

**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**  
(the “BC SPCA” or “Society”)

Minutes of the **128<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the Society  
Saturday April 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. (PST)  
Held via TEAMS Video Conferencing

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Victoria Brydon (Board Chair), Melissa Barcellos (Board Vice-Chair), Catherine Ruby (Treasurer), Mark Montemurro, Kurtis Bosecke, Harj Dhaliwal, Rochelle Stevenson, Rebecca Levi, Ashley Thandi, Craig Daniell (CEO) and Carol-Ann Leeson (EA & Recording Secretary)

**EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Emily Thorner (Chief Financial Officer & Chief Technology Officer), Marcie Moriarty (Chief Protection & Outreach Services), Parm Takhar (Chief Animal Care Services), Lorie Chortyk (Director of Communications), Jolie Wist (Chief People Officer)

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**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Notice of the Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) having been given to all Members of the Society on March 29, 2023, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Society, Victoria Brydon acted as Chair, and called the AGM to order at 9:00am PST noting that a quorum of 50 voting Members had been met, and the meeting was duly convened.

The Members were welcomed to the 128<sup>th</sup> AGM and provided an overview of the meeting proceedings and instructions to indicate their desire to speak.

**2.0 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair acknowledged their participation in the AGM is from the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh traditional territory of the Indigenous First Nations People; and that each meeting participant are on respective territories of the Indigenous First Nations People.

**3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The Members were asked if there are any requested changes to the agenda, of which none were noted.

*Upon motion made by Laura Shanner, resolved, that the Agenda be adopted as presented.*

**CARRIED**

**4.0 APPROVAL OF AGM MINUTES**

The Members were asked if any errors or omissions were identified within the minutes of the 127<sup>th</sup> AGM, of which none were noted.

*Upon motion made by Laura Shanner, resolved, that the minutes of the 127<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on April 9, 2022, be approved as presented.*

**CARRIED**

**5.0 BOARD CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chair presented their Annual Report to the Membership and highlighted the work of the Board over the course of the 2022/2023 governance year that included, ensuring that the Society’s compensation structure was competitive within the non-for-profit sector and internal support for mental health and reconciliation initiatives were continuing to be developed. Revisions and updates were made to various governance policies and terms of references, and position statements were revised and updated, including the recent amendments and updates to the Society’s bylaws which were approved by 97% of the voting members in favour.

## 5.0 BOARD CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT (continued from previous page)

The Chair applauded the work of the Society on advancing animal welfare within BC and across Canada and the enhancement of the cyber security within the organization and noted that work on the new strategic plan is in process.

The Chair acknowledged their fellow Board members and their commitment to the Society, and thanked the CEO, Executive Leadership Team, Executive Assistant to the CEO, and Membership Governance Assistant for their efforts to ensure that the Board and Regional Councils continue to function at a high-level. The Chair noted that the 2023/2024 governance year will be their last year as Board Chair. The forum was open to questions.

## 6.0 CEO ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair introduced Craig Daniell (CEO) who welcomed all Members to the AGM and thanked the dedicated BC SPCA staff & volunteers, as the Society was able to assist more than 120,336 animals through our direct care, community programs and support services in 2022. The CEO then provided an overview of the highlights of the Society over the past governance year, that included:

- Volunteers contributed over 211,000 hours in assisting animals.
- Animal Protection responded to 8,069 animal cruelty complaints, helped 34,989 animals, and removed 2,752 from danger or neglect, and the Animal Helpline received 72,293 calls.
- 15,762 animals were rescued, 9,773 adopted into new homes, and 2,032 lost animals were reunited with their families.
- Human Education presented in-person and hybrid-virtually to over 11,000 children & youth and re-introduced the summer camp program for over 936 children, and 7,000 youths were engaged in the BC SPCA Kids Club.
- The Society successfully advocated for a permanent increase in the number of BC veterinary students who can attend Western College of Veterinary Medicine.
- Veterinary Services treated 16,228 animals; 12,566 surgeries were performed. The Burnaby Veterinary Hospital was closed due to the veterinarian and vet technician shortage.
- Progress was made in Community Support with 41,019 animals helped through BC SPCA Pet Food Banks, 97,609 kg of dry food and 53,932 cans of wet food were supplied, and pet food banks were operated within 134 community programs.
- The Emergency Response Program provided 7,000 nights of free compassionate boarding.
- The Wildlife Rehab Program helped 2,459 wild animals at Wild ARC, 833 at our centres, and the Animal helpline answered 7,146 calls pertaining to wildlife in 2022.
- AnimalKind accredited 35 dog training and rodent control companies and introduced new Companion Animal Service Standards for daycare, walking, boarding and grooming businesses.
- BC Pet Registry registered 23,901 new animals for a total of 174,000 animals registered and provided grants for pet guardians with low incomes.
- Work on the Vancouver Project continues, for the replacement of the Animal Centre built in 1955, the Animal Hospital built in 1978, and for a new Provincial Office.
- Work on the Cowichan Project continues and will include the first dedicated Animal Behaviour Centre in Canada and provide services across Vancouver Island.
- The North Peace facility closed due to structural concerns, and a leasehold property has been secured and scheduled to be operational shortly to serve shorter term needs.

