

SPCA
Nova Scotia

Annual Report 2017



The Nova Scotia SPCA

A Look Back at 2017



6,555 SURGERIES PERFORMED FOR ANIMALS IN NEED



SERVED OVER 16,437 ANIMALS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE



WE HAVE A LOW 10.3% ADMINISTRATIVE COST



3 SPCA THRIFT STORES



4.3 MILLION ANNUAL OPERATING COST



OVER 12,975 COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED THROUGH OUR PROGRAMS



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© Brian W. Jody (Photographer), 2016. Colchester SPCA (Photograph), 2016.

A Letter from the Chair of the Board

“You can't buy love but you can rescue it.”

It is impossible to talk about the Nova Scotia SPCA and not mention the animals. But how do we pay for their care? Each year, we count on thousands of donors to keep our lights on. But what if we could find a stable funding source that would involve our members help? Enter the SPCA Thrift store.

This year we opened two new thrift stores that complement our store in Liverpool - one in Dartmouth, another in New Minas and in 2018 we anticipate opening a fourth in Sydney. With these stores, we have a continued source of income each month and an opportunity for our supporters to be part of our operation.

During the summer, my daughter and I volunteered at the Dartmouth Thrift store. We learned how to sort and price items and even learned how to use a cash register. The joys of retail! I learned that in a few hours, I could help by working at the store or by donating items that I no longer use. There was a new way I could make a financial difference for the SPCA.

Plus, it was fun to shop at our store. The deals are fantastic and selection is always changing. If you are looking for a bargain and a way to help the animals, this is a place for you. Please visit a SPCA Thrift store in your area.



Jim Kochanoff & family dog Lola
CHAIR OF THE BOARD



A Letter from the CEO

2017 was inspiring! All the changes accomplished over the past few years has culminated in tremendous improvement in the services we now offer animals and the community. World Spay Day saw us perform surgeries for families in need, our P.U.P. (Prevent Unwanted Pets) Program spayed family pets while rehoming puppies & kittens. TNR (trap-neuter-return) continues to go strong with the help of the SPCA Mobile Clinic and surgical teams and is free to families and communities who have limited financial resources to pay. All thanks to our generous donors.

The Nova Scotia SPCA also achieved the goal of being both No-Kill and Open Admission this past year, meaning that we never euthanize for space or refuse a companion animal in immediate need of shelter.

“We don't intend to slow down..”

As we are solving problems in some areas, the Nova Scotia SPCA needs to evolve and focus on various animal and community needs. We need to significantly invest in our Animal Shelters so our facilities are as progressive as our Animal Care Programs & Animal Hospitals. To this end, 2018 will be the year we start to build our strategy to create a Provincial SPCA Campus to ensure we continue to be a viable resource to communities and companion animals for many years to come!

The critical work accomplished in fiscal year 2017 was only possible because of the extraordinary generosity and commitment of our donors, volunteers, community partners and staff. With your continued support and participation, we will continue to grow and improve the lives of animals across the province. On behalf of those animals, and with sincere appreciation - Thank You!



Elizabeth Murphy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Financial Statements

Non Consolidated Statement of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2017

REVENUES

Donations & Fundraising	1,374,215
Shelter Operations	988,860
Service	966,427
Bequests	862,777
Government Grant (to support enforcement department)	240,000

2017
\$

4,432,279

EXPENSES

Administration	458,690
Amortization	67,335
Fund Development & Outreach	345,051
Investigations	695,588
Shelter Operations	1,842,938
Veterinary Services & Medication	909,285

4,318,887

EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS

113,392

OTHER INCOME

Investment income	5,379
Gain on marketable securities	40,516
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(5,712)
Net earnings from controlled profit oriented enterprises	5,370

45,553

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES

158,945

“With the successful merge of our provincial operations completed in 2016, 2017 allowed us to focus on consolidating our operations, increasing donor outreach and awareness, and simplifying our administrative functions. We saw a year-over-year increase in almost all categories of revenues, and a decrease in administration costs. Due to our in-house veterinary clinic and hospitals, we performed more surgeries but kept our associated expenses consistent with the prior year.

