

THE VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY PRESENTS

# animal

[www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](http://www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)

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PHOTO: CANADIAN HORSE DEFENCE COALITION

## Calling on the federal government to keep their promise and end live horse export for slaughter

It's been more than a year since the federal government pledged to end the practice of shipping live horses abroad for slaughter. Despite this, horses continue to be flown out of the Edmonton, Calgary and Winnipeg airports every few weeks, on overseas journeys that can take up to 28 hours without food, water, or rest.

Horses who are shipped for slaughter are purpose-bred for this industry and are raised on barren feedlots, with little protection from extreme weather, before being shipped abroad where they will be killed for meat. This is an incredibly stressful process for these gentle prey animals – the journey to the airport; being crammed together in small wooden crates and waiting, sometimes for hours, on the noisy tarmac; being loaded onto planes and experiencing take-off, landing and turbulence; restricted movement; lack of food, water, and rest; unloading upon arrival; and ultimately, slaughter.

Since 2013, more than 40,000 horses have suffered this fate, but a growing number of animal protection groups, advocates, and concerned Canadians are demanding change. A 2021 official parliamentary e-petition calling for a ban on live horse export for slaughter gathered more than 77,000 signatures, making it one of the most widely-supported animal-related federal petitions on record. **Continued on page 2.**

PHOTO: CANADIAN HORSE DEFENCE COALITION



## CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

That same year, the VHS and other leading animal protection organizations sent a group letter to the federal government in support of a ban. Advocates welcomed news of a Liberal Party election promise to end the practice, followed by a directive from the Prime Minister to the Minister of Agriculture to enact a ban. Unfortunately, these commitments have been followed by government inaction.

Nearly a year later, a new parliamentary e-petition was launched, led by Canadian singer-songwriter Jann Arden and sponsored by Alistair MacGregor (MP for Cowichan—Malahat—Langford on Vancouver Island). The petition calls on the federal government to follow through on the promise to ban live horse export for slaughter. In support of this effort and the groups that have long been advocating for an end to this inhumane practice,

including the Canadian Horse Defence Coalition, the VHS promoted the e-petition and has shared a quick action tool that Canadians can use to send a personalized message to their Member of Parliament, the Minister of Agriculture, and the Prime Minister. While the most recent e-petition has now closed and is awaiting a response from the government, it's not too late to show your support for a ban and call on federal decision-makers to keep their promise. Learn more and take action at [www.vancouverhumane.ca/end-live-horse-export-for-slaughter](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/end-live-horse-export-for-slaughter).

Be sure to also check out the VHS's recent podcast episode on this issue, featuring Canadian Horse Defence Coalition's President Sinikka Crosland. You can listen to it at [www.vancouverhumane.ca/podcast-live-horse-exports](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/podcast-live-horse-exports) or by searching for "The Informed Animal Ally" on whichever platform you use to listen to podcasts.

## B.C. Ministry of Agriculture to review farmed animal framework

After undercover footage revealed egregious cruelty on a dairy farm in Abbotsford, the VHS launched a public campaign calling for greater protections for farmed animals. More than 2,400 individuals called on the B.C. government to better protect farmed animals.

In late 2022, an agricultural newspaper confirmed that the Ministry of Agriculture would be conducting a review of the farmed animal welfare framework until spring 2023. This review is an important opportunity to advocate for true public transparency and

meaningful changes that will make a difference in the lives of the millions of sentient animals raised for food in this province.

You can read the VHS's open letter calling on the Minister of Agriculture to implement real change and take the quick action at [www.vancouverhumane.ca/farmed-animal-welfare](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/farmed-animal-welfare), or contact Minister Pam Alexis to ask that the provincial government introduce mandatory third party auditing and video monitoring systems to protect farmed animals from suffering at 250-387-1023 or [AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca).

PHOTO: JO-ANNE MCARTHUR \ WE ANIMALS MEDIA





# Animals getting the urgent care they need

## An update from the McVitie Fund



### King's close call

After running outside and getting hit by a car, King was rushed to the hospital. Upon conducting X-rays and testing, the vet determined that the risk of infection was too high and that King's leg would need to be amputated. Thanks to generous donors, King received emergency surgery and spent five days being monitored in hospital before he finally returned home to recover with the care of his loving guardian, Brandon. King is adjusting well to his new life and is on his way back to his happy and cuddly self.

