.

On behalf of all of us at the BC SPCA, thank you for being such a valued partner in this journey to improve the lives of our province's most vulnerable animals.

CRAIG DANIELL
Chief Executive Officer
BC SPCA

MELISSA BARCELLOS
President, Board of Directors
BC SPCA

inspire

Below: Young entrepreneurs Maliya and Maya generously donated a portion of the proceeds from their jewelry business to help animals impacted by the B.C. wildfires.

CREATING A MORE HUMANE WORLD for animals through advocacy and education is at the core 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 2021, our work included successfully petitioning for an end to mink farming in British Columbia and advocating on issues such as live horse export, the exotic wildlife trade, the wolf cull, fireworks bans, rodenticides, wildlife poisoning and input into the Codes of Practice for farm animals in Canada. □



Kids take the lead!

Every year, thousands of kids of all ages choose to take a stand against animal abuse and neglect. Some create posters or make class presentations to raise awareness about animal issues that matter to them. Others organize SPCA school clubs or collect money and supplies to donate to their local shelter. “We’re constantly amazed by the generosity and thoughtfulness of the youth in our province,” says BC SPCA humane education coordinator Gillian Ickert Plett. “The compassion we see in the younger generation is so encouraging.”

That compassion often extends beyond animals. “Many kids split their donations between animal and human causes like poverty,

homelessness and anti-bullying,” says Ickert Plett. “Just imagine the humane future these kids will help create!”

Last year, the BC SPCA’s summer camps, school presentations, Kids Club, workshops and clubs reached more than 12,000 young British Columbians. “It’s important for young people who care about animals to see that there are like-minded kids out there so they know they’re part of a bigger movement,” says Craig Naherniak, general manager of humane education for the BC SPCA. “The goal of our programs is to inspire empathy and compassion for all living things and to encourage young people to take action in their communities. All it takes is a few kids leading by example to really make a difference.” □

12,260

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

276,722

VISITS TO OUR “TAKE ACTION” ADVOCACY WEBPAGE

10

MAJOR ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS LAUNCHED AND 20 POLICY SUBMISSIONS CREATED TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ANIMALS

214,378

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS HELPING US SPREAD THE WORD

8.4 Million

WEBSITE VISITS FOR NEWS AND EDUCATION ON ANIMAL ISSUES

Shutting down mink farms in B.C.

After actively campaigning for more than two years to stop the practice of farmed mink in British Columbia, the SPCA was elated when, on November 5, 2021, the provincial government announced a ban on live mink on farms after April 2023, with a full shutdown of the industry in B.C. by 2025. “We are grateful to the tens of thousands of animal

lovers who joined our campaign, making it clear to government through your letters, emails and petition signatures that you will not tolerate an unnecessary and inhumane industry in B.C.,” says Dr. Sara Dubois, the Society’s chief scientific officer.

Farmed mink are raised and killed solely for pelts sold to support luxury fashion industries overseas.



Dr. Dubois notes that the BC SPCA and other concerned groups began warning the government in the summer of 2020 about the risks of COVID-19 transmission between animals and humans on mink farms. “It was just another reason to put an

end to an industry that no longer aligns with the values of British Columbians.”

In advocating against mink farms, the BC SPCA worked in partnership with the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs (UBCIC), concerned infectious disease specialists, The Fur-Bearers and Humane Society International/Canada. □

Riding to the rescue of homegrown horses

In 2021, the BC SPCA joined with other groups calling on the federal government to ban the shipping of horses overseas for slaughter. More than 77,000 Canadians, including thousands of SPCA supporters, signed a federal petition voicing their concern over this practice. “Many Canadians aren’t aware that we are one of the only countries in the world that breeds, raises and transports horses overseas to be slaughtered,” says Melissa Speirs, the BC SPCA’s manager of farm animal welfare. “These gentle draft horses are bred and raised in feedlots in Canada and then exported on long journeys to their international destinations. Since 2013, more than 40,000 horses have been exported out of Canada.”

Speirs says horses are loaded



onto trucks and driven to airports in Calgary, Edmonton or Winnipeg, where they often sit on the tarmac for hours. “Before being loaded onto a plane, three to four horses are put into a single shipping crate smaller than the average horse stall. For international export, the typical time without feed, water

and rest for these horses is 20 to 22 hours.”