We incurred a greater deficit from our shelter operations in 2017, largely attributable to the improvement of animal care processes which required additional training for existing staff, hiring more skilled staff and expenditures to improve shelter equipment. With previous deficiencies addressed and a goal in 2018 to increase focus on further utilizing our in-house veterinary clinic and hospitals, we anticipate achieving greater operational sustainability.

Overall, 2017 was another successful year for the Society due to the support of the public, our partnerships with PetSmart Charities, other organizations, local communities and the local and provincial governments, as well as the dedication and drive of our employees.”

— Charl
Charl du Plooy | CPA, CA
Treasurer

Farewell to our Treasurer...

Charl du Plooy really loves the animals! This is evident through his determination to keep us focused on our goal to achieving financial sustainability to ensure we continue to support animals and the community for many years to come. Charl has persevered through a lot of SPCA changes – in the past 8 years he has helped the Society transition through 2 executive directors, 3 chairs, a financial restructuring and the merge of 11 separate SPCA organizations into one Nova Scotia SPCA. It has been eventful to say the least! Thank you Charl for sticking it out with us and making us strong – The SPCA and the animals we serve are better for having had you on our Board Executive.



Development & Fundraising

The Nova Scotia SPCA undertook an exciting new chapter in fundraising. With a vision of creating sustainable and reliable revenue streams for the society to ensure that shelter operations and programming can continue to grow and flourish while assisting as many companion animals and community members as possible throughout Nova Scotia.

In July 2017, the Dartmouth SPCA Thrift Store opened its doors, making it the second store in the province for the Nova Scotia SPCA, our first located in Queens County. Relying on the generosity and support of community donations, the Nova Scotia SPCA Thrift Store accepts a wide variety of household items, giving thrift-savvy customers another avenue to support the SPCA while in turn keeping these items out of landfills.

We didn't stop there. After much success and being embraced by the thrifting community with open arms, we embarked on creating a thrift store in the New Minas area in support of the King's SPCA Animal Shelter. A few short months later, in November of 2017, we celebrated the opening of our New Minas store located a short distance from the Kings SPCA shelter in Waterville. This charming store provides the same exciting bargain opportunities to residents, SPCA supporters and treasure hunters alike.

Daily operations of the thrift stores are run primarily by a remarkable group of volunteers who graciously give of themselves and their time. Facilitating everything from sorting donations to merchandising the front end of the store, creating positive experiences for our customers, enjoying the next chapter in their volunteering career with the Nova Scotia SPCA.

The SPCA thrift stores are so much more than a place to find a good bargain. They are also a resource that will further engage our volunteers, donors, and community members with another outlet to participate and show their support to the society.



Thompson, Ken (Photograph) 2017, Dartmouth SPCA Thrift Store (Photograph) 2017

88+

VOLUNTEERS

Running day-to-day operations of our stores across NS

220

DAYS IN OPERATION

With our Dartmouth store opening in July 2017, New Minas in November 2017 and planning the opening of our Cape Breton store for 2018 - we have been busy!

\$92,450

RAISED FOR THE ANIMALS

With generous donations and the hard work of our volunteers, amazing things have happened!

|SPCA Monster March



October 2017, the Nova Scotia SPCA launched our first ever Monster March event in the Colchester region. This first ever event was a Halloween-themed fun run/walk where pets and their people came dressed to impress and raise much needed funds for the animals in the Colchester area.

This spook-tacular event will be coming to a shelter near you in 2018!

|Bake Sales for Wagging Tails

2017 was another successful year for our annual Bake Sales for Wagging Tails event across the province. This year's event saw bakers getting creative with their sweet treats, all in support of shelter animals across Nova Scotia! Raising over **\$2,300** for animals in need across Nova Scotia!



|SPCA Lotteries

In 2017, the Nova Scotia SPCA hosted a series of lotteries across the province resulting in some HUGE success for the SPCA.

Our province wide 50/50 and Kings SPCA *Play for Paws* raised a combined **\$29,000!**

|Santa Paws Tables

Every year an incredible group of dedicated volunteers and community members get together to host our annual Christmas tables. This year across the province, they raised a total of over **\$23,000!**



|Santa Pix

Santa Paws came to town and visited all the good little dogs, cats and even rats!

