

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT



SASKATCHEWAN

SPCA

The Provincial Voice on Animal Welfare





SASKATCHEWAN
SPCA

WHO WE ARE



Established in 1928, the Saskatchewan SPCA is a registered charity dedicated to the humane treatment of animals. We are an animal welfare organization, focusing on the prevention of animal cruelty through education.

Our vision

To ensure the humane treatment of animals.

Our mission

To be the provincial voice on animal welfare.

Our guiding principles

The Saskatchewan SPCA...

- ◆ Accepts the use of animals by humans.
- ◆ Generates public awareness to prevent animal suffering.
- ◆ Promotes the mutually beneficial relationship between animals and humans.
- ◆ Believes that animal welfare should be considered in terms of the Five Freedoms.
- ◆ Takes a collaborative approach to achieve its mission and vision.
- ◆ Is a transparent organization that is respected for its innovation, integrity, and passion.

The Saskatchewan SPCA is a registered Canadian charity: 119140440 RR0001

Canadian registered charities can issue official donation receipts for gifts they receive from individuals and corporations. Financial information including the public portions of our annual information return is available on the Government of Canada website: www.canada.ca. Follow the links under Taxes / Charities and Giving / List of charities and other qualified donees / Charities. Search "Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals."

Copies of our audited financial statements are also available upon request. Please phone 1.877.382.7722 (306.382.7722).

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SASKATCHEWAN

On March 7th, the Saskatchewan SPCA hosted an open house in honour of our 90th anniversary. Staff, volunteers, partners, and dignitaries were in attendance to help celebrate this milestone event.

The event featured the official launch of the new Saskatchewan SPCA specialty licence plate promotion. The licence plate features our logo and the slogan, ***Respect for Animals***.

Saskatchewan vehicle owners can purchase their licence plate at SGI motor licence issuers throughout the province. For more information on the specialty licence plates, visit the SGI website at <https://www.sgi.sk.ca/personalized-plates>.



(L-R) Sheri Benson, MP, Saskatoon-West, Bev Dubois, Saskatoon City Councillor, Dr. Betty Althouse, Chief Veterinary Officer, Kevin Waugh, MP, Saskatoon-Grasswood

HOW WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We are working in collaboration with our partners and stakeholders to:

Assist the human and the animal victims of violence

The relationship between animal abuse and interpersonal violence – commonly referred to as “the Link” – continues to be a key focus for the Saskatchewan SPCA. In September, we were very pleased to host *The Link Conference: Exploring the Relationship Between Animal Abuse and Interpersonal Violence*. This 2-day event in Regina brought together a variety of individuals from animal welfare organizations, human service agencies, the provincial government, and law enforcement. Participants learned about the Link and discussed strategies to address the needs of the human and the animal victims of violence and abuse.

Dr. Randall Lockwood, one of the leading authorities on the violence link, delivered the conference’s keynote address. He explained how animals can be used as a tool for the abuser to control and punish victims, and how the threats of violence toward animals could prevent victims from leaving a violent situation.

Support from the Community Initiatives Fund has been instrumental in our efforts to build safer, healthier communities. Leanne Sillers, the Saskatchewan SPCA’s Animal Safekeeping Coordinator, continues to raise awareness of the relationship between domestic violence, animal abuse, elder abuse, and animal cruelty. In the period March 2017 to March 2018, she delivered 24 presentations to more than 500 front-line service providers in the province. She was a guest expert on the CKOM/CJME radio show, *Talk to the Experts*, where she discussed animal safekeeping resources for the victims of domestic violence who own pets or livestock. Her interview is available at sspca.ca/education-resources.

We have developed and distributed a series of brochures with information on pet safety planning and how to recognize and report abuse. The brochures are available at no charge through our website.

In December, Executive Director Frances Wach attended the first-ever National Link Conference, hosted by the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS). Building on the momentum from this conference, a National Violence Link Coalition was established. The Saskatchewan SPCA is pleased to be a part of this Canadian initiative working to end violence against humans and animals.

The Saskatchewan SPCA’s role as a community partner continues to grow as Josh Hourie, our Community Relations Coordinator, serves as a member of the Saskatchewan Towards Offering Partnership Solutions (STOPS) to Violence Tasks Committee.



Establish a voluntary registration program for animal rescues

The Working Group established to create a new voluntary certification program for animal rescues in Saskatchewan continues to make progress. The aim of the program is to improve the welfare of rescued and homeless animals by ensuring their physical, mental, and behavioural needs are met.

The group has drafted a checklist of basic standards of care that are applicable for both dog and cat rescues. This document is based on the *Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters (2010)* developed by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV) and the *ASPCA Shelter Care Checklists: Putting ASV Guidelines into Action*.

A public meeting was held in October 2017 to provide updates and gather feedback on the proposed program and standards. A total of 38 people from 20 different animal welfare organizations attended the meeting in Saskatoon.

Additional public meetings are planned for other Saskatchewan communities in the fall of 2018, thanks to a grant received from the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada.



The registration and certification program is being developed by a Working Group comprised of representatives from animal rescues, SPCAs/Humane Societies, the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association, Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists and the Saskatchewan SPCA.

Help retired police dogs through our Stryker K-9 Care Fund

The Saskatchewan SPCA Stryker K-9 Care Fund is one of the first of its kind in Canada, providing financial assistance with the cost of routine and emergency veterinary care for retired police dogs. Initially the program was open to dogs that served with the RCMP or a municipal police force in Saskatchewan. The fund was expanded in February to include dogs that served with Canada Border Services Agency.

