

Animal Kind



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New Van Arrives

Adding a new cargo van for transporting animals was a priority for our organization, but we could not have predicted just how valuable it would be in the first few months. Fortunately, it arrived just in time for one of the busiest springs we've experienced.

Since the van was delivered in March, it has been used to remove hundreds of animals in distress from properties all over Alberta, including more than 50 dogs from an investigation in Mountain View County, and more than 30 cats from a garage in the greater Edmonton area.

New van... ...cont'd on page 3.



Poppy's Path

Seizure of 82 animals from Mountain View County involved a large number of animals, and one tiny dog.

Poppy was definitely the smallest of the bunch when she came into our care. The Biewer terrier cross only weighed three-and-a-half pounds, and due to skin issues and hair loss, looked even smaller than that. Our team pegged her to be about two months old when they first saw her, only to learn during a vet examination that Poppy was probably five months old.

The puppy was one of 82 animals removed from a property in Mountain View County in late April. The number included 56 mostly small breed dogs, llamas, sheep, chickens and geese. Each of the animals had its own story, but it was easy to gravitate towards Poppy due to her big brown eyes and tiny, fragile body.

While every seizure conducted by Alberta SPCA Peace Officers is unique, they all tug on the heartstrings of our staff members. It's emotionally taxing to see animals in distress, and the process of removing them and assessing their health and welfare is arduous. And unfortunately, sometimes, the outcomes for the animals are not ideal due to the severe neglect they've endured.

Poppy...

...cont'd on page 3.



Looks can be Deceiving

When our Alberta SPCA Peace Officer first arrived at the suburban home, she thought she was at the wrong address. The property was well-kept and there were no visible signs that animals might be in distress; none of the obvious clues our team members normally see.

Then the Peace Officer turned to the home's left. She could see three cats in the window of the garage. Her heart sank.

The property owner agreed to let the Peace Officer into the garage, and the moment the door opened, she was hit with by a wave of humidity. She felt her lips and tongue go numb from the stench of ammonia inside the building. The smell was so strong, the team immediately called the local fire department for help monitor the toxicity of the air.

While our Animal Protection Services Team is used to seeing appalling conditions, the situation inside this garage was beyond heart breaking. Cat feces was piled two feet deep in some parts of the building, and everything felt damp. Most of the cats were able to roam around the garage but several were confined to wire kennels and may have been for several years.

Collecting the 31 cats proved to be a challenge. Due to the ammonia level in the garage, team members could only spend three to four minutes inside at a time. Once they were all safely in our care, the cats were immediately taken to a veterinary clinic. Several of them required baths due to the amount of feces on their fur.

Our Peace Officers are trained to continue looking for subtle signs that animals may be in distress, even when a property looks good at first blush. These clues can include the use of air fresheners to try and mask odours or animals peeking out from behind closed curtains. Many people who collect animals will do their best to cover up issues, but our animal protection team members remain diligent when assessing the situation.

Fortunately, we were able to save most of the cats in this particular case despite serious health and behavioural issues. We worked with our veterinary and shelter partners to provide the cats with the care and attention they needed so they could eventually be connected with loving families who can provide homes that meet all their needs. Every animal deserves this and we are committed to making it happen.

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President: Doug Sawyer
Executive Director: Leanne Niblock
Editor: Dan Kobe

To find out more about the work we do for animals across Alberta, visit our website at: AlbertaSPCA.org.



Cats from the large seizure being transported to a vet

Poppy's path...

That's why our team celebrates the cases where we are able to move the animals along to better circumstances. For all 82 animals in this case, their stay with us was just a part of their life journey.

Fifty small breed dogs from this investigation were eventually transferred to our sheltering partner, the Edmonton Humane Society, for ongoing care and behavioural assessments. All have been or will be put up for adoption. There were five medium-sized dogs as well, which we were able to place with other partners for rehoming.



Sheep from the Mountain View County seizure

...cont'd from front page.

And then there's Poppy. She was adopted by one of our staff members and comes to the office most days where she bounces up and down the hallways while tearing into her favourite toy, a stuffed squirrel that's almost as big as she is. Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, along with the hard work of our staff, Poppy and the others from this seizure can now enjoy a life of love and comfort. Thank you!

New van...

In the past, our Peace Officers would have used their pickup trucks to transport the animals, and for large seizures, it would often take numerous trips to get all of the animals safely to our caretaking facilities. Now, the animals can be safely loaded and transported in a single, temperature-controlled vehicle.

The need for a new cargo van was identified last fall due to the increasing number of seizures involving large numbers of animals. We decided to make the new van a focus of our Giving Tuesday fundraising campaign in November, and the response of our supporters was overwhelming. More than \$76,000 was donated in just one day!