The BC SPCA will continue its work with the Canadian Horse Defence Coalition in 2022 to campaign for an end to the live export of horses for slaughter. For updates, visit spca.bc.ca/ways-to-help/take-action. ■

care

LAST YEAR, staff and volunteers in our 36 animal care facilities provided direct emergency care and shelter for nearly 18,000 companion, farm and wild animals, as well as 12,418 nights of free emergency pet boarding for individuals fleeing violent domestic situations and natural disasters. Together, we also ensured that more than 11,000 homeless and community animals were spayed and neutered to reduce the suffering of surplus animals, and assisted thousands of 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 informed by leading-edge animal science knowledge and research. □

Christmas miracle



CELESTE AND HER PUPPIES

During this past holiday season, the BC SPCA was contacted about an emaciated dog and her five puppies who had been abandoned by their guardian. “She was living outdoors and starving, but she was obviously doing everything she could to try to feed her puppies and keep them

safe,” says Bonnie Pequin of the SPCA in Nanaimo. “She was such a sweet, loving dog and a very good mother.”

Because of her low body weight, Celeste was kept on a strict “refeeding” program to slowly reintroduce nutrients to her system. She and the puppies were placed in an SPCA foster home, where they immediately won the hearts of the family. “I would lay on the floor and Celeste would come over and put her head on me and look at me with the most loving and kind eyes,” recalls Celeste’s foster mom.



CARING FOR WILD ANIMALS



Following weeks of devoted care, the pooch and her pups regained their health and were all adopted into wonderful, loving homes. “We are so thankful to our supporters for making sure that animals like Celeste and her puppies are warm and safe and get the care that they need,” says Pequin. “No animal should be left out in the cold without food or shelter.” □

A tail of courage

At just seven weeks old, Ivy was cruelly thrown from a moving vehicle. Thankfully,



IVY

a Good Samaritan was able to retrieve the little black kitten and brought her to the BC SPCA in Kelowna for help.

The impact of her harrowing ordeal was so severe that her tail skin was almost completely removed and one of her femurs was fractured. Upon examination, it was determined that her tail was beyond repair and would need amputation.

Following treatment of her hip and femur issues, Ivy was given the all-clear and has begun life anew with a loving family. Ivy

was just one of nearly 18,000 abused, injured and abandoned animals helped in our facilities by generous SPCA donors last year. ■

118,917ANIMALS ASSISTED
ACROSS B.C.**17,966**HOMELESS ANIMALS
PROVIDED WITH
EMERGENCY CARE AND
SHELTER**34,141**ANIMALS HELPED
THROUGH BC SPCA PET
FOOD BANKS**25,102**ANIMALS TREATED
THROUGH BC SPCA
VETERINARY SERVICES**8,704**ANIMALS ADOPTED INTO
NEW LOVING HOMES**2,485**LOST ANIMALS
REUNITED WITH
GUARDIANS**4,021**INJURED AND
ORPHANED WILDLIFE
REHABILITATED**4,320**ANIMALS TRANSPORTED
THROUGH THE
BC SPCA DRIVE FOR
LIVES PROGRAM**12,418**NIGHTS OF
FREE EMERGENCY
PET BOARDING**11,329**SPAY/NEUTER
SURGERIES FOR
HOMELESS AND
COMMUNITY ANIMALS**150,000**REGISTRANTS IN THE
BC PET REGISTRY TO
REUNITE LOST ANIMALS
WITH GUARDIANS**29**DOG TRAINERS AND
3 PEST CONTROL
COMPANIES
ACCREDITED THROUGH
THE BC SPCA
ANIMALKIND PROGRAM

IN 2021, 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 those put at risk during natural disasters, your support means our constables are there to protect animals, support guardians who need help caring for their pets and ensure that those who inflict suffering on animals are held accountable through the justice system. □



protect

SPCA rescues 119 dogs from single hoarder



PUPPIES (BEFORE)



PUPPIES (AFTER)

When the SPCA was called to Fort Nelson in March 2021 to help animals living in a hoarding environment, we were told to expect “about 22 dogs.” Yet as protection officers arrived, they found 119 badly neglected small-breed canines.