This year, the Saskatchewan SPCA awarded \$4,235 to seven retired K-9s.

The Regina Police Service and the Saskatoon Police Service have been enthusiastic supporters of this initiative. They each produced calendars featuring photos of members of their respective K-9 units. Proceeds from calendar sales support the Stryker K-9 Care Fund.



(Left) Holly served with Canada Border Services Agency in North Portal before her retirement.

(Right) Ozzie served with the Saskatoon Police Service from 2013-2017.

Raise awareness of animal welfare issues

As the provincial voice on animal welfare, the Saskatchewan SPCA works to promote the humane treatment of animals and prevent animal cruelty. This year saw the creation of a series of fact sheets covering topics such as pet food labels, pet identification, spay and neuter, and cold weather care. These fact sheets are available for download via the Saskatchewan SPCA website.

May 2017 saw the implementation of a new month-long social media awareness campaign called Animal Health 101. Through this campaign, we were able to reach more than 14,000 people with information on basic animal care. Topics included colic in horses, dental health, hoof care, leash safety, socialization, ringworm, and second-hand smoke. Information for Animal Health 101 was provided by the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.



We are expanding our community outreach activities. We delivered dog bite prevention programs for elementary school aged children in Saskatoon. In the fall we travelled to Regina to attend Canadian Western Agribition, where we taught students about responsible pet care. We participated in the Do Good Festival in Regina and the Yorkton Pet Expo, helping raise awareness of the Saskatchewan SPCA and our programs.

We continued to communicate with our stakeholders through our quarterly newsletter, *The Humanitarian*. The newsletter is available in print and electronic formats and is delivered to our members on a seasonal basis. *Saskatchewan Humane News* (SHN) is a monthly e-bulletin that is geared toward those in the livestock industry and the provincial animal welfare sector. To be added to the SHN distribution list, subscribe at sspca.ca/humanenews.



Advocate for improved animal welfare legislation

The Saskatchewan SPCA continues to be actively involved in the development of a provincial animal welfare strategy in Saskatchewan. We participated in stakeholder meetings hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture to explore further directions for improvements to the existing animal welfare system. We continue to consult with the Ministry to offer feedback on the strategy and proposed changes to *The Animal Protection Act and Regulations*, expected to be enacted in 2018.

The Saskatchewan SPCA is a charitable organization that does not receive any government funding. As such, we rely on the generosity of our members, donors, sponsors, and supporters.

In March, we launched a new promotion that offers people the chance to show their support for animal welfare in a unique way. Individuals can purchase licence plates bearing the Saskatchewan SPCA logo. The plates can be personalized and are available for cars, trucks, motorcycles, and snowmobiles.

We were pleased to be chosen to take part in the Vodka for Dog People promotion. We received \$2.50 for each bottle of Tito's Handmade Vodka sold in select Saskatchewan stores. The promotion ran in July 2017 and again in February 2018. The Saskatchewan SPCA would like to offer a sincere thank you to Tito's and their customers for the generous support.

We have begun planning for Muddy Buddy, a new pet- and family-friendly outdoor obstacle run scheduled for August 2018.

The 2017 Saskatchewan SPCA Critter Classic was held at Green Acres Golf Club in Regina on Saturday, September 16th. Golfers from across Saskatchewan gathered for a fun-filled day of golf, fellowship, and good food.

Our Christmas and Summer Cash Lotteries continue to be popular with animal lovers from across the province.

PRIORITIES FOR 2018-2019

- ◆ Develop an updated strategic plan for the Saskatchewan SPCA.
- ◆ Secure the necessary funding to proceed with a pilot project for the animal rescue certification program.
- ◆ Support the development of an expanded range of animal safekeeping supports in Saskatchewan.

Thanks to our sponsors and funders



Community Initiatives Fund

The Community Initiatives Fund invests in the quality of life of Saskatchewan residents by offering grants for community projects that help support community development, inclusion, leadership, and vitality.



Rescued Animal Certification Program



AWFC

THE ANIMAL WELFARE FOUNDATION OF CANADA
FONDATION DU BIEN-ÊTRE ANIMAL DU CANADA



PRAIRIE ADVERTISING



TRAVELCARE

West Side CONFECTIONARY



WEST SIDE pizza
family restaurant





SASKATCHEWAN
SPCA



Our 2017-2018 Board of Directors

- ◆ Dr. Sandra Neumann, President
Saskatoon
- ◆ Carol Thomson, Vice President
Saskatoon
- ◆ Margaret (Peg) Northcote, Treasurer
Arelee
- ◆ Ken Krause, Secretary
Meadow Lake
- ◆ Jack MacKay
Yorkton
- ◆ Calvin Nickel
Saskatoon

Our staff

- ◆ Frances Wach, Executive Director
- ◆ Sandra Anderson, Program Director
- ◆ Josh Hourie, Community Relations Coordinator
- ◆ Leanne Sillers, Animal Safekeeping Coordinator
- ◆ Crystal Stubbs, Administrative Assistant
- ◆ Rigel Smith, Animal Welfare Assistant
(summer student)
- ◆ Twyla Polson, Administrative Support (casual)
- ◆ Jenny Marriott, Researcher (volunteer)

Contact us



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