

2018-2019  
ANNUAL REPORT



SASKATCHEWAN

**SPCA**







SASKATCHEWAN  
**SPCA**



Animals enrich our lives with their very presence. Pets provide unconditional love and acceptance. Interactions with animals help reduce blood pressure, encourage physical activity, and contribute to healthy ageing. Animals can also assist in the treatment of a broad range of conditions ranging from post-traumatic distress to autism.

For over 90 years the Saskatchewan SPCA has been working to **improve the lives of animals and their people.**

## **A bold new direction in animal welfare**

In 2018, the Saskatchewan SPCA embarked on a comprehensive strategic planning process. We looked at our historic role in education and animal protection and discussed opportunities to take on new and expanded roles in the animal welfare sector.

***Our new vision: A Saskatchewan in which all animals are free from hunger, thirst, discomfort, pain, injury, disease, fear and distress, and able to express normal behaviour.***

### **Areas of impact:**

#### **Information:**

- ◆ Maintain a provincial repository or "one-stop hub" of objective, current, and accurate animal welfare information.
- ◆ Gather, analyze, and report on animal welfare research and provincial data.

#### **Coordination:**

- ◆ Support implementation of the Saskatchewan Animal Welfare Strategy.
- ◆ Collaborate with provincial agencies on "The Link" between interpersonal violence and animal abuse.

#### **Advocacy:**

- ◆ Advocate for improved animal welfare policies, practices, legislation, and enforcement.
- ◆ Build advocacy capacity across the province to amplify the efforts of local agencies.

#### **Standards:**

- ◆ Develop and promote a standards of care provincial network.
- ◆ Implement an animal standards of care accreditation process.

#### **Relief:**

- ◆ Coordinate an animal welfare emergency relief fund.
- ◆ Build capacity for emergency response.





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

## **Raise awareness of the human-animal bond.**

Humane education is key to building empathy, compassion, and respect for animals. We continue to share educational messages on the importance of the human-animal bond through social media, our website, and in-person presentations.



We are taking the *Respect for Animals* message to the streets, as well. Saskatchewan SPCA specialty licence plates are now available at all SGI motor licence issuers throughout the province. Plates are available for cars, trucks, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. Monies raised from licence plate sales go to support the work of the Saskatchewan SPCA.

## **Protect the victims of violence and their animals.**

Leaving a violent relationship is difficult; for the person who owns animals, it is even more challenging. In Saskatchewan, there are no domestic violence shelters or transition houses that allow pets. Victims of domestic violence may stay in a dangerous situation rather than leave their pets behind.

The Saskatchewan SPCA is helping to expand the availability of animal safekeeping services in the province. Our Animal Safekeeping Coordinator has helped facilitate the launch of a new animal safekeeping program in Saskatoon, and is working with local agencies to establish new animal safekeeping resources in the Swift Current area.

The Saskatchewan SPCA has also developed a new online resource focusing on the link between all forms of violence. **ViolenceLink.ca** offers information for the victims of violence, animal welfare and human service professionals, and members of the public. Site content includes safety planning tips for pet owners, scholarly articles on the violence link, as well as news and information on the topic of interpersonal violence and abuse.

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.



Our thanks to the Community Initiatives Fund for their support.





## Assist pet owners struggling with homelessness.

February 2019 was one of the coldest in Saskatchewan in 80 years. We launched a collection blitz to provide much needed pet food and supplies for owners struggling with homelessness.

Individuals and businesses donated pet food, jackets, boots, leashes, blankets, and other useful supplies. These were distributed to food banks and rescue missions in Saskatoon and Regina. "I can't wait to get him all dressed and food in his belly," said one individual after receiving pet food and a warm winter dog jacket.

### Collection Points:

- ◆ Butler Byers Insurance
- ◆ Critters Pet Health Store
- ◆ Early's Farm & Garden Centre
- ◆ The Medicine Shoppe on 5th Avenue
- ◆ The Medicine Shoppe on Central
- ◆ Saskatchewan SPCA Office
- ◆ Souls Harbour Rescue Mission (Regina)

