

ANNUAL REPORT
2020

SAVING LIVES, CREATING FAMILIES

SPCA
Nova Scotia





Cover Photo: Chester made an amazing transformation with treatment and lots of love. He was featured on Wet Nose Wednesday with Jack 92.9 to help find a loving family. It worked! “Chester’s eyes drew me in – they told a story of neglect, defeat and sadness,” shared Thia, Chester’s fur-mama. “Chester has brought so much love and laughter. I can’t remember what life was like without him.”

Thanks to kind animal-lovers like you, Chester is now safe, healthy and happy. **Check out his *before* on the back page!**

A LOOK BACK AT 2020



EXECUTIVE

Chair: Virginia Jones
Vice Chair: Jessie Irving
Treasurer: Alex Bauld

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Cara Boston
Danny Ellis
Mike Hurley
Jim Kochanoff
Cayla Lamont
Ben McIsaac
Carolyn Pierce
Colleen Fraser

Jill Grafton
Leah McDonald
Lynne Riguise

GOVERNMENT REPS

Dept. of Agriculture
Dr. Laura Buckland
NS Veterinary Medicine Association
Dr. Rhonda MacDonald

MESSAGES



The stories you’ll find inside share how the Nova Scotia SPCA helps pets live their best lives. The stories we share hold two themes. One is the incredible work that the donors, volunteers and staff of the Nova Scotia SPCA make possible every day. The second is less positive. We’re outgrowing our spaces.

Our brand-new social enterprise hospital in Dartmouth already has a waitlist. None of the cats that came to the SPCA with Terrence were able to stay in Pictou because that shelter didn’t have appropriate spaces to keep common illnesses from spreading. Ryan’s experience with adoption occurred through one of our adoption partners because there isn’t enough room to host all potential adopters in the shelters.

Though we are proud of all the SPCA has been able to achieve, we are ready to address these issues. I’m excited about what the future holds and I can’t wait to share what comes next with you.

Virginia Jones
CHAIR OF THE BOARD



From necessity and need, 2020 has been a complex year of evolutionary growth. Coronavirus was a game-changer. The Nova Scotia SPCA stepped up and improved our services so pets and their loving families would feel safe and supported.

In 2020 we achieved explosive campaign growth and are very close to raising enough funds to improve infrastructure across the province including building a brand-new shelter in Stellarton replacing the much loved but worn Pictou Animal Shelter located in New Glasgow.

In September, our first social enterprise focused veterinary hospital was accredited to ensure all families had access to medical care for their companion animals.

Last but not least, we began the process to build a Nova Scotia SPCA College of Animal Welfare where we will train the next generation of veterinary technicians and animal welfare teams with a focus on shelter medicine, shelter management and humane animal handling.

Thank you for your belief in the Nova Scotia SPCA and your loyal support of companion animals. So much is possible when we put the community and animals first!

Elizabeth Murphy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM RESCUED TO REHOMED

On average, 20 homeless pets are brought to safety at the Nova Scotia SPCA **every single day**. Some were abandoned or abused... but they all deserve a second chance. With limited space and lack of rooms to treat sick and injured animals, we are often overwhelmed.

In November, our shelters were hit hard.

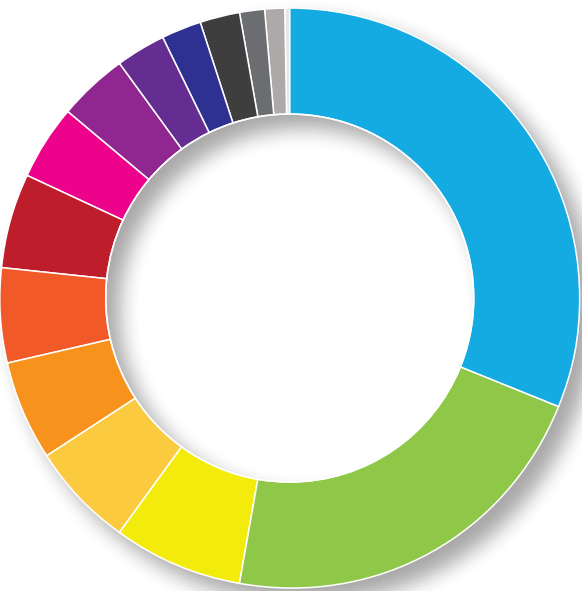


85 cats and kittens were rescued and transported for urgent medical care. Because of the conditions the cats were living in, many suffered from painful eye damage, severe infections and deadly diseases. Some needed emergency surgery to survive.