“The owner was very overwhelmed and did the right thing in asking for assistance,” says Marcie Moriarty, chief prevention and

enforcement officer for the BC SPCA. The 103 adult dogs and 16 puppies were brought to SPCA facilities in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek for initial intake, assessment and triage, then moved to other SPCA locations, where medical treatment and behavioural support continued. “Many of the dogs were extremely matted and were suffering from dental issues, hernias, nose abrasions, eye issues and lack of proper nutrition,”

9,077
ANIMAL CRUELTY
INVESTIGATIONS

35,832
ANIMALS ASSISTED BY BC SPCA
PROTECTION OFFICERS

1,913
ANIMALS REMOVED FROM
DANGEROUS OR NEGLECTFUL
GUARDIANS

78,134
CALLS TO THE BC SPCA
PROVINCIAL CALL CENTRE
HELPLINE

Moriarty explains. “They were also fearful of human handling.”

The dogs, which included shih tzus, terriers, papillons and other small breeds, were nursed back to health and have all since been adopted. Thank you to our supporters, who funded nearly 10,000 animal cruelty investigations across B.C. last year. ■

FINANCIAL STRENGTH, effective governance, new technologies, state-of-the-art facilities and robust employee and volunteer development programs are key to fulfilling our mission to end animal suffering. Since 2013, the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been among the elite group of Canadian organizations accredited by Imagine Canada, the national umbrella for charities and non-profits. Imagine Canada accredits organizations using a nationwide set of shared standards designed to demonstrate compliance in five fundamental areas: financial accountability and transparency; board governance; fundraising; staff management; and volunteer involvement. In 2021, the Society continued to develop and strengthen its Board and Regional Council governance structures to incorporate best practices in non-profit leadership. □



Equity, diversity and reconciliation

The BC SPCA is committed to a future where diversity, equity and reconciliation are meaningfully embedded in all aspects of our work and within the communities we serve. In our efforts to foster an environment of kindness, compassion and respect, we have a responsibility to stand up

grow

Right: Mother-son duo Megan and Cody helped their local SPCA branch go solar.

Walking the walk

Helping animals means ensuring that they have a safe, healthy world in which to live. The BC SPCA's guiding principle of sustainability and care of the environment is regularly incorporated into our programs and activities. Ten-year-old Cody Kelso, a participant in the Society's youth program, took that message to heart and showed that he was willing to "walk the walk"

to make a difference.

In March 2021, Cody and his mom, Megan, set off on a four-day hike from Gibsons to Powell River, to raise \$20,000 for a new solar roof at the Sunshine Coast SPCA in Sechelt, and an additional \$10,000 for the British Columbia Sustainable Energy Association's "Cool It" program for kids.

"They ended up raising an incredible \$23,000 for our solar panels, making the Sunshine Coast SPCA the first solar-powered



animal shelter in B.C.," says BC SPCA facilities maintenance officer Rob Lindskog. "Not only are we able to be more environmentally responsible, but the money we are saving on energy costs can now be used to help more animals." An additional \$19,500 grant from the Sunshine Coast Community Forest Legacy Fund

enabled the SPCA to also install solar water heating in Sechelt, complementing the new solar array. The SPCA is hoping to add more solar-powered facilities across B.C.

Asked about his efforts, Cody points out: "If we don't take care of the Earth and the animals now, we won't have an Earth to live on." □

for all those who are facing injustice and cruelty. The humane community which we work towards and advocate for cannot come to pass while systemic racism and intolerance exist. As an organization, we are fully committed to systemic change within the animal welfare sector through our foundational principles of diversity and inclusion; equity and accessibility; reconciliation with Indigenous peoples; intersectionality; and justice. For further details, visit spca.bc.ca/EDR-Foundational-Principles. □



Jennifer Gore hands out pet supplies during the 2021 wildfires.

Our volunteer heroes!

When unprecedented wildfires and floods devastated communities across B.C. last year, the SPCA was on hand to help animals and their guardians affected by the disasters. That emergency response would not have been possible without the help of our incredible volunteers. They opened their homes to displaced animals, distributed pet food, crates, leashes, toys and other supplies through Emergency Support Services centres, and helped to care for animals who were offered free pet emergency boarding at SPCA shelters.

