

BCSPCA 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends: We are pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report of the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA). Your ongoing support and generosity have enabled the BC SPCA to assist 120,336 animals during 2022, 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. Thanks to your incredible commitment, the BC SPCA can continue to serve as the safety net for animals in need in B.C., especially at a time when the animal welfare sector is experiencing increased intake at shelters, a chronic lack of available veterinary care throughout the province and growing pet food insecurity concerns for animal guardians. 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

VICTORIA BRYDON
Chair
BC SPCA Board of Directors

inspire

WITH THE HELP OF OUR GENEROUS

supporters, the BC SPCA works to create a safer and kinder world for companion, farm and wild animals through our education and advocacy programs. In 2022, we empowered animal lovers of all ages to take action on behalf of animals in their communities through our youth programs, media campaigns, website resources, social media channels and advocacy with all levels of government. Last year, we advocated on issues such as live horse export, fur farming, “debarking” dogs, the poisoning of large mammals across Canada, fireworks, the need for video surveillance in slaughterhouses, new national welfare standards for dairy cows and banning rodenticides in B.C. ■



#SCRAP THE SCALPEL

15,968

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

245,175

VISITS TO OUR “TAKE ACTION”
ADVOCACY WEB PAGE

11

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

232,452

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS HELPING
US SPREAD THE WORD

6.8 Million

WEBSITE VISITS FOR NEWS AND
EDUCATION ON ANIMAL ISSUES

Who says a small group of caring individuals can’t create widespread change? Inspired by classroom presentations by the SPCA and the Society for Humane Science, a small group of animal-loving Grade 9 students from Okanagan Mission Secondary in Kelowna set out to make a difference for animals. They formed a group called Our Voice for Change, with a goal to end the use of animals in dissection.

“The group not only shares a passion for animals and their rights, but they also share a dream of a more sustainable education system,” says Keigan Hollefriend, BC SPCA humane educator.

These student activists created a website and mounted an influential social media campaign with slogans including “ditch dissection” and “scrap the scalpel.” A persuasive Youth TedX Talk in front of peers, parents and teachers earned them a \$5,000 grant to help make their vision a reality, and the group successfully implemented a student choice policy in their school. The grant allowed them to equip the school with dissection software and other resources so teachers could meet the science learning outcomes without using real animals. Furthermore, Our Voice for Change went on to get the policy implemented in all District 23 schools. ■

Goat welfare: Raising the barn

There are approximately 230,000 goats in Canada, most of whom are farmed commercially for milk, meat, wool or mohair. Up until recently, however, these animals were being raised to welfare standards that had gone unchanged for nearly two decades.

In November 2022, the long-awaited update to the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Goats was released. “This latest version includes significant changes that will improve the

welfare of goats on farms across Canada,” says Melissa Speirs, BC SPCA manager of farm animal welfare. Speirs, an animal welfare scientist with goat welfare experience, represented Humane Canada, the national umbrella organization for SPCAs and humane societies, on the code development committee.

A draft version of the code was released to the public in 2021, and Canadians had the opportunity to review it and suggest changes. British Columbians



once again showed how much they care about animal welfare, providing nearly three-quarters of the feedback received across the country. The code development committee reviewed all comments and made extensive changes to the final version.

“The code now

includes new welfare standards around enrichment, space allowance, veterinary care and pain control,” says Speirs. “While more research is needed, the update reflects important scientific evidence developed in the last 20 years and has definitely raised the bar for goat welfare.” ■

Phasing out the poison

Thanks to public pressure from animal lovers across the province, there have been positive – and permanent – changes to rodenticide use practices in B.C.

In October 2022, the provincial government announced that a temporary ban on the widespread sale and use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) would now become permanent. SGARs are among the most commonly used rodenticides. They act by thinning the blood and preventing it from clotting, which causes internal bleeding that results in a slow and painful death



for rodents. Because SGARs were designed to be extremely potent, rodents can die after eating only a single dose of bait. “Unfortunately, this also means they are much more toxic to animals who eat poisoned rodents,” says Erin Ryan, BC SPCA wild animal welfare

specialist. “They have been harming wild animals like owls, eagles, raccoons and cougars, as well as pets like cats or even dogs who sometimes directly consume the bait.” Ryan notes that SGARs also cause more widespread harm, becoming toxins in soil and water systems.