### Dalia's happy tail

After being hospitalized for diarrhea and lethargy, veterinary testing revealed an unknown object moving very slowly through Dalia's digestive system. She was hospitalized, given IV fluids, and monitored for two days. Her system was cleared and Dalia was sent home to her family! She is now back to her happy and playful self thanks to kind donors who enabled her get urgent treatment in her time of need.



### George needs surgery

Melissa has noticed a mass growing on her sweet 9-year-old cat, George's, back. After an inconclusive biopsy result, the vet advised that the mass could be cancerous and recommended it be removed to give George the best chance at a healthy and happy future.

Melissa told the Vancouver Humane Society that George is her true companion who has helped her through hard times in the past nine years. Because George has had some previous health issues, Melissa feeds him a special diet to maintain his good health. She is doing everything she can to save up for the surgery but as a single mother on a limited income, she is having trouble with the overall cost. That is why she has reached out to the VHS for help with George's care.

Can you donate today to help George get the care he needs to live a healthy life? You can mail a cheque or credit card donation slip, or visit [www.vancouverhumane.ca/george](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/george).

## Helping companion animals across the nation



PHOTO: TRAUMA-INFORMED WORKSHOP AT EDMONTON HUMANE SOCIETY

Funded by a 3-year grant from the Vancouver Foundation, the VHS is offering free online courses and workshops to help animal service organizations keep more animals in loving homes through trauma-informed, outreach-focused, and prevention-based practices.

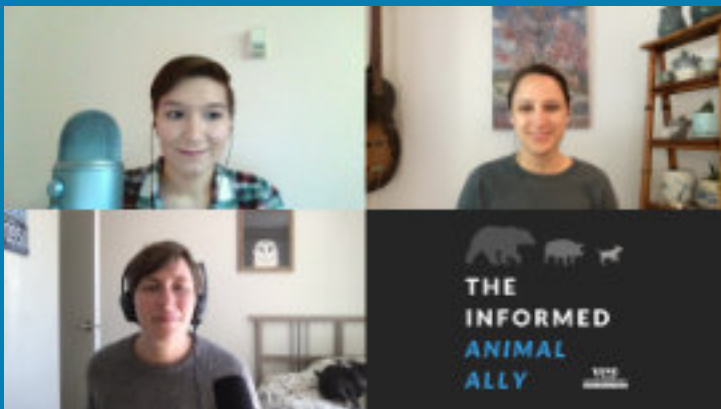
The VHS was grateful to collaborate with new partners on this project last year. In 2022, the training program officially partnered with the Paws for Hope Animal Foundation and the Human Animal Support Services

Project (HASS), two organizations working to keep more pets with the people who love them. South of the border, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) has added the program to their granting requirements. Organizations who receive funding from the ASPCA will now be required to complete the VHS's training on implementing trauma-informed practices. The BC Vet Technologists Association has also accredited the VHS's online training, meaning vet techs who complete the courses will

receive credits toward their continuing education. The VHS is excited for these collaborations, and for the opportunity to help more organizations across Canada and the United States implement these practices.

If you or someone you know works in animal services, you can learn more at [www.vancouverhumane.ca/training](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/training) or contact the Program Manager, Sareeta, at [traumainformed@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](mailto:traumainformed@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca) or 236-521-7742.

## VHS podcast connects with animal allies



Since May 2022, The VHS has published a monthly podcast entitled The Informed Animal Ally to connect with animal advocates, interested animal lovers, and everyone between in B.C. and across Canada. VHS staff Amy Morris and Chantelle Archambault invite subject experts to explore the current systems that cause animal suffering and opportunities to advocate for more compassionate policies and practices. You can listen to The Informed Animal Ally wherever podcasts are found or on the VHS website at [vancouverhumane.ca/podcasts](http://vancouverhumane.ca/podcasts).



## Continuing to speak up for wild and exotic animals in captivity

Following a campaign focused on supporter engagement with B.C. MLAs around the issue of wild and exotic animals in captivity, the VHS was able to secure a meeting in January with provincial government staff. In the meeting, the VHS raised concerns about the current regulations relating to wild and exotic animals in captivity, as well as recent and long-standing issues at the Greater Vancouver Zoo.