On top of using the van to remove animals in distress from properties across the province, we also use the vehicle to transport animals from caretaking facilities to veterinary appointments and to shelters where they can eventually be connected to their forever families. In the past, these trips were often done by our Peace Officers using their pickup trucks. By utilizing our new van for these excursions, it allows our Peace Officers to spend more time on the road investigating complaints of neglect and abuse in all corners of the province. The van still needs some work. We will add shelves and safety harnesses



New van being used to transport animals from Mountain View County seizure

to ensure we can make use of all the space while keeping its precious cargo safe and secure. Unfortunately, we expect the need for the van to continue to grow. The animal welfare community in Alberta faces significant challenges. The high cost of living, issues related to climate change such as more wildfires and floods, and the housing crisis mean fewer families are adopting and more people are looking to surrender their pets. The challenges are immense but thanks to you, our supporters, we are prepared!

Alberta SPCA Attends Aggie Days!

We are able to make these important connections with young Albertans thanks to your generous support.

Every April the Alberta SPCA Education Department attends Aggie Days in Calgary. This event provides students and the public an opportunity to learn more about agriculture and their connection to it. The Alberta SPCA booth offers an interactive game where participants learn more about animal welfare, behaviour and safety related to farm animals, pets and wildlife.

The event is also open to the public for two days, giving our staff and volunteers the chance to chat with people about our organization, share information on emergency preparedness for pets and livestock, as well as distribute 'Pets live here!' stickers to families to place on their homes in case of an emergency.

Over the five-day event, more than 1,500 people stopped by the Alberta SPCA booth to learn about animal welfare and the work that we do.



Melissa & Don presenting at the APHE conference

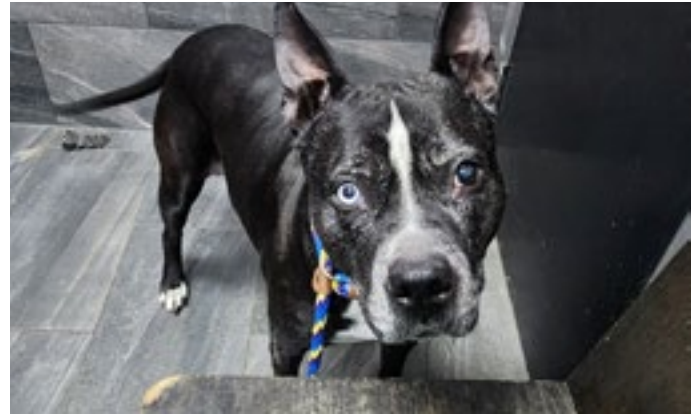
Exploring Empathy in Erie County

The Alberta SPCA Education team recently presented at the Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE) Conference in Buffalo, New York. APHE is an organization that provides professional development, resources and networking opportunities for humane educators across the globe.

The theme of this year's conference was Exploring Empathy, and our team gave a presentation on the complexities of empathy and how to navigate them through recognizing bias and fostering perspective taking, curiosity and knowledge building.

Pet Safekeeping Program Intakes Restricted due to Capacity Issues

The animal welfare sector has faced unprecedented pressures over the last several years - we've talked about this a lot over the past year. The lingering impacts of the pandemic, economic challenges faced by pet owners, a lack of pet friendly housing, and an increase in disasters such as wildfires and floods mean most shelters are at capacity with little space for new animal intakes.



Sadie was in our PSK program for eight weeks this spring.

These factors have had a dramatic impact on our Pet Safekeeping Program which offers temporary care for animals whose owners face a crisis situation such as family violence or emergency medical care. Unfortunately, shelter space for these pets is also at a premium. Our Pet Safekeeping clients are often in the process of moving and they're finding it increasingly difficult to find affordable, pet-friendly housing. This has led to a significant increase in the length of time animals need to be in our care, which in turn has resulted in a spike in our costs. Additionally, more and more clients are finding they simply can no longer afford their pets, even after their crisis situation has been resolved. In the past, we were able to move these pets to a shelter for rehoming, but that's becoming much more difficult.

As a result of these challenges, we've been forced to curtail how many animals we can take through the Pet Safekeeping Program - we simply don't have enough space to accept all requests we receive for temporary pet care.

We want to thank Albertans who support our Pet Safekeeping Program, and we want you to know our team has worked hard this year to ensure we're able to still accommodate pet owners whose safety is at risk. When it comes to circumstances that do not meet the current requirements of the program, our staff is offering valuable information about other services that may be able to assist so people and pets can stay together.

New Ways to Support the Alberta SPCA

There are numerous ways to support us beyond making a donation and purchasing cash lottery tickets.