Majority of the cats came from two animal hoarding situations in Pictou County and Cape Breton. Unfortunately, the Pictou County SPCA does not have an isolation room large enough to treat and protect the cats from potential illnesses. The rescued cats had to be transferred to other SPCA animal shelters to be closely monitored.

Proudly no-kill, we promised to do everything in our power to save them. But we needed help... and fast. We estimated that medical treatment for the cats could exceed \$58,000. Resources were stretched to the limit – especially due to COVID-19.

Thankfully, animal-lovers throughout the community stepped up. They donated, fundraised, and showed us just how powerful their love for pets is.



CRUELTY CALLS BY LOCATION			
HRM	425	Cumberland	51
CBRM	297	Annapolis	37
Kings	97	Shelburne	31
Pictou	82	Digby	30
Lunenburg	74	Antigonish	20
Colchester	72	Queens	16
Yarmouth	72	Guysborough	1
Hants	59		

Many cats responded well to treatment but others had a longer road to recovery. With nearly 400 dedicated fosters, families opened up their hearts and homes. The kitties desperately needed space to learn how to trust and to heal.

With the outpour of support from the community, we were too inspired to be tired.

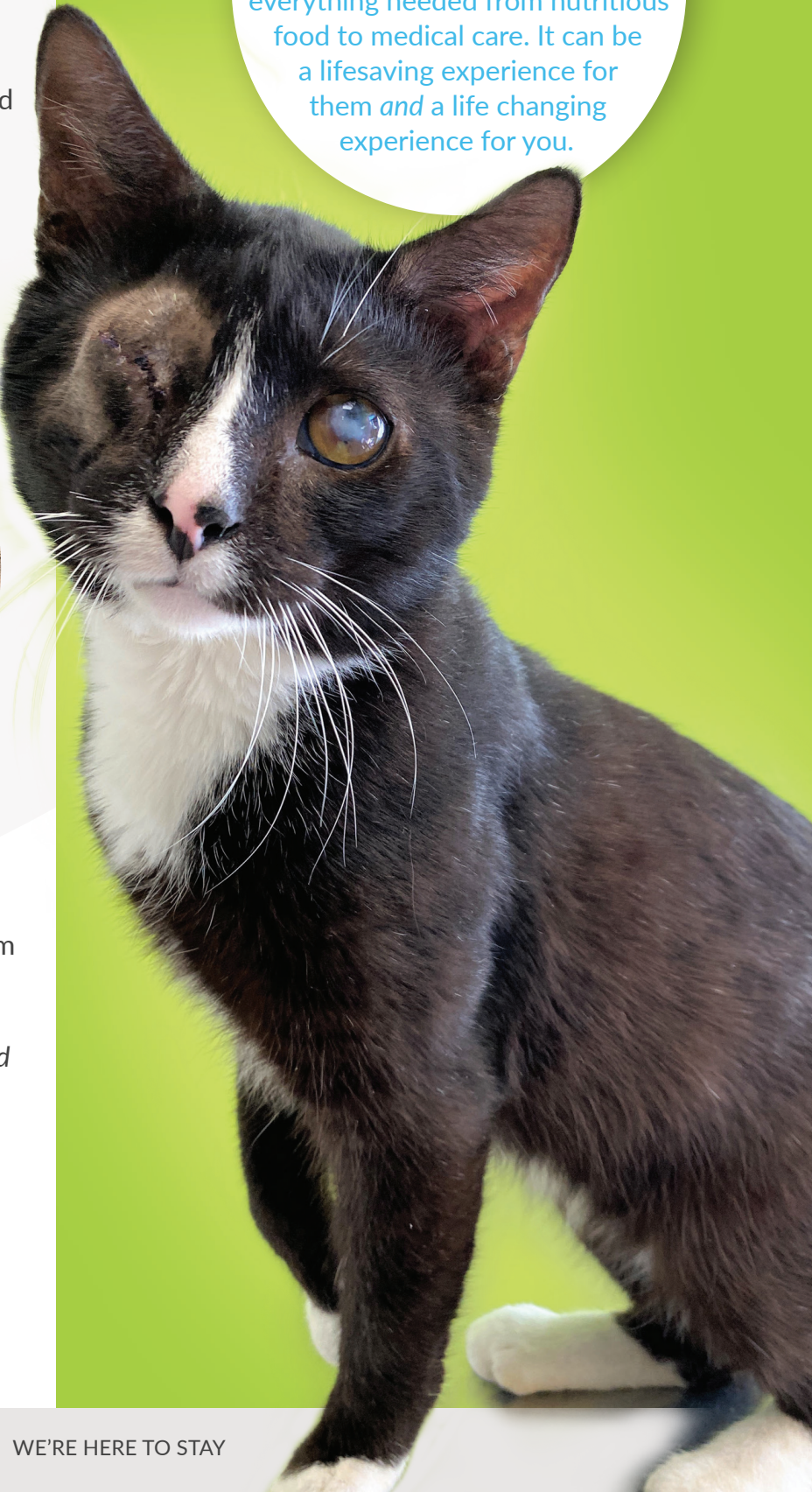


Terrance, one of the rescued cats, lost an eye but found a loving family.

He was adopted and it didn't take him long to find his favourite spot to enjoy a cat nap. Terrance's new fur-mama, Noor, shared *"He's the cuddliest wee little kitty and I couldn't be more obsessed with him! He's the absolute best!"*

And that is not the only happily-ever-after. All the kitties that survived were scooped up and are now living their best lives. Thanks to the generosity of the community, these poor kittens and cats got the second chance they deserved.

