



VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY

HELPING PEOPLE HELP ANIMALS



2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission

The Vancouver Humane Society is dedicated to exposing animal abuse and assisting individuals, businesses and governments to end animal suffering, cruelty and exploitation.

Our Vision

The Vancouver Humane Society envisions a future in which humanity recognizes and respects the inherent rights and needs of all animals – a society in which all animal cruelty is unacceptable and animal protection is valued and acted upon by the public and its policy makers.



Amy Morris was appointed as Executive Director in December.

Human Resources and Infrastructure

In October, Executive Director Michael Austin left VHS. We thank him for his service.

In December, we were pleased to welcome Amy Morris as our new executive director. Amy has wide experience in the animal protection movement, campaigning for policy changes at the municipal, provincial and federal levels to curtail animal exploitation.

In February, Claire Yarnold joined VHS as Development Coordinator.

Board Development & Governance

Three new Directors joined the VHS board during the year: Darcy Matheson, Ryan McCracken and Brianne Laverdure.



Marylee Davies
President



Chris Morcom
Secretary



Rob Monteverde
Treasurer



Angela Yadav
Director



Rebeka Breder
Director



Liberty Mulkani
Director



Darcy Matheson
Director



Ryan McCracken
Director



Brianne Laverdure
Director



Finances & Fundraising

VHS took part in the annual Scotiabank Charity Challenge walk/run and raised \$10,595, thanks to the enthusiasm of our supporters and the dedication of VHS staff, directors, sponsors and volunteers.

We received a generous challenge grant from an anonymous donor, to support our emergency veterinary assistance program and another generous grant in support of our farm animal welfare campaigns, also from an anonymous donor. VHS also received a grant from the Eden Conservation Trust toward our work for all animals.

Thanks to our continued participation in Free Wills Month, 24 supporters chose to leave a legacy to animals by naming VHS in their wills in May.

We raised \$12,637.58 through the Giving Tuesday fundraising initiative, half of which was used to pay veterinary expenses at the Happy Herd Farm Sanctuary, whom we partnered with in the effort.

For more information see [Financial Statements starting on page 10](#).



Our trolley bus ad campaign attracted attention across Vancouver

Communications

VHS had media coverage in 72 media outlets during the year and had 11 opinion editorials published. We produced three newsletters (mailed to 2700 supporters and distributed at events.) and published 39 blog posts on our website. Our electronic newsletter, issued three times during the year, was sent to more than 7000 subscribers.

In February, as part of our speaker series Animals and Ethics in the 21st Century, we hosted Dr. David Clough, Professor of Theological Ethics at the University of Chester, who spoke about the second volume of his ground-breaking book *On Animals*.

In May, we exhibited at Vancouver's popular Veg Expo event to highlight our Go Veg Vancouver initiative and ran an ad campaign on Vancouver trolley buses. We also promoted a plant-based diet through social media, blog posts, opinion editorials and Facebook advertising.

We promoted our Go Veg message throughout the year by distributing more than 5800 of our Live Well booklets to local advocates, at events, and through our Outreach Team.

We continued to make considerable use of social media to reach our supporters, key influencers, and the public during the year, including reaching 22,000 "likes" on Facebook



Marconi



Milly



Pooh



Spike

Veterinary Assistance Program

Stories of some of the animals we helped in 2019:

Marconi

Three-year-old Marconi had a tough start, living in a home in northern B.C. with many other animals and an owner who sometimes neglected them. Fortunately, he was rescued and has a new home in the Lower Mainland. Unfortunately, Marconi developed an abscess above his jaw that was bleeding and swollen. He needed antibiotics and sedation/surgery to correct the issue. His guardian, a widower on low-income, needed our help and we were able to ensure Marconi got the treatment he needed. Marconi recovered and is back home with his friend Sherlock, another rescued cat.

Milly

Milly, a seven-year-old female tabby, means the world to her family. When she was diagnosed with a mast cell tumour they were devastated. Milly's guardian, who is on disability and has a four-year-old son, says Milly has helped her family cope in difficult times. After the cancer diagnosis her guardian reached out to VHS for help and we were able to assist in funding the surgery Milly needed, which required the removal of one of her ears. The operation went well and she had a successful recovery. Her guardian says she's doing well, thanks to our generous donors.

Pooh

Pooh is a senior dog, described by her guardian as "a gentle soul" who is very social with many friends. When Pooh's guardian discovered she was in pain because of much-needed dental work (including extractions) she didn't know how she would pay the vet bills.

Fortunately, we were able to help with the costs of treatment and Pooh had the necessary work done. Her guardian told us: "I love my dog very much and I know how important this is to have done. She is my companion in life and goes everywhere with me. I am so grateful. Thank you."

Spike

Spike was just a kitten when he was adopted by a single mother and her children following a difficult family break-up. Spike's guardian said it was a hard time for her children and she desperately wanted to bring some joy and comfort into their lives. Spike was happy to oblige, quickly becoming a valued family member. Unfortunately, Spike had an altercation with another cat, resulting in a bad bite wound on his tail. The wound became badly infected, requiring immediate treatment to avoid amputation. We provided financial support and Spike was treated right away. Thankfully, there was no need for an amputation and Spike recovered well.