Our [Amazon Wishlist](#) allows you to order and send important supplies right to our headquarters. This ensures we have the right items on hand to help animals in distress. From a few dollars to a few hundred, our list has much needed supplies for every budget.

For those looking for a way to dispose of that old clunker, [Donate a Car Canada](#) will remove your car, truck, RV, boat or motorcycle across Alberta. The resale value of the vehicle will be sent to us, and you'll receive a tax receipt for your donation.

Have you ever thought of [hosting a fundraiser](#)? The Alberta SPCA has resources to make hosting a fundraiser fun and simple. Get your school, workplace, neighbourhood or even your whole community involved! You can learn more about hosting a fundraiser by going to our website or by contacting Justine at jpelletier@AlbertaSPCA.org.

Give us your empties! [Skip the Depot](#) makes it easy to donate the proceeds from your bottle return to the Alberta SPCA. Skip the Depot will even pick up bottles from your home or business and we'll provide a tax receipt. Visit albertaspca.org and schedule a pickup!

Message from our Executive Director

I recently snapped this image in the downtown of a busy Canadian city, and while it wasn't aimed at the animal welfare community, it resonated with me.



Shelters aren't homes, for people or animals. We can't continue to rely on shelter space to house animals taken from distress, there is simply a limit on capacity. So what can we do?

We need to look at the root causes of the issues facing the community, and we need your continued help to allow us to do that.

This year, our organization will be asking some tough questions. Is the legislation we enforce as strong as it could be? Are Alberta towns and counties implementing and enforcing effective animal control by-laws? What can we do to encourage more responsible pet ownership? How can we find more fosters and adopters for animals that come into our care?

I don't have the answers... yet. But as a community we're going to work hard to find solutions to ease the unprecedented pressure on us all.

Many Albertans don't know that while we receive some funding from the Alberta Government, it only covers some of our costs. The rest of the expenses we incur from sheltering animals, helping vulnerable Albertans through our Pet Safekeeping program, promoting Humane Education and other outreach programs are only possible because we have kind donors who support our mission of ensuring all animals are treated humanely.

Thank you for all you do.



Leanne (and Hope)



\$5,936,766
REVENUE



Expenses and revenue graphs are from our 2023 Annual Report. Read the full report on our website.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Alison Madge Lein and Mazie, Fred, Rusty, Patches & Diesel, Morgan Lein Ally the Cat, Sherri Greene
Andrew Allan Ropchan, Kenneth Yesson
Anne Arnold, Patricia Thirlwell
Beemer, Kathy Jessop
Bella Kneeland, Anonymous
Betty G White, John Torrance
Betty White, Lynda Bowes & Donald Patterson
Biggy, Terri Sungsook Johnson
Boo, Duncan & Dianne Hahn
Brandon Keith Basler, Shelley Sackney
Brendon Douglas Parnham, Sandra Willis
Bruce McDonald, Edward Holmberg
Bruno, Judith Edwards
Buddy, Christopher & Tina Grima
Buster Rees, Rhonda Vandenberg
Cam Hantiuk, Ryan Albizzati
Casey Reynolds, Julie Reynolds
Cathie Strong, Jennifer Strong
Cheeko & Minew, Darryl Stewart
Cheung Chung Kwong, Charles Cheung
Chris Lawrence, Patricia Blinzer
Cindy Brewster, Shari Lynn Gelinas
Clyde the Scottish Terrier, Kelly Tomyne & Darcy Tomyne
Cookie Begonia Perry, Jacqueline Frederickson
Cookie Perry, Elaine Wilson
Daisy, Leslie Spink
Deborah Piedmont, Brent & Helen D'Hondt
Dorothy Van Schaick, George Van Schaick
Doug Armitage, Gordon & Connie Seller, Battery World
Douglas Robert Goodwin, Darryl Raymaker
Edward McKillop, Midge McKillop
Elaine Haine, Armand Haine, Anonymous
Ellie, Kelly Galea
Elliott Stankieveh-Kovacik, Joan Laycock-Kovacik
Elsie Manchak, Beverly & Bob Ostapchuk, Cheryl Hier, Glenna Bara, Leona Huber, Morley Sych, Sylvia Paul
Francis Gerald Thompson, TD Williamson
George, Ellen Reil
George Hinrichs, Michelle Hinrichs
Gerald Litosky, David Rushfeldt
Gerry Litoski, Ron Schoettler