Fabulous fosters provide a temporary home for pets who need extra time to recover or are not ready for adoption yet. The SPCA provides everything needed from nutritious food to medical care. It can be a lifesaving experience for them *and* a life changing experience for you.



RYAN NEVER WANTED A CAT

It was his little brother's fault they were even considering it. Euan was desperate for a furry friend. He even found a library while on vacation to research cats. After careful consideration, everyone agreed adding a cat to the family would be a good idea. Except for Ryan. He was still convinced that a cat would disrupt his routine and sanctuary.

Because of Ryan's apprehension, the family put a plan in place so he could slowly become more comfortable. One of the first things they did was schedule a trip to the Lily Pad Cat Lounge in Dartmouth. The cat lounge is one of the Nova Scotia SPCA's dedicated off-site adoption partners.

Adoption partners in the community are a must for the SPCA due to the lack of space and kennels in our shelters, especially during busy kitten season.

While visiting the Lily Pad Cat Lounge, Ryan warmed up to the idea of having a cat in the family. After all, the cats seemed curious but timid – just like him! Suddenly, everything changed. The family fell in love with an adorable cat named Cooper. They welcomed Cooper into their home and hearts.

Worried that Cooper may be lonely when no one was home, Ryan and his brother asked his family about adopting another cat. They reached out to the Lily Pad Cat Lounge who sent over a picture of Charlie – Cooper's best friend. Charlie was still available for adoption and quickly joined the MacDonald-McElrone family.