The Calgary Stampede chuckwagon race. Photo: Jo-Anne McArthur

Rodeo

Calgary Stampede: Our Calgary Stampede campaign, launched in June, attracted media coverage in 31 outlets. Much of the coverage focused on our response to the death of six horses in the Stampede's chuckwagon race. Nearly 1000 people participated in our e-campaign urging the Calgary Stampede to suspend the chuckwagon race pending an independent review of the race to see if it can be made safer. (The Stampede announced a review but did not specify how it would be conducted.)

In a related VHS e-campaign, more than 6500 people emailed the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association to support our call for the CVMA to explicitly oppose rodeos and chuckwagon races.

Chilliwack Fair rodeo: Our campaign against the Chilliwack Fair rodeo (Aug 9-11) was launched in late July and gained media

coverage by CBC News, the Chilliwack Progress and the Daily Hive (opinion editorial). More than 2000 people took part in our e-campaign urging key sponsors to withdraw support from the Fair unless it dropped the rodeo.

VHS obtained more photos of animals in distress at the Chilliwack and Quesnel rodeos, which will be used in future campaigns. These included photos of an individual using an electric shock device on bulls at the Quesnel Rodeo.

Grey Cup rodeo: VHS also launched a campaign to bring public attention to the decision by the Canadian Football League to include a rodeo as part of the Grey Cup Festival in Calgary in November. VHS wrote to festival organizers and the CFL Commissioner, urging that the planned rodeo be scrapped. More than 3000 people complained to the CFL through our e-campaign.



VHS organized staff culinary training and a guest chef pop-up and training at Children's & Women's Hospital.

Meat-reduction programming

We continued our work educating individuals and institutions about the impacts of our food choices and the need for diet and food system change in order to protect animal welfare.

Through our Go Veg program, we distributed nearly 5800 of our Go Veg booklets at 23 events and outreach activities throughout the year. We also sent out a weekly plant-based recipe to our list of over 1500 people who have taken our plant-based pledge. Our thought-provoking transit advertisement urging people to consider the ethics of meat consumption ran on 13 Vancouver buses and 12 buses on the Burnaby B-Line.

We also continued to support Meatless Monday campaigns that introduce meatless options at schools throughout Metro Vancouver, while launching our new Plant-Based Plates program. The new program builds on the success of our

Meatless Monday work and aims to transition public menus toward offering more humane plant-based options regularly. We kicked off the new project with a staff culinary training and guest chef pop-up at the BC Children's & Women's Hospital.

During the year we also focused our efforts on engaging with municipal policy-makers in an effort to raise awareness and support for prioritizing meat-reduction in their policies. This includes a proposal, put forward in partnership with the Sutherland Secondary Sustainability Club, to the District of North Vancouver Council that encourages examining municipal food spending and prioritizing plant-based options. VHS also participated in the City of Vancouver's Food Solutions Lab, which aimed to bring together food advocates, community organizations and City staff to research equitable ways in which the City and its partners can help shift diets toward those which are better for people and the planet.



Animals in captivity

In December, VHS published a report on the Greater Vancouver Zoo, detailing a number of concerns about conditions for its animals. The report attracted media coverage in 18 media outlets and more than 1000 people took part in our e-campaign, urging the zoo to provide better housing for animals and develop an “enrichment” program to improve their well-being. VHS made efforts to engage with the zoo’s management to discuss the report’s findings but did not

receive a response. The report was sent to CAZA (Canada’s Accredited Zoos & Aquariums) and to the provincial Director of Wildlife and Habitat.

In November, VHS wrote to the Vancouver Aquarium, encouraging the organization to consider the use of new technology to create animal-free exhibits as it develops its five-year strategic plan.



VHS is concerned about the use of carriage horses in urban areas.

Other animal welfare issues addressed by VHS during the year

Performing animals: VHS sent a letter to Victoria City Council, calling for an end to horse carriages in the city. VHS also raised concerns about the safety and welfare of horses with Yaletown, Kerrisdale and Commercial Drive business associations concerning their Christmas promotions, which included carriage horse rides.

VHS also reached out to the Michael J. Fox Theatre in Burnaby, concerning a performance of a “comedy pet theatre,” which used performing dogs and cats. (The group had faced allegations of poor treatment at a previous appearance in the U.S.)

Wildlife: VHS joined a coalition of 54 environmental and animal protection groups, conservationists and scientists in calling on the government of British Columbia to put a stop to wildlife-killing contests, after learning about three such events currently taking place in the province.

VHS made submission to a Health Canada consultation on the humaneness of pesticides to control predators (predicides), urging a ban on several predaicides.