This year's event raised over **\$7,000+** across the province of Nova Scotia, from Yarmouth to Cape Breton and everywhere in between.



|Halifax Pride



Animal Care & Veterinary Services


Our organization continued to grow, and with that growth, so has our need to expand veterinary services.

In 2017, the Nova Scotia SPCA made the move to accredit our four remaining shelters across the province as Small Animal Clinics (without surgery) through the Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical Association (NSVMA). This allowed us to bring “in house” the bulk of our veterinary requirements from across the province, along with creating greater efficiency and standardization of care at all our shelters.

Like our hospitals in Dartmouth and Sydney, these clinics now have access to lower medication and diagnostic testing costs due to their special designation with the NSVMA and their partnership with our sister hospital in Dartmouth which continues to act as a “hub” for our organization’s veterinary needs.

Due to the demand for services, we also expanded the size of the Dartmouth Hospital to meet the constantly growing needs of not only our shelters, but also, of our Low Income and HRM TNR Programs. The added surgical space was designed to help us continue to expand our surgical capacity as well as improve disease control and overall efficiency of the hospital.

Since 2009, our goal as a “no kill” organization has meant maintaining an overall live release rate of at least 90% which was achieved once again this year! With an increased intake of 5% and over 6,000 animals coming through our doors in 2017 we continue to see our shelters at full capacity during the peak breeding season. Maintaining this live release rate while being able to meet the needs of the thousands of animals in the province who need our help is truly an amazing accomplishment. It shows not only the dedication and commitment of our staff, but the hundreds of volunteers who help us care for them.



Sandra Flemming
Director of Animal Care

Yarmouth Shelter Renovations

In June 2017, ground broke to begin shelter renovations at the Yarmouth SPCA Animal Shelter. We were fortunate enough to receive a generous bequest from the Dyke family enabling us to improve the infrastructure for animals in the Yarmouth community.

The overhaul to the Yarmouth shelter will not only improve the stay and increase capacity for the animals in our care, but will also provide the community with a place to gather, volunteer and engage with the animals prior to adoption.

In addition to creating a beautiful, functional and much needed structural update, in mid 2018 we anticipate adding a spay and neuter clinic to the facility to better serve low-income families in need and service our adoptables.



STATS

107
PUPPIES

From across the province participated in our WOOF (Working on our Future) Program that pairs puppies with offenders at the Central Nova Correctional Facility in Burnside.

25
ANIMALS

Retired in loving homes during their final year(s) through our Palliative Care Program! These animals have come from shelters across Nova Scotia.

FACT: this program is now 9 years old.



Pictured here: Kathy & adoptable dog Gotti - who went to his forever home in 2017!

SPCA Pet Health Insurance

The Nova Scotia SPCA supporters now have an exciting opportunity to purchase lifelong protection for their new pet through Nova Scotia SPCA Pet Health Insurance that launched in May 2017, in partnership with Petline, Canada's largest pet health insurance company.

Every pet guardian that adopts a dog or cat from the NS SPCA goes home with eight free weeks of pet health insurance and once their trial ends, if they purchase a policy, a portion of the policy actually comes back to the SPCA and supports our shelter pets!

SPCA Pet Health Insurance is not just limited to adopters, but also to our supporters across the province. Partnering with Petline to provide this product helps to ensure continued access to veterinary services for pets after they leave the care of the SPCA.

“Nova Scotia SPCA is a strong brand that has demonstrated longevity and trust, providing humane care to animals for 140 years...”

Rob Cunningham
Divisional Vice President
 Petline Insurance



PetSmart Charities of Canada

We hold our partnership with PetSmart Charities of Canada very dear. Not only does the charitable foundation support our SPCA Animal Hospitals across the province and Mobile TNR efforts, in 2017 we were the proud recipients of over **76,900 lbs** of pet food through their *Buy a Bag, Give a Meal* program.

Throughout September and October of 2017, the Nova Scotia SPCA distributed all 76,900 lbs of pet food to our network of shelters across the province to low-income communities, first nation communities, rescue groups and individuals in need.