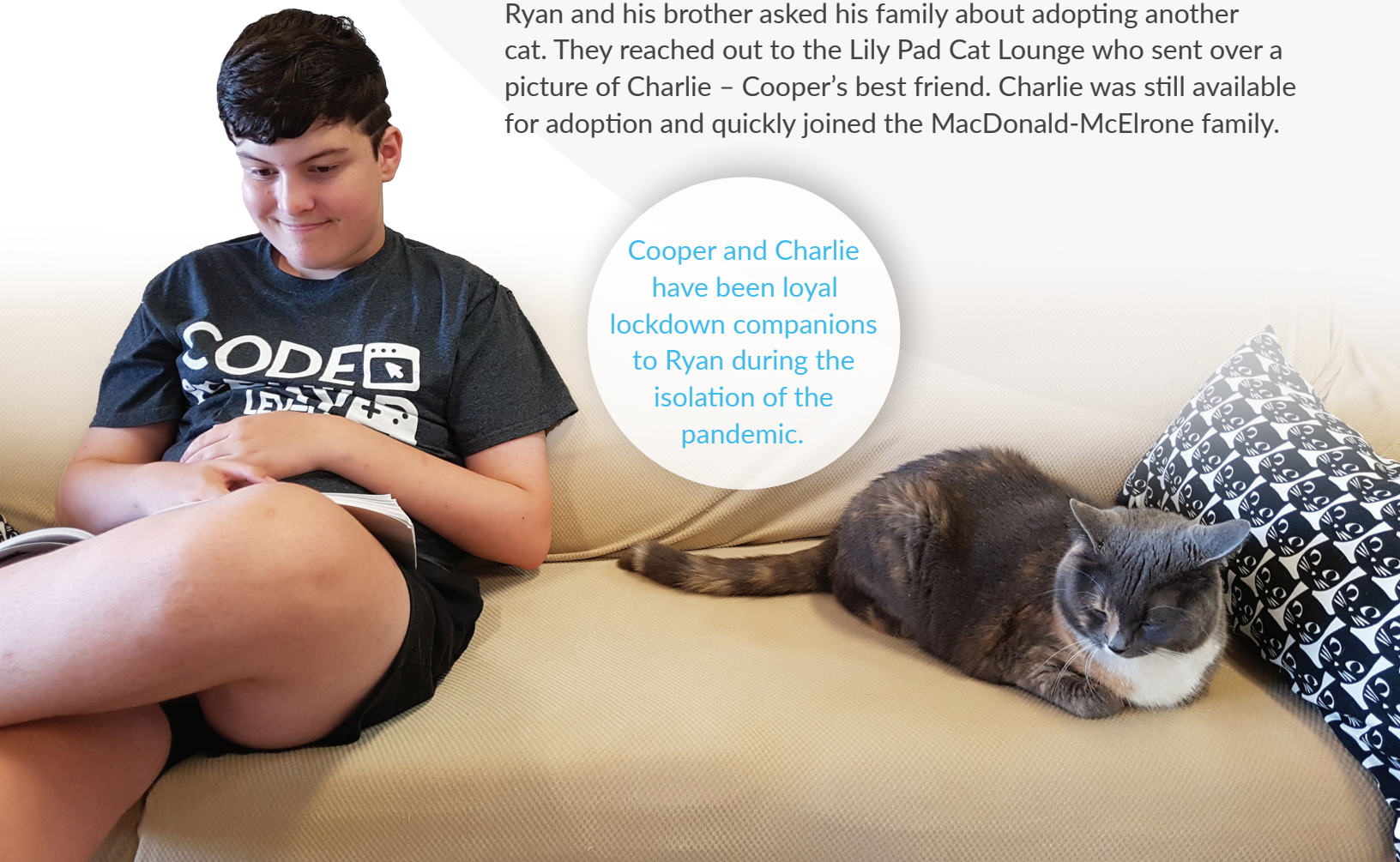
Cooper and Charlie
have been loyal
lockdown companions
to Ryan during the
isolation of the
pandemic.



While practicing social distancing, Ryan took up “cat walks” through the neighbourhood to hopefully meet even more cats. By December 2020, Ryan had formed enough attachments to his favourite “floofs” and “lumps” to do something special. He created a holiday card with yummy treats for the families of his favourite cats.

The 70 cats Ryan and his mum, Anne-Marie, have met are always eager to accept Ryan's treats and company. They are accepting and totally unconcerned that he is neurodivergent. Loving cats means Ryan has a shared interest to connect with people, make friends, and start conversations. It has even launched him as an entrepreneur in his community. Ryan now runs his own cat-sitting business. He makes sure cats are well cared for and maybe even a little spoiled.

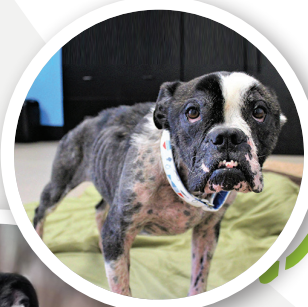
As Ryan takes on new challenges this fall – starting at NSCC in the Information Technology program – he knows that he can always count on his cats for comfort and cuddles. He has his supportive family, adoption partners, and the Nova Scotia SPCA to thank for bringing Cooper and Charlie into his life. Now, when other family members are stressed, Ryan helps by reminding them “but... there are cats in the world!”



STORIES YOU MADE POSSIBLE

KINGS

Cerebellar hypoplasia (CH) is a neurological condition where the cerebellum of the brain does not develop properly. What CH pets may lack in coordination, they make up for in determination. Kittens with CH require special families to adopt them that will be understanding of their physical challenges. Four years ago, Lorelea and Charlie adopted a kitten with CH. Since then, two more kittens with the disorder found their way into their heart and loving home.