Jennifer Gore, a former SPCA manager, Board chair and longtime volun-

teer, worked alongside a dedicated team of volunteers providing pet food and other essentials to evacuated pet guardians in Kamloops. "Many of the people we met were tired, stressed, overwhelmed and grieving," says Gore. "Some had lost everything; others were still looking for their missing pets." She says offering practical help and information was key, but emotional support was just as valuable. "Sometimes the most important thing we could do was just listen and hear their stories so they knew that they were not alone."

Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who donated their time and talents in 2021 to create a better world for animals. ■



Leadership team

BC SPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Melissa Barcellos**
President
- **Emmy Blouin**
- **Kurtis Bosecke**
- **Victoria Brydon**
- **Barbara Coe**
- **Lindsay Curry**
- **Mark Montemurro**
- **Diane Nguyen**
- **Catherine Ruby**
- **Jason Scultety**
- **Ashley Thandi**

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

- **Craig Daniell**
Chief Executive Officer
- **Lorie Chortyk**
General Manager, Communications
- **Shoni Field**
Chief Development Officer
- **Marcie Moriarty**
Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer
- **Craig Naherniak**
General Manager, Humane Education
- **Parm Takhar**
Chief Operations Officer
- **Emily Thorner**
Chief Financial and Technology Officer
- **Jolie Wist**
General Manager, Human Resources

574

SKILLED AND CARING STAFF

3,804

DEDICATED
VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP
US EXPAND OUR SERVICES
TO ANIMALS

158,718

VOLUNTEER
HOURS PROVIDED

43

BC SPCA FACILITIES
DEDICATED
TO THE CARE AND
PROTECTION
OF ANIMALS

Your generosity in action



**FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU GAVE IN 2021,
HERE IS HOW YOU HELPED THE ANIMALS**



36¢ EMERGENCY SHELTER & COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Provided a temporary home for **17,966** abandoned, injured and abused animals, helped **4,021** injured and orphaned wildlife and assisted **79,551** animals in the community.

20¢ CHECK-UPS & MEDICAL TREATMENT



Ensured animals get an initial health check and are spayed or neutered. Sick or injured animals receive further treatment.

11¢ CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS



Conducted **9,077** new cruelty investigations. The BC SPCA is the only animal welfare organization in B.C. with the authority to enforce laws related to animal cruelty.

6¢ PREVENTING FUTURE SUFFERING

Helped stop the cycle of violence and made our communities safer for animals through humane education and advocacy.

11¢ SUPPORTING THE ANIMALS

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

15¢ MAKING FRIENDS FOR THE ANIMALS

Allowed more than 118,900 animals to be helped this year thanks to generous donors. Fundraising truly is friendraising! Thank you!

REVENUES (IN \$000s)

Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021 Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020

Donations & Fundraising	\$23,854	\$21,443
Legacy & Life Insurance*	\$7,548	\$5,602
Kenneling & Bylaw Enforcement	\$2,667	\$1,980
Sheltering, Medical, Clinical Services & Social Enterprise Services	\$7,093	\$7,205
Lotteries & Raffles	\$2,242	\$1,379
Government Grants & Subsidies	\$1,050	\$3,881
Other Grants	\$540	\$834
Investment Income	\$6,569	\$1,552
Capital Gains/Losses	\$1	\$(14)

Total **\$51,564** **\$43,862**

EXPENDITURES (IN \$000s)

Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021 Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020

Sheltering, Kenneling, Bylaw Enforcement & Social Enterprise	\$14,739	\$14,435
Veterinary Care & Spay/Neuter	\$2,916	\$2,689
Cruelty Investigations	\$4,623	\$3,873
Humane Education	\$1,390	\$886
Advocacy & Volunteer Development	\$1,093	\$1,183
Hospitals & Clinics	\$4,823	\$4,457
Animal Health & Welfare	\$922	\$775
Administration & Program Support	\$4,482	\$4,352
Revenue Development	\$6,025	\$5,865

Total **\$41,013** **\$38,515**

*Cents per dollar includes only the above expenditures and does not include amortization.

TOTALS (IN \$000s)

Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021 Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020

Operating Surplus Before the Undernoted	\$10,551	\$5,347
Amortization	\$2,420	\$2,361
Bank Charges and Interest	\$698	\$587
Net Operating Surplus**	\$7,433	\$2,399

* 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.

** Revenues include government grants and wage subsidies. Reported surplus is primarily designated gifts for future facility development expenditures.

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.