“The Nova Scotia SPCA wants to ensure all animals, even those in low-income communities across the province have full bellies...”



Animal Cruelty Investigations

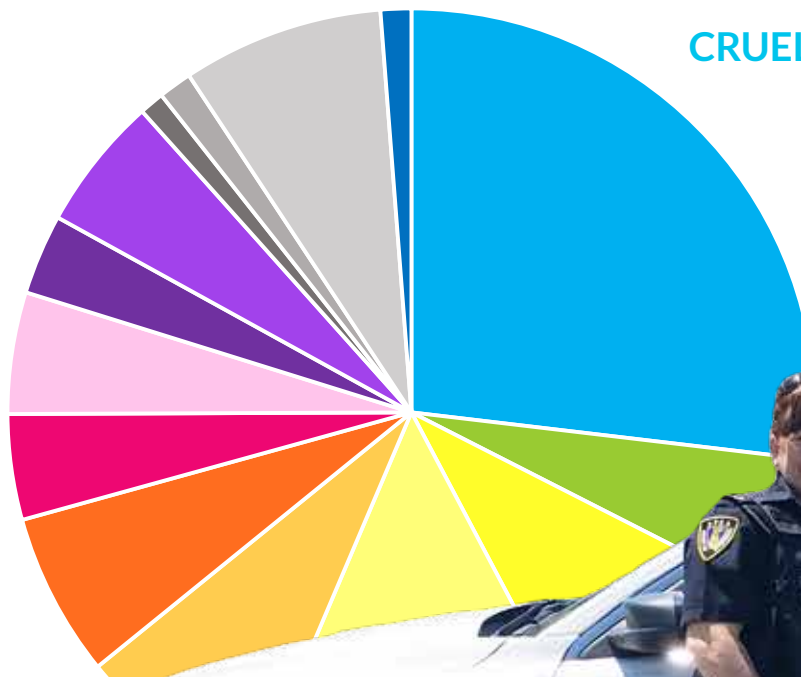
Animal cruelty remains a very serious issue in Nova Scotia with 1,615 complaints investigated throughout the province in 2017. Our officers continue to push for a more humane Nova Scotia by advocating for the ethical treatment of companion animals.

In November 2017, our officers attended a week long classroom training seminar to further educate themselves in investigation techniques. This critical training is offered on a yearly basis and aids our officers in maintaining the highest level of professionalism and expertise in upholding the Animal Protection Act of NS.

The Department of Justice has ordered that every officer must reach a standard of training required in order to maintain their appointment.

CRUELTY CALLS BY REGION

- HRM
- Hants
- Cape Breton
- Kings Co.
- Annapolis
- Yarmouth
- Digby
- Colchester
- Pictou
- Lunenburg
- Queens
- Shelburne
- Cumberland
- Antigonish Co.



In July of 2017, our officers participated in a demonstration with local RCMP to show the effects of pets left in hot cars.

Pictured: Sp.Cst. Jo-Anne Landsburg, Cpl. Jennifer Clarke, Sp. Cst. Karen & Chris Pickering.

Featured: Ali the boxer with Enforcement Officers & Puppy from the WOOF Program



BOSS' STORY...

In January 2017, the cruelty office received a call about a dog that was left outside without a shelter and was heavily matted. On arrival, the officers noted a small dog with matts so large it was hard to distinguish his front from his hind end. The owner was unwilling to provide any sort of grooming or medical care so officers seized the dog under the Animal Protection Act and the owner was charged with three counts of animal cruelty. The owner received a prohibition and fine.

STATS

4,462
ANIMALS

Intervened on behalf of by our Cruelty Officers across Nova Scotia.

1,615
COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED
by 18 Cruelty officers.

Since the SPCA holds their own degree of training expectations, in addition to the training mandated by the Department of Justice, we are proud to have a team of highly qualified, dynamic and compassionate officers.

We continue to work closely with Minister of Agriculture, Keith Colwell, attending forums to highlight areas where amendments are needed to the Animal Protection Act that will aid officers in providing even more protection for the animals.