YARMOUTH

Bilbo Waggins was half the size of a healthy dog when he was rescued. With a careful refeeding schedule, Bilbo began to gain energy and weight. After two months of rehabilitation, Bilbo began to feel better. He was adopted and now has his very own Instagram (@bilbo_waggins_thedog) to show off his exciting adventures. Bilbo's previous owners were charged under the Animal Protection Act of Nova Scotia and are awaiting sentencing.

DARTMOUTH

Jethro has early renal disease. To boost the quality and length of his life, Jethro was placed in the SPCA Palliative Care Program. Jethro's kidney disease hit home for Lynn's family. Her husband, Chris, had donated a kidney to his father more than 20 years ago. They happily became Jethro's forever foster family. "With the support from the SPCA, we have extra time to love him without the added stress of his medical expenses," shared Lynn. "It is so rewarding... Our hearts are full."



COLCHESTER

In December 2019, SPCA Enforcement Officers rescued 35 dogs. Not long after, 3 pregnant mamas gave birth bringing the total to 53 puppies and dogs. Being the smallest pup, Bindi had an uphill battle. She joined the SPCA WOOF Program to learn skills and gain confidence. But even after training, Bindi needed extra medical care and support. She was medically cleared after 6 months and her foster family officially adopted her. Bindi's story changed from one of heartbreak to hope.



CAPE BRETON

As a long-time volunteer, Leigh-Anne Cox gravitated towards animals recovering from abuse, neglect and illness. She showed them unconditional love. Sadly, we lost Leigh-Anne last year. To celebrate her life, acts of kindness began to spread like wildfire. Leigh-Anne's family and friends made a generous donation to honour her memory and create a legacy of love that will continue to protect pets for years to come.



PICTOU COUNTY

The town of Stellarton has agreed to donate land in the Albion Business Park providing we break ground by 2023. Raising \$1.85M right now will build a new facility with shelter, medical, retail and programming space and means we'll be in the business of Saving Lives... Creating and helping families locally for another 40 years.

Our **\$2.15M project** includes safe spaces for animals, full service animal care and more opportunities to help families and the community.

SPCA VETERINARY HOSPITAL

**We are proud to establish the first full-service, social enterprise hospital in eastern Canada....
The SPCA Veterinary Hospital!**

The SPCA Veterinary Hospital was made possible by consecutive grant funding from PetSmart Charities® of Canada. Our newly renovated hospital in Dartmouth provides medical, surgical, wellness and preventative health care. With more than 45 years of combined comprehensive veterinary knowledge, pets receive high quality care to be a healthy and happy part of your family.



Our goal is to keep more pets in loving homes. To help families in crisis with critical medical care, we created the **Sunshine Fund, sponsored by Queenidog**. Pet parents facing hardship will now have support when they need it most.

Chantal and her son, Jonah, used all their savings to move back home to Nova Scotia. Disabled from a back injury, Chantal was hopeful for more family support. Like many kids living on the autism spectrum, Jonah often struggles with loud noises and large groups of people. Their beloved dog, Fraya, supports Jonah through tough times. *"Fraya knows all his triggers,"* shared Chantal. *"She bonded to Jonah like nothing I have ever seen."*

One day, Fraya stopped eating and playing. Something was wrong.

"It is heartbreaking to watch a loved animal hurting as well as your son, knowing there is nothing I could do about it," Chantal recalled. *"We had used up all our emergency funds to leave an unhealthy situation only to have this happen."*

Chantal contacted the SPCA Veterinary Hospital for help. *"Jonah was a mess with crying but even in that moment, Fraya still tried to wag her tail and comfort him,"* Chantal smiled. *"This is the type of dog she is. She soothes him. I was at a loss."*



To help keep more pets and families together, we expanded the Paws & Support program and launched a free pet pantry at all 6 SPCA animal shelters throughout the province.

Paws & Support helps pet parents who are seeking in-hospital treatment or are transitioning out of domestic violence relationships.

The SPCA Pet Pantry is a new pet food and litter bank. Families in crisis can arrange for free, contactless pick-up for food and litter.

Both programs were made possible thanks to our friends at PetSmart Charities® of Canada.

HOSPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Nearly half the animals that come to the SPCA require surgery
- Hospitals are located in Cape Breton, Dartmouth, and a Spay/Neuter Clinic in Yarmouth

2 in 3
animals coming to us need
spay/neuter surgery

Visit
spcavet.ca
to learn more

Fraya was one of the first pets helped by the Sunshine Fund. The SPCA veterinary team performed an emergency pyometra surgery to save Fraya's life.



Fraya feels so much better and is back home with her loving family. "My son hugged me tight and cried on my shoulder," shared Chantal. "You made me feel at ease and were kind and loving. Fraya works miracles. And so do you guys."

"No one really knows a person's circumstances," Chantal continued. "I had a very good job with money in the bank but then I broke my back. Things happen. And now here we are, finding angels in the SPCA."

THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Many things changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Your love and dedication for homeless pets never wavered. Animal-lovers stepped up and found new, creative ways to help.

SPCA supporter, **Sonia Cumminger**, began making face masks to protect people and help shelter pets. She sewed more than 300 beautiful masks and donated all of the proceeds. **Sonia used her talent and time to raise more than \$1,400!**



Tragically, **Captain Jennifer Casey**, proud Nova Scotian, died in an aircraft crash during the Canadian Forces Snowbirds Operation Inspiration. To honour Captain Casey, **Master-Corporal Mackenzie** auctioned off the Nova Scotian flag he flew with to help a cause she cared about. **He paid tribute to a dear friend and raised more than \$5,000 for innocent animals.**

Local rockstar, **Matt Mays**, hosted a virtual show in support of the SPCA. Listeners donated and **J & W Murphy Foundation** matched every gift to double the impact. **An a-MAYS-zing \$56,072 was raised to help furry friends in need!** To thank Matt for his support, we named cute kittens after him.



MAJOR THANKS

Pawsitive Champion

Anonymous
Bob Found & Barbrara Wilkes
Christian Selig
Fundraising for Pictou County
J & W Murphy Foundation
Judy Layne
Mars Petcare
Paul and Diane Raymond
Petline Insurance
PetSmart Charities of Canada
Susan Kerslake
The Guppy Primary Trust

Humane Hero

Anonymous
Bulwark Ciders
Economical Insurance
Friends of the SPCA
Halifax Regional Municipality
Harrison McCain Foundation
Hill's Pet Nutrition Canada
Jocelyn Pascoe
Johanna Eliot
Lila McArthur
Marguerite MacLean
Mark Dunkley
Maryann Jamieson in memory of Captain Jennifer Casey
Noreen and John Barter Fund
Virginia Jones

Furever Family

Anonymous
Andrew Grantham
Anne and Cecil Vance
Ashley Stueck
Christene MacDonald
Cushman & Wakefield
Asset Services
Danny Ellis
Dr. Magda Barnard, Bedford Orthodontics
George F. Wade Foundation
Global Pet Foods Dartmouth
Global Pet Foods New Minas
In memory of Jo-ann Dorey
Jennifer Hiltz & Scott Rogers
Karen and Robert Campbell
Kim Huskison
Kyla Stanick
Nancy E. Geffken
Nicole Pittman
Philip & Jill Grafton
Ren's Pets: For Your Pet's Best Life
ROYALE®
Teresa Newman
Wilsons Home Heating

Pawsome Supporter

Anonymous
Aileen Mair
Al & Marylyn Taylor
Animal Alliance of Canada
Anne-Marie White
Arin Selig
Arthur & Jo-Anne Trenholm
Ashley & Traci Manzer
B. Beagan & J. Lang
Barbara Mercer
Barry Taylor
Beachfire Music
Benjamin Carver
Betty MacKenzie
Bonnie Shaw
Bridgetown Family Dentistry
Bruce & Carla Elliott
Bryant Realty Atlantic Team
C. Huyghue
Cara Boston
Carmen Chaddock
Carolyn Gesner
Cathy Fox
Clayton and Rochelle Abraham
Cross Country TV Limited
D. Billard
Dream Dog Bedford and Kellie Lynn Photography
E. Adlakha
Ernest H. Irwin
Fossil Power Systems
Frederick G. Donaldson
Garrison Brewing
Geno Sajko
Global Pet Foods Bayers Lake
Global Pet Foods Truro
Grace McGregor
Greg MacIntyre Trucking & Backhoe
Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada Society
H. McIlveen
Heike Lotze
Helen Cianfagione
Holly Van Nieuwenhove
Ian & Cheryl Lynn Atkins
Ian Whitcomb
In celebration of our little Kenyan alarm clock - Iti. Sonja & Ethan
In honour of Jess Tasker
In memory of Clinton Sollows
In memory of Trinda MacLean
Isabel Wainwright
Jane and Bob Brown
Janice Sheppard
Jen MacDougall