BC SPCA experts, including Ryan, were integral to the government’s decision to make the ban permanent, having been invited to participate in a scientific review of SGARs earlier in the year. “This is a big step forward for animal welfare,” says Ryan. “The ban protects wild animals from exposure to the most dangerous rodenticides, while promoting more effective and humane methods of rodent control.” ■

care

LAST YEAR, staff and volunteers in our animal care facilities provided direct emergency care and shelter for nearly 16,000 companion, farm and wild animals, as well as 7,000 nights of free emergency pet boarding for individuals fleeing violent domestic situations and natural disasters. Together, we also ensured that 12,566 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. ■



LAST YEAR, WILD ARC, THE BC SPCA'S WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTRE, HELPED MORE THAN 3,300 WILD ANIMALS IN NEED.

Love, care & fresh air!



A little dog who tested positive for opioids, cocaine and amphetamines after being rescued by BC SPCA animal protection officers from a Vancouver residence is now living her best life

with a new loving family. Officers seized Bailey in December 2022, when the SPCA received a complaint that she was being repeatedly exposed to hard drugs in her owner's unit. Neighbours reported seeing the six-year-old Havanese-cross

exhibiting troubling symptoms, ranging from whimpering and shaking to lethargy and an inability to stand upright. The SPCA discovered that Bailey may have been exposed to drugs on an almost-daily basis. After being rescued, she was immediately rushed to a veterinarian, where tests showed that she had several illicit substances in her system. Once she was cleared medically, Bailey was placed in foster care the same day with an SPCA staff member.

"I saw her when she was first brought in and I could not stop thinking about her sweet face and sad eyes," says foster mom Stephanie.

"Even though I could only foster her for a couple of weeks because I was going away over Christmas, I wanted to take her home to show her what a safe, loving family was like."

Stephanie says Bailey slowly came out of her shell in foster care and was soon enjoying walks, playing with toys, snacking on treats and snuggling on the couch. At Christmas, Bailey was placed in a second, experienced SPCA foster home, where her confidence and health continued to flourish.

Meanwhile, Stephanie just couldn't stop thinking about the little dog who had stolen her heart. She stepped in

Warming embrace

When the BC SPCA responded

to a complaint at a North Okanagan home last December, they discovered a very pregnant Australian shepherd chained to a wall in a freezing basement. SPCA officers also found six golden retriever puppies, huddled together for warmth, as well as two adult retrievers. The

to foster Bailey once again, and following legal proceedings that awarded the SPCA permanent custody of the dog, Stephanie formally adopted her in April 2023. An avid hiker, Stephanie has introduced Bailey to the joys of the great outdoors. “Her past, scary life is well behind her,” the proud guardian says. “Bailey just loves running around, curling up in front of a campfire and keeping warm sleeping between us in the tent. There will be a lot of hikes and camping adventures in her future!” Thank you to our kind and generous supporters, who make happy endings for animals like Bailey possible. ■



THE PUPS OF AN AUSSIE SHEPHERD SEIZED FROM AN IRRESPONSIBLE BREEDER POSE WITH THEIR FOSTER PARENTS, MARTYN AND LINDA.

basement was strewn with injurious objects and was piled with feces, with strong ammonia levels from urine. “The basement had no heat or insulation, there was no bedding except for a little bit of alfalfa, and the only accessible water was filthy and in an unclean bowl,” says Eileen Drever, BC SPCA’s senior officer for protection and stakeholder relations.

The dogs were immediately taken into SPCA custody and provided with veterinary treatment and care in a warm, safe environment. “Our Aussie shepherd mom gave birth to seven healthy and rambunctious puppies at our Kelowna facility and one of our amazing volunteer foster couples, Martyn and Linda, stepped up to care for the new mom and all of the puppies until they were ready for adoption,” Drever explains. “She is such a sweet, loving dog

and took amazing care of her babies.” In fact, all of the dogs rescued from the property are now in loving homes.

Drever says this case was among the many complaints SPCA animal protection officers responded to last year involving individuals who began breeding animals when the market for pets surged amidst COVID-19. “Unfortunately, many of these breeders were not caring for their animals properly, and as the market for puppies declined post-COVID, the situation got worse.”

In addition to animals seized through cruelty investigations, the SPCA took in large numbers of puppies surrendered from individuals who no longer wanted to care for litters they couldn’t sell. “We could not provide this emergency care and sheltering without the incredible support of our caring donors,” says Drever. ■

120,336

ANIMALS ASSISTED
ACROSS B.C.