Our Officers intervened on behalf of 4,652 animals, with 533 of those animals coming from situations of extreme neglect. Even with new updates to the Act's Regulations regarding tethering and animal abandonment, we saw over 457 individuals charged for those infractions in 2017.

Jo Anne Landsburg
Jo-Anne Landsburg
CHIEF PROVINCIAL INSPECTOR

We'll Miss you Nancy...

In 2017, our cruelty team wished long time Animal Protection Officer, Nancy Noel a happy retirement. Nancy served with the SPCA for 11 years. Over the years Nancy investigated hundreds of complaints and rescued countless animals. We were sad to see her leave but so happy she played such a vital role with the SPCA.

-Much love and respect from your SPCA Family!



Programs & Services

Open Admission

In March of 2017, the Nova Scotia SPCA launched our Open Admission Program trial at our Dartmouth Animal Shelter in order to better serve the public and the animals in the community. The success of this trial resulted in extending these principles across the province in 2018.

The overall goal of this initiative was to educate the community that the SPCA does have the capacity and programs to help with rehoming their pet.

 **83**
ANIMALS
TAKEN INTO OUR CARE
THROUGH OPEN
ADMISSION

Trap - Neuter - Return

In addition to the HRM TNR program initiative, our Mobile Spay and Neuter clinic was going strong, travelling across the province to provide high quality services to feral cats in need. Some of the largest identified colonies of feral cats continue to be seen in the Kings and Hants areas.

The Nova Scotia SPCA continues to partner with local rescues and colony caretakers to provide spay/neuter services to feral cats at no charge to the caretaker.

Prevent Unwanted Pets

'P.U.P PROGRAM'

The Nova Scotia SPCA developed the *Prevent Unwanted Pets program* to tackle the issue of unwanted litters while removing financial obstacles for families by offering a free spay surgery for the mother cat/dog.

As part of our commitment to decreasing the number of homeless and unwanted pets, the SPCA works with families to ensure that all the litter's needs are met. It is preferred to keep litters with their mothers until they are approximately seven weeks old. If impossible to keep the litter comfortable and safe, the SPCA will arrange temporary placement with foster parents who specialize in puppy and kitten care.

Participating puppies and kittens are vaccinated, vet checked, spayed/neutered, placed in loving homes and the mother is spayed before returning her – all for free.

“Having our feral colony neutered has been amazing! We don't have to look at rounded tummies and wonder where and when the new litter would be. Rounded tummies are now just well fed kitties. I can't stress enough the burden and stress lifted from our shoulders. We are so very grateful.”

Joanne
Hants Co. TNR participant

World Spay Day

In 2017 the Nova Scotia SPCA joined in World Spay Day celebrations across the globe. World Spay Day was an initiative first created in 1995 by the Doris Day Animal League and has now grown to events in over 708 countries promoting spaying/neutering.

The Nova Scotia SPCA's World Spay Day event resulted in over 140 spay/neuter surgeries for pets belonging to low income families across Nova Scotia. Families who love and care deeply for their pets but could not otherwise afford surgeries, and thus were adding to the pet overpopulation problem.

STATS

464

PUPPIES & KITTENS

Came through the PUP program in 2017.

1,007

CATS

Serviced through the Mobile Spay & Neuter Clinic.

12,000

KILOMETERS

Travelled to provide services to communities in need with our Mobile Spay & Neuter Clinic.



Major Thanks

\$1,000 - \$2,000

ACI Central Inc.
 Andrea Devlin
 Ann Gorman
 Arthur & Jo-Anne Trenholm
 Bob & Barbara Found
 Brothers Meats
 Bruce & Carla Elliot
 Bulwark Ciders
 Carolyn Gesner
 Cara Boston
 Christopher Brazeau
 Clayton & Rochelle Abraham
 Dartmouth Kennel Club
 Debra MacFarlane
 Dr. Michael Clerk
 Eldis Group Partnership
 Ernest H. Irwin
 Golden Age Auto Club
 Lila McArthur
 Linda Stewart
 Lorene Scrutton
 McQuarrie's Pharmasave
 Margaret Mulrooney
 Michelin Tire
 Michtell Currie
 NPR Limited Partnership
 Paulmac's Pets
 Scotiabank
 Sharon Shellis (in memory of Bob Chellis)
 Symcor
 Teresa Newman
 Western Financial Insurance