Jennifer Duncan
Jim Daigle
Joanne Carson Dentistry
Joanne McCrear & Family
Jollimore Family
Jollytails Resort
Judy Crump
Julian Youle-White
K. Clegg
Karen, Rowan, Hazel and Mike Hurley
Kim Lipscomb
Kynock Resources Ltd
Linda Ferguson
Linda Stewart
Lindsay Construction
Little Linc Doggy Neckwear
Lorene Scrutton
Lorraine Williston
Luckett Vineyards
M. Ross
M. Weston
M.V. Osprey
Marlene Corey
Master-Corporal Matthew Mackenzie in memory of Captain Jennifer Casey
Michael Clerk
Michelin Tire
Michelle Warner
Miles T. Sweeney Ltd.

Monisa Boudreau and Johnathan Rodney
Norm Robinson
Nutri-Lawn
Oceanview Elementary School
P. & S. Galloway
Patricia & George Fraser
Paul & Laura Herman
Pictou County Jewels
RBC Financial Planning (Halifax)
Rescue Coffee Co.
Riley Pepler
Riverview High School
Rob Oyler
Royal Bank of Canada (Sackville)
Ruby L. Parsons
S. Foster
Sheilah Domenie
Sherrill Schmidt
Sonia Cumminger
Steele Volkswagen
Sugar Bubbles Bath Bakery
Sydney Credit Union
Tammy Acker & Russell Caldwell
The Kiley Family
The Metta Foundation
Warren & Karen Shih (In memory of Amber and Miss Blast)
Water'n'Wine
Wendy Miles
Yvonne Hartlin

CORPORATE PARTNERS



PetSmart Charities of Canada is a proud supporter of the Nova Scotia SPCA.

Together we are strengthening communities by supporting pets and those who love them. Thank you Pet Smart Charities.



Petline is a proud partner of the Nova Scotia SPCA.

All Nova Scotia SPCA animals go home with an 8 week free trial of SPCA Pet Health Insurance and every policy purchase sends a donation back to the animals in our care!

At the Nova Scotia SPCA, we're proud to be part of the Hill's Food, Shelter & Love® program and we feed all our pets Hill's Science Diet.



THANK YOU!

A special thank you to those who have honoured their connection with pets by leaving a gift to the Nova Scotia SPCA in their will. No matter the size, their bequest makes a real difference in the lives of animals. From the most basic necessities like food and safety to veterinary care and life-saving medicine, their gift has given homeless animals the healing they need and the love they deserve. Thank you to these special guardian angels.

ESTATES OF...

- Barbara Wentzell

Clyde Fraser MacDonald

Dorothy MacKenzie

Edith Thompson

Florence MacLeod

Joyce M Neumann

Kenneth Walter Nehiley

Lucie Cecilia Mariette Joseph
- Marjorie Smith

Mildred MacDonald

Peter Clyde Prebble

Ronald W. Zwicker

Russell Vilmont

Tremblay

William MacDougall

William Roff

Inspired by nurses that helped care for her, Laurel dedicated her life to pay it forward and help others. This included adopting a special dog, Zeus, to give him the second chance he deserved. But when Laurel fell sick with stage 4 Mesothelioma, she realized that Zeus was just as much of a blessing to her.

October marks one year since Laurel lost her heroic battle with cancer. In loving memory of Laurel, her mother, Orlean, made a generous donation so that more families could have the same happiness that Zeus and Laurel shared.