15,752

HOMELESS ANIMALS
PROVIDED WITH
EMERGENCY CARE AND
SHELTER

41,019

ANIMALS HELPED
THROUGH BC SPCA PET
FOOD BANKS

16,228

ANIMALS TREATED
THROUGH BC SPCA
VETERINARY SERVICES

9,773

ANIMALS ADOPTED
INTO NEW LOVING
HOMES

2,032

LOST ANIMALS
REUNITED WITH
GUARDIANS

3,315

INJURED AND
ORPHANED WILDLIFE
REHABILITATED

4,664

ANIMALS TRANSPORTED
THROUGH THE
BC SPCA DRIVE FOR
LIVES PROGRAM

7,000+

NIGHTS OF
FREE EMERGENCY
PET BOARDING

12,566

SPAY/NEUTER
SURGERIES FOR
HOMELESS AND
COMMUNITY ANIMALS

174,000

REGISTRANTS IN THE
BC PET REGISTRY TO
REUNITE LOST ANIMALS
WITH GUARDIANS

32

DOG TRAINERS AND
PEST CONTROL
COMPANIES
ACCREDITED THROUGH
THE BC SPCA
ANIMALKIND PROGRAM

IN 2022, 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



Essential Intervention

8,069

ANIMAL CRUELTY
INVESTIGATIONS

37,729

ANIMALS ASSISTED
BY BC SPCA PROTECTION
OFFICERS

2,751

ANIMALS REMOVED FROM
DANGEROUS OR NEGLECTFUL
SITUATIONS

72,293

CALLS TO THE BC SPCA
PROVINCIAL HELPLINE

In June 2022, BC SPCA animal protection officers were called to a trailer on a property in Fort St. James. Inside that trailer, they found 120 cats and three small dogs living in filthy and unsafe conditions. The animals were suffering from a range of medical conditions, including emaciation, upper respiratory infections, extreme flea infestations, urine scald, eye infections, dental issues, ear mites and wounds.

“The entryway and hallway to the bedrooms were covered in layers of feces and the entire trailer was very hot and filled with an overwhelming ammonia smell due to the build-up of urine,” says Shawn Eccles, the BC SPCA’s manager of animal protection services. “The majority of the cats were hiding in kitchen cupboards, under the fridge and under furniture in the sparsely decorated trailer. Many of them were having difficulty breathing, and there was no water present. The little bit of dry cat food that had been scattered on the floor was contaminated with urine and feces.” In addition to the 120 cats, three Chihuahuas found in the trailer were seized and treated for dental disease, hair loss and grooming issues.

“Any time we are dealing with situations of animal hoarding, it is devastating for both the animals and their guardians, who are often facing mental health challenges,” says Eccles. “Last year, our animal protection officers dealt with many large-scale investigations involving animal hoarders right across B.C. We are so grateful to our supporters, who make it possible to rescue these animals and get them the emergency care they urgently need.” ■

608

SKILLED AND CARING STAFF

3,304

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS WHO
HELP US EXPAND OUR SERVICES
TO ANIMALS

198,792

VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED

41

BC SPCA FACILITIES DEDICATED
TO THE CARE AND PROTECTION
OF ANIMALS

FINANCIAL STRENGTH, effective governance, efficient use of technology, 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 2022, the BC SPCA dedicated significant attention to the areas of cybersecurity, new technologies to streamline operational and business practices, and matters relating to mental health, equity, diversity, inclusion and reconciliation. ■



DEVOTED VOLUNTEER JOYCE MARHOFF HAS SPENT ALMOST 30 OF HER 100 YEARS ON THIS EARTH VOLUNTEERING WITH THE BC SPCA.

grow

Ode to Joyce

When asked about why she volunteered with the SPCA for nearly 30 years, 100-year-old Joyce Marhoff sums up her dedication in two words: “the animals.”

“I loved it because of the animals – animals come first with me, it’s always been that way.”

Until recently, Joyce volunteered at the Maple Ridge location as a greeter and a pet adoption counsellor, responsible for matching potential guardians with the animals in care. Moreover, she volunteered out in the community, helping to raise funds for the BC SPCA. “She’s always been a friendly face at the front desk and was

so wonderful with the animals,” says Krista Shaw, who previously worked alongside Joyce as manager of the Maple Ridge animal centre. Shaw says Joyce was so beloved by staff and other SPCA volunteers that when it became difficult for her to get to the centre, staff would pick her up on their way to work.