Financial Statements

December 31, 2019 (*Unaudited – See Notice To Reader, page 11*)



NOTICE TO READER

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Vancouver Humane Society as at December 31, 2019 and the statements of changes in fund balances and operations for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Burnaby, British Columbia
February 25, 2020

Chartered Professional Accountants

VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY

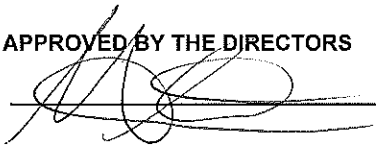
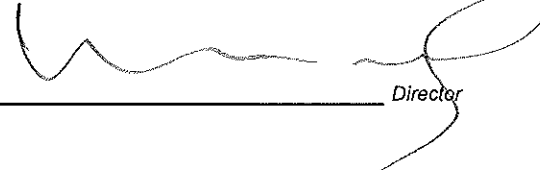
Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2019

(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)

| | General Fund | Capital Assets Fund | 2019 | 2018 |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | | | | |
| CURRENT | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 210,799 | \$ - | \$ 210,799 | \$ 152,169 |
| Investments | 434,121 | - | 434,121 | 568,504 |
| Accounts receivable | - | - | - | 3,628 |
| Recoverable from government authorities - GST | 1,693 | - | 1,693 | 1,768 |
| Prepaid expenses | 12,495 | - | 12,495 | 2,414 |
| | <u>659,108</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>659,108</u> | <u>728,483</u> |
| LONG TERM INVESTMENTS | 10,527 | - | 10,527 | 7,157 |
| CAPITAL ASSETS (Net of accumulated amortization) | - | 7,330 | 7,330 | 7,340 |
| | <u>\$ 669,635</u> | <u>\$ 7,330</u> | <u>\$ 676,965</u> | <u>\$ 742,980</u> |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | | | | |
| CURRENT | | | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 14,324 | \$ - | \$ 14,324 | \$ 10,147 |
| Payable to government authorities - payroll deductions | 350 | - | 350 | 5,543 |
| | <u>14,674</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>14,674</u> | <u>15,690</u> |
| FUND BALANCES - page 3 | | | | |
| Unrestricted | 654,961 | - | 654,961 | 719,950 |
| Internally restricted | - | 7,330 | 7,330 | 7,340 |
| | <u>654,961</u> | <u>7,330</u> | <u>662,291</u> | <u>727,290</u> |
| | <u>\$ 669,635</u> | <u>\$ 7,330</u> | <u>\$ 676,965</u> | <u>\$ 742,980</u> |

APPROVED BY THE DIRECTORS


Director

Director

VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY
Statement of Changes in Fund Balances
Year Ended December 31, 2019
(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)

| | General Fund | Capital Assets Fund | Restricted Fund | 2019 | 2018 |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING OF YEAR | | | | | |
| As previously reported | \$ 719,950 | \$ 7,340 | \$ - | \$ 727,290 | \$ 492,350 |
| Prior period correction to include CSV of life insurance | - | - | - | - | 2,675 |
| As restated | 719,950 | 7,340 | - | 727,290 | 495,025 |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses - page 4 | (47,319) | (2,077) | (15,603) | (64,999) | 232,265 |
| Interfund transfers | (17,670) | 2,067 | 15,603 | - | - |
| FUND BALANCES - END OF YEAR - page 2 | \$ 654,961 | \$ 7,330 | \$ - | \$ 662,291 | \$ 727,290 |

VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY

Statement of Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2019

(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)

| | General Fund | Capital Assets Fund | Restricted Fund | 2019 | 2018 |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Contributions | \$ 285,784 | \$ - | \$ 41,496 | \$ 327,280 | \$ 355,007 |
| Bequests | 106,975 | - | - | 106,975 | 337,193 |
| Interest and other revenue | 13,579 | - | - | 13,579 | 20,786 |
| Unrealized gain on investments | 2,593 | - | - | 2,593 | 933 |
| Loss on sale of investments | - | - | - | - | (688) |
| | 408,931 | - | 41,496 | 450,427 | 713,231 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 326,836 | - | - | 326,836 | 270,137 |
| Animal welfare general | 100 | - | 34,793 | 34,893 | 27,526 |
| Newsletter and direct mail | 31,860 | - | - | 31,860 | 27,830 |
| Office and miscellaneous | 25,885 | - | - | 25,885 | 23,011 |
| Fundraising expense | 24,275 | - | - | 24,275 | 14,670 |
| Rent, repairs, and maintenance | 23,722 | - | - | 23,722 | 25,791 |
| Veterinary medical costs | - | - | 15,792 | 15,792 | 50,655 |
| Legal and accounting | 14,796 | - | - | 14,796 | 16,446 |
| Outreach and resource centre | 100 | - | 6,514 | 6,614 | 11,445 |
| Meetings, events, and conferences | 4,106 | - | - | 4,106 | 7,208 |
| Insurance | 3,555 | - | - | 3,555 | 3,497 |
| Amortization | - | 2,077 | - | 2,077 | 2,229 |
| Website | 1,015 | - | - | 1,015 | 521 |
| | 456,250 | 2,077 | 57,099 | 515,426 | 480,966 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES - page 3 | \$ (47,319) | \$ (2,077) | \$ (15,603) | \$ (64,999) | \$ 232,265 |



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HELPING PEOPLE HELP ANIMALS



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