The CEO provided an update on the provincial government funding for capital projects; and highlighted some of the accomplishments in the support services departments with Revenue Development, Communication, Finance & IT, and People Services. The Board was thanked for their commitment, Melissa Barcellos for their dedication to the Society while serving three consecutive three-year terms, and the Chair for giving so much of their time. The forum was opened to questions on the CEO Annual Report to Members.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chair introduced Catherine Ruby (Treasurer) and Emily Thorner (CFO/CTO) who provided their reports on the 2022 Audited Financial Statements of the BC SPCA for the year ended September 30, 2022, with the CFO/CTO presenting an overview of the financial highlights of the Society, that included:

- A strong growth in assets and effective management of liabilities, with having no debt and a stable balance sheet, operating with a balanced budget mandate.
- A long-term financial model (30 years) has been developed, and various scenarios have been tested including inflation of expenses, competitive compensation models, and investment performance.
- A material increase in Fundraising revenue due to existing supporters and steady incremental investments in Revenue Development.
- An investment return of 5% compared to our benchmark of 7%
- An increase in Administrative expenses of 1% and Revenue Development expenses by 2%.
- A Capital Fund of \$55M consisting of \$30M in capital assets and \$26M in externally restricted gifts to be used for capital projects.
- An Operating Fund closing balance of \$10M, internally restricted by the Board of Directors for specific uses, including strategic priorities and facility replacement.
- An Internally Restricted Fund of \$20M, internally restricted by the Board for use towards achieving the priorities in the Strategic Plan and Facilities Replacement and Maintenance.
- The Endowment Fund of \$2M externally restricted and held in perpetuity.
- An increase in total assets from \$113.6M to \$115.8M driven by the increase in restricted gifts.
- A decrease in Deferred Contributions from \$46.1M to \$34.4M.

The Treasurer reported that the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended September 30, 2022, have been reviewed by the Finance & Audit Committee, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve the year-end Audited Financial Statements. On January 16, 2023, the Board approved the Audited Financial Statements. The forum was opened for questions.

*Upon motion made by Catherine Ruby, resolved, that the Audited Financial Statements of The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the year ended September 30, 2022, along with the auditor's report thereon, are received as presented.*

**CARRIED**

## **8.0 BOARD COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Each of the four Board Committee Chairs reported on their respective Committee's, providing an overview of the role, responsibilities, and composition of their committee, and highlighting the accomplishments over the past governance year as reflected in the respective Committee AGM Information Reports to Members provided in the AGM meeting material. Upon conclusion of each Committee report, the Committee Chairs opened the forum to questions.

## **9.0 REGIONAL COUNCILS ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chair referred the Members to the Activities Report from the Regional Councils included in the AGM meeting material, and the Report was taken as read. The Chair thanked the Members of the Regional Councils and Board Committees who served as Chairs and Vice-Chairs and encouraged Members to join their respective Regional Council.

## **10.0 CONFIRMATION OF OFFICE OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

The Chair acknowledged and thanked outgoing Board Directors Kurtis Bosecke and Melissa Barcellos for their dedication and commitment in serving as Directors of the Society; and shared the results of the recent election noting that Erin Egeland and Nichola Wade have been elected for their first term as Regional Directors for the Vancouver Island, Gulf Islands, and Powell River Region, and the acclamation of Cheryl Pelletier as a Regional Director the Cariboo & North Region.

*Upon motion made by Laura Shanner, resolved, that Cheryl Pelletier, Erin Egeland and Nichola Wade be confirmed as Regional Directors of The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for a three-year term beginning April 22, 2023.*

**CARRIED**

11. CONCLUSION

The Chair thanked the Membership for attending the 128<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

*Upon motion made by Kurtis Bosecke, resolved, that the 128<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Members be concluded at 10:02am PST.*

***CARRIED***

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Signed By: Victoria Brydon, Board Chair  
Minutes to be approved at the March 23, 2024, Annual General Meeting

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