Gnocchi, Alvin Kosak
Heather Henderson, Ken Kellington
Jack, Judy Clarke
James Alexander Jenkins, Jennifer Keller
James P Gaetz, Roxanne Dautremont
Janet Scott, Jared & Carolyn Caldwell, Robert Rosen, Murray Lamont
Jason Buck, Dianne Blum
Jason Garth Buck, Sandra Nyholt
Jean Nickel, Ellen Gerein
John Bradley, Lime Health & Wellness
John R. Reid, Patricia Reid
Judith Loudon, Kari Swindlehurst
Judy Kuester, Eleanor Dunbar, Cheryl Dunbar
Julia Ratke, Uncas Elementary
Karen Lomheim, Bonnie Cox
Kathleen Kotch, Jeanette Drozdiak, Bedford Village
Kathryn and Lionel Garnier, Metaldog Machines
Kaylie, Carolyn Berry & Lillian Berry
Kjell Andersson, Kevin & Sonia Berg
Kramer, Charles Armitage
Leif Finnebraaten, Robin Barnes
Lou, Robin Arseneault
Lucy, Amanda Beattie
Maggie Jazrawi, Dawn Ventura, Ken Croasdale
Margaret (Maggie) Jarzawi, Jason Majid, Scott Crosse
Marion Buhler-Laleye, John Buhler
Marj Geier, Dave Bumstead
Marjorie Niemetz, Veronica Niemetz
Marley Wells, Jennifer & David Wells
Mary Edith Harpley, John W Hallett
Maverick, Mark Schuh
Melanie Lewis, Barbara Lavallee
Michael David Casselman, Rosemary Harris
Mona McLennan, Tricia Johnston
Norm LeClaire, Shelby Sproule
Norman Swanson, Brenda Swanson

Patches, Amanda Sadleir
Peter and Joan Murphy, Carly Lavallee
Piggy & Kat, Mr Dean Tamerra Rideout
Pooter, Darlene Baker
Pretzel & Bandette, Dwayne Steil
Raila Hagman, Finnish Ladies Sewing Circle
Rana & Prissa, Arlene Schmidek
Raymond Hansen, Judy Pope
Raymond Stadlwieser, Kelly Matthews
Rex, Debra L. Degenstein
Rex & Tron, Roy Lee
Rhonda Gaye Kropf, Karl Kropf
Rose M Pollitt, David Pollitt
Rosie, Eric Denbina
Sam Boutilier, Tanya Boutilier
Samson, Soda & Schneider, Patty Hicks
Sasha Jugnauth, Derek Jugnauth
Shadow, David & Laura Dear
Shannon Nyback, Allan Palm, Town of Killam, Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61
Simon Upright, Chirag Shah
Sue Rubak, Donna Stroup
Susan Jean Alexander, Kamini Georgallis
Susan Schaaf, Lorraine Nygren
Tank, Kris & Sheryl Bay
Taylor John Van de Pol, Ann Mackey
Teddy, Susan Jenkins
Teeka Jones, Katherine Jones
Terry Massey, Don Massey, Gloria Berrecloth, Jody & Wayne Woodman, Trent & Terrilynn Lowes
Tonka Stankowski, Jim & Deb McGrath
Tucker, Skye Robertson
Tundra, Kate Dueck
Wayne Hatala, Cecile & Ralph E Atkinson
William (Bill) John McKillop, Russell Kane & Brenda Kane
Winston, Webster & Topaz, Leona De Boer
Yoshi, Christine Leclerc



Thank You Pet Memorial
Program Participating
Veterinary Clinics

Harvest Pointe Animal Hospital
Range Road Veterinary Clinic
Foothills Animal Hospital



ANIMALKIND RESPONSE FORM

Spring 2024

If you believe Animal Protection, Education and Pet Safekeeping are vital to preventing animal neglect and abuse, please support the Alberta SPCA's programs by making a donation.

Help us help the animals by filling out this form and mailing it to:

Alberta SPCA, 17904 118 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5S 2W3, or visit us at AlbertaSPCA.org.

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Donations and Memberships

YES! I support the Alberta SPCA's province-wide Animal Protection, Education and Pet Safekeeping programs.

Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____
(Income tax receipts are automatically issued for donations of \$10 or more.)

I would like to renew my membership or become a member of the Alberta SPCA:

- \$15 student/senior \$20 Individual
- \$30 senior family \$35 family

I'm paying by:

- Cheque Credit card: VISA Amex
- MasterCard

\$ _____ membership + \$ _____ donation = \$ _____ (total)

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

Expiry _____ / _____

Signature _____

Become a Monthly Donor

I authorize the Alberta SPCA to deduct \$ _____ from my bank account* or credit card on the 1st day of each month or the next business day. I understand that I can change or cancel this monthly donation at any time, subject to providing written notice of 15 days or more.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please withdraw this monthly amount from my:

- Bank Account *(attach a cheque marked VOID)*
- Credit card: VISA MasterCard Amex

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

Expiry _____ / _____

Signature _____