“BC SPCA volunteers like Joyce are compassionate animal lovers who play a key role in caring for and improving the lives of domestic, wild and farm animals across B.C.,” says Lindsay Baker, the BC SPCA’s senior manager, volunteer resources. “Our work would not be possible without the time, talent and passion they share with us.” ■

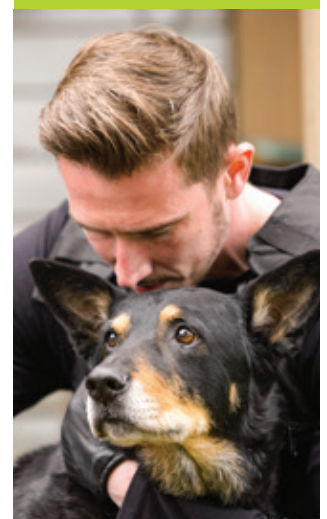
Leadership team

BC SPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Victoria Brydon
Chair
- Jessie Adcock
- Kurtis Bosecke
- Harj Dhaliwal
- Mark Montemurro
- Catherine Ruby
- Rochelle Stevenson
- Ashley Thandi
- Rebecca Levi

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Craig Daniell
Chief Executive Officer
- Lorie Chortyk
Chief Communications Officer
- Shoni Field
Chief Development Officer
- Marcie Moriarty
Chief, Protection & Outreach Services
- Craig Naherniak
Chief, Social Change
- Parm Takhar
Chief, Animal Care Services
- Emily Thorner
*Chief Financial Officer/
Chief Technology Officer*
- Jolie Wist
Chief People Officer



Your Generosity in Action

FOR EVERY DOLLAR
YOU GAVE IN **2022**,
HERE IS HOW YOU
HELPED THE ANIMALS

36¢ EMERGENCY SHELTER & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Provided a temporary home for **15,762** abandoned, injured and abused animals, helped injured and orphaned wildlife and assisted **86,217** animals in the community.



10¢ CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS

Conducted **8,069** new animal protection investigations. The BC SPCA is the only animal welfare organization in B.C. with the authority to enforce laws related to animal cruelty.



19¢ CHECK-UPS & MEDICAL TREATMENT

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



12¢ SUPPORTING THE ANIMALS

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



6¢ PREVENTING FUTURE SUFFERING

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

17¢ MAKING FRIENDS FOR THE ANIMALS

Allowed more than **118,600** animals to be helped this year thanks to generous donors. Fundraising truly is friendraising! Thank you!

REVENUES (IN \$000s)	Oct. 1, 2021 to Sept. 30, 2022	Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021
Donations Et Fundraising	\$26,159	\$23,854
Legacy Et Life Insurance*	\$27,367	\$7,548
Kenneling Et Bylaw Enforcement	\$3,152	\$2,667
Sheltering, Medical, Clinical Services Et Social Enterprise Services	\$7,247	\$7,093
Lotteries Et Raffles	\$4,252	\$2,242
Government Grants Et Subsidies	-	\$1,050
Other Grants	\$1,250	\$540
Investment Income	\$(3,666)	\$6,569
Capital Gains/Losses	\$49	\$1
Total	\$65,810	\$51,564

EXPENDITURES (IN \$000s)	Oct. 1, 2021 to Sept. 30, 2022	Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021
Sheltering, Kenneling, Bylaw Enforcement Et Social Enterprise	\$16,655	\$14,739
Veterinary Care Et Spay/Neuter	\$3,382	\$2,916
Cruelty Investigations	\$4,577	\$4,623
Humane Education	\$1,187	\$1,390
Advocacy Et Volunteer Development	\$1,770	\$1,093
Hospitals Et Clinics	\$4,702	\$4,823
Animal Health Et Welfare	\$869	\$922
Administration Et Program Support	\$5,551	\$4,482
Revenue Development	\$7,889	\$6,025
Total	\$46,582	\$41,013

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

TOTALS (IN \$000s)	Oct. 1, 2021 to Sept. 30, 2022	Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021
Operating Surplus Before the Undernoted	\$19,228	\$10,551
Amortization	\$2,456	\$2,420
Bank Charges Et Interest	\$751	\$698
Net Operating Surplus**	\$16,021	\$7,433

* 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.

** Internally restricted by the Board of Directors for the creation of an Operating Reserve, funding of strategic initiatives and facilities maintenance and replacement.

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.