The province's Controlled Alien Species regulations, which control the keeping, breeding and transport of wild animals not native to B.C., are currently under review. The VHS

reiterated recommendations to significantly restrict the exotic species that can be kept and bred in captivity in B.C. and to no longer provide exemption permits, which allow prohibited species to be bred and kept captive in facilities such as the Greater Vancouver Zoo or for use in television and film. The VHS will continue to engage with decision-makers on this issue and advocate for stronger protections for wild and exotic animals, who can suffer physically and psychologically when kept captive.

If you haven't already signed the petition calling for changes to B.C.'s wild and exotic animal

captivity rules, you can do so at [www.vancouverhumane.ca/captivity-petition](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/captivity-petition).



PHOTO: MEGHAN BEATTIE

## B.C. permanently restricts some of the deadliest rodent poisons



The VHS welcomes new, permanent restrictions on the sale and use of second-generation anticoagulant

rodenticides (SGARs) in British Columbia, which came into effect on January 21, 2023. Moving forward, this category of rodent poisons will be prohibited, with exemptions for sectors that have been deemed 'essential services'.

SGARs are an especially toxic category of rodenticides that pose a significant risk to wildlife and pets who consume them directly or indirectly. They can deliver a lethal dose in a single feeding and result in a slow and painful death.

During the provincial government's rodenticide review, the VHS advocated for a comprehensive ban on all rodenticides; more than 2,500 British Columbians signed the VHS's petition in support of a full ban. While the province's decision falls short of a

comprehensive ban, it is an important step in the right direction.

The VHS will continue to advocate for a move away from deadly and inhumane rodent poisons and toward humane, preventative alternative approaches for dealing with human-rodent conflicts. A growing number of B.C. communities have already gone above and beyond the partial ban by prohibiting rodenticides on municipal property. For example, Whistler recently adopted a policy to ban first-generation and second-generation anticoagulants.

Learn more about the partial ban and ways to help further protect wildlife and pets in your community: [www.vancouverhumane.ca/bc-rodenticide-restrictions](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/bc-rodenticide-restrictions).

# Thank you to our donors

**Thank you to the following, who remembered loved ones with a gift to help animals:**

Michele Manthey in memory of Jeffrey Joudrey  
Bev Harbour in memory of Quincy / Foolio  
Carol Dohan in memory of Wallace and Gypsy  
Audrey Kendall in memory of Sheba, Kinkajou, Chrissie, Boston, Blackie  
Lisa Kramer in memory of Billy Bob  
Judy Werts in memory of Dolly Werts  
Shari Raheb in memory of Sapphire  
Anonymous in memory of Jasmine, Hamish and Bugsy

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Lola Merenda in honour of Barbara Wrinkle  
Anonymous in honour of Manoela  
Marilyn Hooper in honour of Shelby Chicken McNugget  
Kevin Calder in honour of Edd Wray

**We thank those who have generously left a gift to VHS in their will. Their memories will live on in our work for animals:**

Donna Belle Olsen  
Rosalie Demetrick  
Ortrud Buschmann

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Alvin Fry  
Bryony Harvey  
Kanchy Nakagawa

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Vecado Plant-Based Pet Food  
Scentuals  
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Lisa Anderson  
Marvin Cohodas  
Vegan Yarn  
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Fund in memory of Mary Auerbach  
Leo and Frances Longo Fund for Charity to Animals through Vancity Community Foundation  
Leo and Hilda Sturrey Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation  
The Carol & Don Lyster Foundation

**We are truly grateful to our amazing volunteers, who give their time to support our work.**

**Our monthly donors are our heroes. Thank you to all of you, from the bottom of our hearts!**





# Supporting plant-based habits for Veganuary

Last month in honour of Veganuary, the VHS shared daily tips and resources to support individuals interested in adopting more animal- and environmentally-friendly habits.

**Looking to help others incorporate more plant-based habits into their lives or take the plant-based plunge yourself?**

Check out the 21-Day Plant-Based Challenge from PlantUniversity! New habits take about three weeks to form, and PlantUniversity is here to guide us all each step along the way.

Sharing these facts is a great way to advocate for animals!