### Distribution Centres:

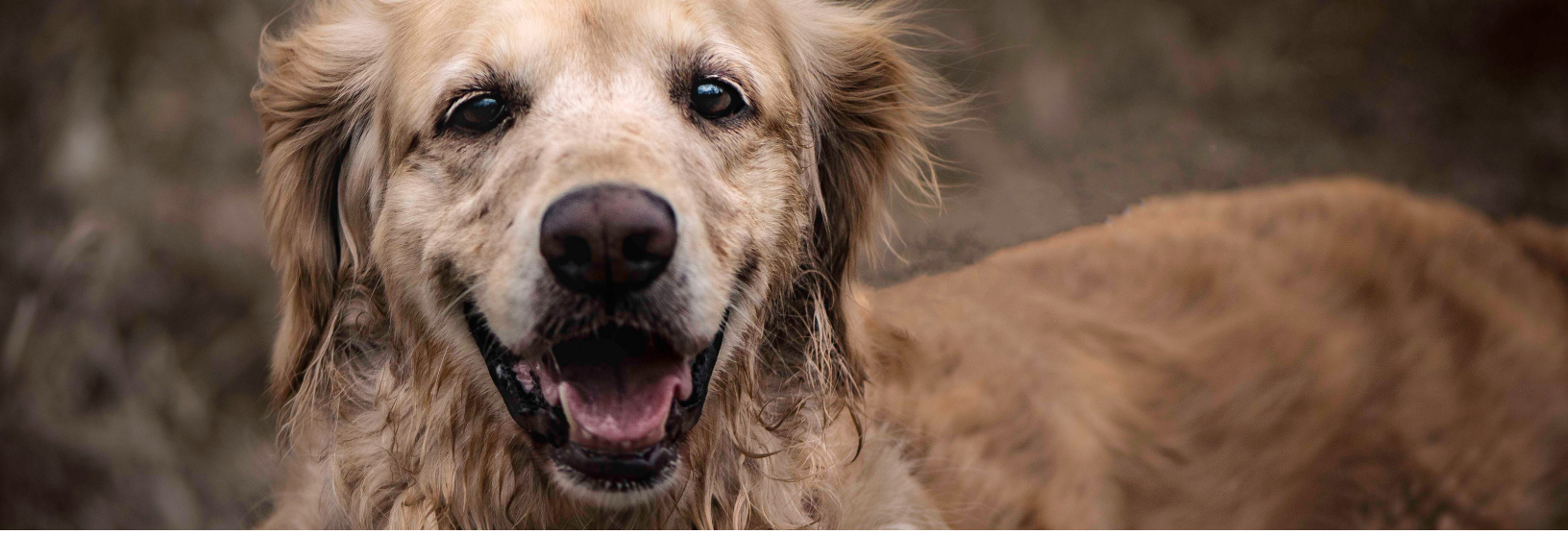
- ◆ Saskatoon Friendship Inn
- ◆ Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre Clothing Depot
- ◆ Souls Harbour Rescue Mission (Regina)



Based on the positive response we received, we look forward to our next **Warming Hearts and Paws** event in the fall of 2019.







## Get Muddy!

On August 25th, animal lovers and their pets gathered at Blackstrap Provincial Park for the inaugural Muddy Buddy Family Fun Obstacle Run. Over 150 participants traversed the obstacle-lined trail in support of the Saskatchewan SPCA.

Thank you to the participants, volunteers, and staff who helped make the Muddy Buddy a success. And a special thank you to our sponsors:







## Improve the lives of rescued pets.

Many people are surprised to discover that there is no special training or licencing required in order to operate an animal rescue. Without the proper resources, some organizations struggle to provide the proper care for these vulnerable animals.

In collaboration with stakeholders in the animal welfare sector, the Saskatchewan SPCA is spearheading the creation of a new certification program for animal rescues. This voluntary, education-based program will help ensure that homeless and rescued animals receive the care they need to thrive.

The **Saskatchewan Animal Rescue Certification Program** will be one of the first of its kind in Canada.

Thank you to the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada for their support.



## Help ensure a health, happy retirement for police dogs.

The Saskatchewan SPCA Stryker K-9 Care Fund provides annual grants to assist with the cost of routine and emergency veterinary care for dogs that served with the RCMP, a municipal police force, or Canada Border Services Agency.

In 2018-2019, we assisted 11 retired law enforcement dogs, providing over \$5,000 for expenses such as surgeries, vaccinations, physical therapy, and medications.

Calendars produced by the Regina and the Saskatoon Police Services feature photos of dogs from their respective K-9 units. Proceeds from calendar sales are used to support the Stryker K-9 Care Fund.







## Raise awareness of topical animal welfare issues.

*Caring for Those Who Care* was the theme of the 2018 Saskatchewan SPCA conference held September 18th in Saskatoon.

Informative speakers shared insights on topics such as:

- ◆ Integrating therapy dogs into Saskatchewan's coordinated trauma response
- ◆ Strategies to support the needs of people working in stressful occupations
- ◆ Veterinary euthanasia
- ◆ How animal safekeeping programs protect the victims of violence
- ◆ *The Animal Protection Act and Regulations*
- ◆ The horse-human relationship in Indigenous education
- ◆ A case study on interagency cooperation

Thanks to our conference sponsors and supporters:



**Ernest Olfert**







SASKATCHEWAN  
**SPCA**



## Our 2018-2019 Board of Directors

- ◆ Dr. Sandra Neumann, President  
Saskatoon
- ◆ Carol Thomson, Vice President  
Saskatoon
- ◆ Margaret (Peg) Northcote, Treasurer  
Arelee

- ◆ Chris Brueckner, Secretary  
Saskatoon
- ◆ Anne Allen, Saskatoon
- ◆ Ken Krause, Meadow Lake
- ◆ Jack MacKay, Yorkton

## Our staff

- ◆ Frances Wach, Executive Director
- ◆ Sandra Anderson, Program Director
- ◆ Josh Hourie, Community Relations Coordinator
- ◆ Leanne Sillers, Animal Safekeeping Coordinator
- ◆ Crystal Stubbs, Administrative Assistant

- ◆ Autumn Tuttroen, Social Work Practicum  
Student
- ◆ Rigel Smith, Animal Welfare Assistant  
(summer student)
- ◆ Twyla Polson, Administrative Support (casual)
- ◆ Jenny Marriott, Researcher (volunteer)

## Contact us



PO Box 37  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3K1



1.877.382.7722 (toll free in SK)  
306.382.7722



info@saskspca.ca



[www.saskspca.ca](http://www.saskspca.ca)



[www.facebook.com/SaskSPCA](https://www.facebook.com/SaskSPCA)



[www.twitter.com/SaskSPCA](https://www.twitter.com/SaskSPCA)

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](http://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).