LEADERSHIP

- Chief Executive Officer

Elizabeth Murphy
- Director of Finance

Karen DeWolfe
- Director of External Relations

Marni Tuttle
- Director of Animal Care

Sandra Flemming
- Director of Development

Christa Jensen
- Director of Programs & Services

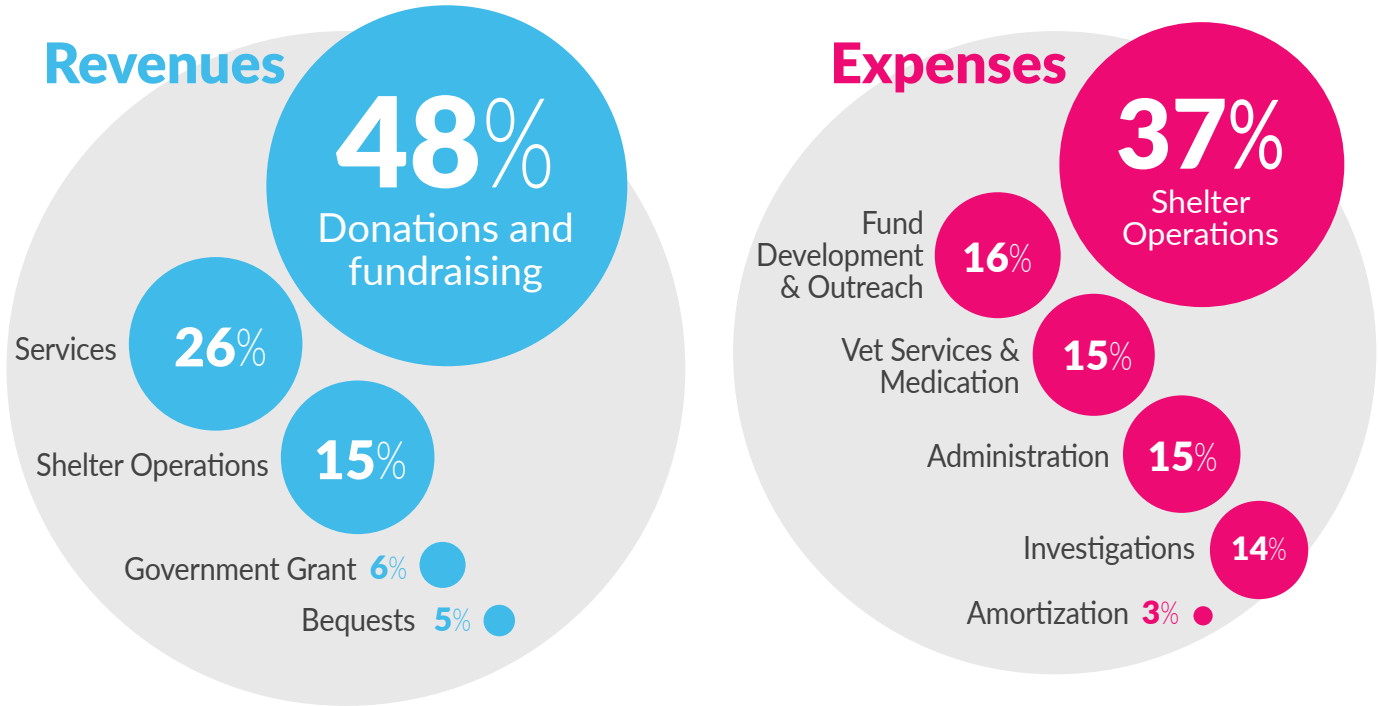
Heather Woodin
- Chief Provincial Inspector

Special Cst. Jo-Anne Landsburg
- Director of Shelter Services

Jennifer Nolan
- Director of Retail Marketing & Branding

Courtney Barber

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



REVENUES

Donations and fundraising	\$2,670,658
Services.	1,448,451
Shelter operations	834,565
Government enforcement grant. . .	320,790
Bequests.	308,667
Total Revenues	\$5,583,131

EXPENSES

Shelter operations	\$1,910,284
Fund development and outreach.	824,668
Veterinary services and medication . . .	796,745
Administration	771,839
Investigations.	706,415
Amortization	157,104
Total Expenses	\$5,167,055

EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS. \$416,076

OTHER INCOME

Investment income	\$2,098
Gain on marketable securities	50,557
Government assistance.	594,271
Total Other Incomes	\$646,926

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES. . . . \$1,063,002

NON-CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020





BEFORE: SPCA Enforcement Officers brought Chester to safety at the Nova Scotia SPCA. Chester was suffering from terrible skin and ear infections causing him to lose most of his fur.

Treatment was complex and our veterinary team worked around-the-clock to help Chester recover. But Chester needed to heal emotionally, too. Staff and volunteers showered Chester with love and worked hard to rebuild his trust.

Check out his transformation by flipping to the cover!

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION?



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Charitable Tax No. 134704741 RR0001