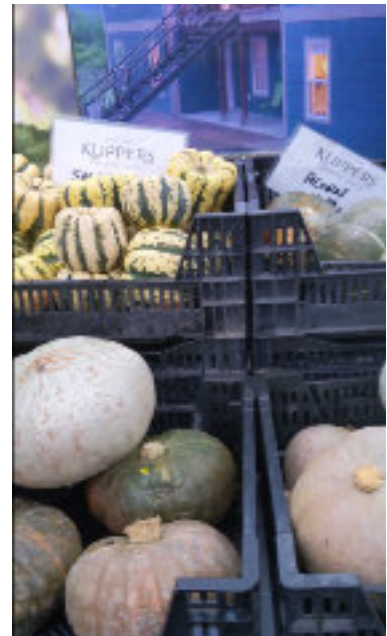
Plant-based eating benefits...

*The welfare of animals!* More than 830 million land animals were raised and killed for food in Canada 2019, often in barren, cramped conditions.

*The environment!* Did you know it takes up to 10 times more water to produce 1kg of animal protein than it does 1kg of plant protein?

*Your health!* Vegans tend to have lower blood pressure levels and lower rates of heart disease, diabetes and certain types of cancer.

Learn more and sign up for the 21-Day Plant-based Challenge at [PlantUniversity.ca](http://PlantUniversity.ca).



## Mark your calendar; the VHS's biggest fundraisers are back!

### Because They Matter

The VHS is excited to announce that the 'Because They Matter' fundraising event will return for its third year on Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>! You can join the VHS team in supporting animals and their guardians who spend their days on the streets of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside by participating or donating!

More details will be available on the VHS website this spring at [www.vancouverhumanesociety.ca/because-they-matter](http://www.vancouverhumanesociety.ca/because-they-matter).



Please contact our Development Director, Claire Yarnold, if you have any questions about either event at [claire@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](mailto:claire@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca) or 604-266-1012.

### Online silent auction

The VHS online silent auction is returning October 16<sup>th</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>!! Every purchase of unique, local, plant-based and animal friendly items helps to support the VHS's work creating a more humane world for animals. More information will be available on the VHS website this summer.

The VHS is also looking for donations of items! If you have an item or experience that you'd like to donate for the auction, please get in touch.

# You can be a Humane Hero!

Every day, animal lovers like you help prevent the suffering of animals. Monthly donations are the best way to ensure your contribution makes the greatest impact because they provide the VHS with a reliable source of income to immediately direct where animals are most in need. If you're not already a member of the VHS's monthly donor program, would you consider becoming a Humane Hero by signing up for a monthly donation?

When you become a Humane Hero:

- Your donation is put to work immediately.
- You can choose hassle-free automatic monthly donations from your credit card or via direct debit.
- You will receive year-end tax receipts by mail or email.
- You will maximize your impact by helping to improve the lives of animals on a daily basis.

To sign up, please call Claire Yarnold at 604-266-1012 or visit [www.vancouverhumane.ca/monthly-giving](http://www.vancouverhumane.ca/monthly-giving).

## Try it at home: Simple & crowd-pleasing chickpea salad sandwich

### INGREDIENTS:

#### Filling:

- 1 1/2 cups cooked chickpeas (or 1 can)
- 2 pickles
- 1 tbsp capers
- 1 tbsp fresh dill (or 1 tsp dried dill)
- 1 clove garlic
- 2 tbsp vegan mayo
- 1 tsp dijon or other mustard
- 2 tbsp red onion or shallot
- salt and pepper to taste

#### Other ingredients:

- 6 buns or slices of sandwich bread

### DIRECTIONS:

Dice pickles and onion. Mince capers, dill, and garlic. Add all filling ingredients to a mixing bowl and mash with a potato masher or fork. The mixture should stick together, but should not be mushy.

Place mixture on buns or sandwich bread along with optional deli sprouts, avocado, tomato, or your other favourite toppings. *Makes 6 servings.*

This recipe was developed by Andrea Potter of Rooted Nutrition and brought to you by the VHS's PlantUniversity platform. Find more plant-based recipes at [www.plantuniversity.ca](http://www.plantuniversity.ca) and see how you can stand up for animals every time you sit down to eat!



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**Email:** [info@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](mailto:info@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)  
**Phone:** 604.266.9744

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