\$2,000 - \$5,000

Boston Pizza Sydney
 Dianne Sobey
 George F. Wade Foundation
 Global Pet Foods Stellarton & Sydney
 Helen Cianfaglione
 Investors Group Charitable Giving Program
 Judy Layne
 Kynock Resources
 Kim Huskison
 Liver Pathology Inc
 Maruerite MacLean
 Nancy E. Geffken
 PetValu Sydney
 Sobey's North & Windsor Street
 Steele Mazda
 The Snore Shop
 Wayne Roberts (in member of Donald Roberts)
 Walmart Canada Corp

\$5,000 +

Citco Group of Companies
 Economical Insurance
 Imperial Sovereign Court of Atlantic
 Nova Society Inc
 Noreen and John Barter Fund
 PetValu Spring Garden & Larry Uteck
 Philip & Jill Grafton

\$10,000 +

Cominar
 Eve Roswell & Rachel Alders
 PetSmart Charities of Canada
 O'Regans KIA Dartmouth
 Royal Bank of Canada
 Susan Kerslake

Bequests

David Hickey
 Dawn Ross
 Dorothy Gwendolyn Jones
 Eleanor Gertrude Dyke
 Elizabeth MacDonnell
 Frances Dorothy Wood
 Hilda Emenau
 Katherine Roberta Durber
 Laverne Morrison
 Mae B. Lunn
 Margaret Federicks
 Muriel Mason MacFarlane
 Myrlan E. Dillmlan
 Sarah Leslie Dube
 Susan K. Roberts
 William R. Martin

*** SOME DONOR NAMES HAVE BEEN OMITTED AS THEY PREFERRED FOR THEIR GENEROSITY TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS**

Corporate Partners



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.

Hill's® Science Diet®. Hill's Food, Shelter & Love® program provides food for our homeless pets 365 days a year. This provides precisely balanced nutrition that helps these pets find their way to happier, healthier lives. We're proud to feed Hill's® Science Diet®!



Petline has been a proud partner of the Nova Scotia SPCA for the past 6 years. In 2017, the Nova Scotia SPCA launched it's own pet health insurance line under the direction of Petline Insurance.

All Nova Scotia SPCA animals now 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!



Through their grant program, Pet Smart Charities has helped the Nova Scotia SPCA build hospitals at our Dartmouth Animal Shelter and Cape Breton, supported our Mobile Spay & Neuter Clinic, Transportation Program, World Spay Day Initiatives, Provided over 79,000lbs of food through thier Buy a Bag. Give a Meal program!

Pet Smart locations across Nova Scotia also act as 'off site adoption centers' for cats, helping us to increase capacity within our shelters and fosters and thus serve more animals in our community.



Veterinary Partners



Community Partners



ADMINISTRATION

Elizabeth Murphy
Chief Executive Officer
 Karen DeWolfe
Director of Finance
 Heather Woodin
Director of Programs & Services
 Courtney Barber
Director of Marketing & Graphic Design


Christa Jensen
Director of Development
 Taylor Burke
Provincial Fund Development Officer
 Emily Dobson
Provincial Fund Development Officer
 Taylor Mundy
Provincial Fund Development Officer

ANIMAL CARE

Sandra Flemming
Director of Animal Care
 Jennifer Nolan
Provincial Clinic Coordinator
 Janice Mills
Animal Care Supervisor
 Toni Cavaco
Occupational Health & Safety Officer

ENFORCEMENT

Special Cst. Jo-Anne Landsburg
Chief Provincial Inspector
 Special Cst. Sgt. Nancy Noel
Provincial Investigator
 Special Cst. Benjamin Amini
Enforcement Supervisor
 Special Cst. Karen Pickering
Provincial Investigator
 Special Cst. Chris Pickering
Provincial Investigator



**Want to learn more
about our organization?**



1 (844) 835-4798



info@spcans.ca



www.spcans.ca

PO BOX 38073 STN Burnside, Dartmouth NS B3B 1X2

Charitable Registration No. 135 704 741 RR0001