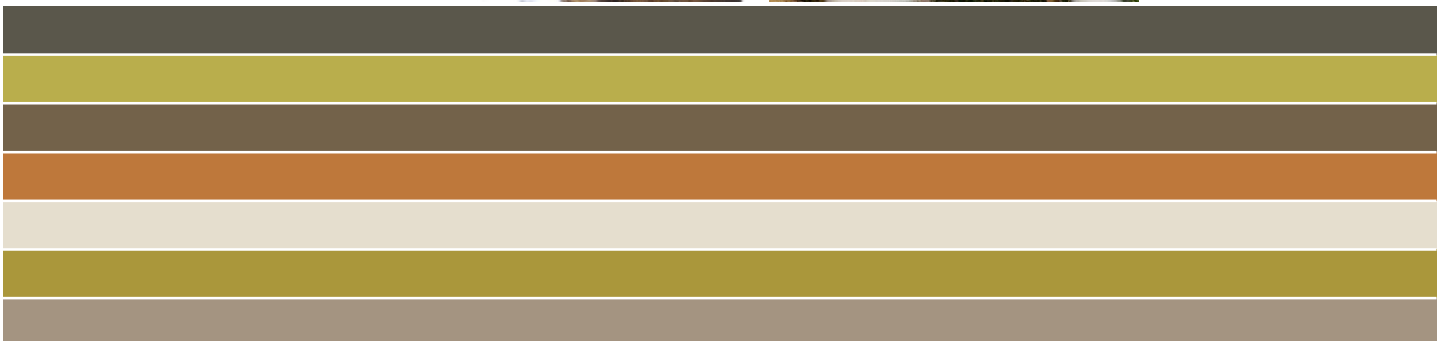


# ANNUAL REPORT

## SASKATCHEWAN SPCA 2015

*For the year ending March 31, 2015*



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# 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## 2014 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Travelodge Hotel  
106 Circle Drive West, Saskatoon, SK  
September 27, 2014

### MINUTES

President Constance Roussel called the meeting to order.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Constance welcomed everyone and gave a review of the last year noting that the organization had just completed its 85<sup>th</sup> year. Constance thanked Frances Wach for her passion and energy; Kaley Pugh for her dedication and hard work; Sandra Anderson and Nadine Olson for work on our newsletter; the APOs, acknowledging the challenges they face; and the Board of Directors, Volunteers, Ministry of Agriculture.

Motion that the President's report be adopted as presented.

Margaret Northcote/Ken Krause Carried

Motion that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

Motion that the minutes of the Sept 21, 2013 Annual General meeting be adopted as printed.

Calvin Nickel/Jack MacKay Carried

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Margaret Northcote presented the Treasurer's Report.

Motion that the audited financial report be adopted as presented.

Margaret Northcote/Calvin Nickel Carried

# 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Frances Wach spoke to her report. She introduced Nadine Olson.

Motion that the Executive Director's report be adopted as presented.

Ken Krause/Ray Whitney

Carried

## MANAGER OF ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES' REPORT

In the absence of Kaley Pugh, this report was read by Constance Roussel.

Motion that the Manager of Animal Protection Services' report be accepted as presented.

Constance Roussel/Calvin Nickel

Carried

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sandra Anderson presented her report.

Motion that the Project Manager's report be adopted as presented.

Frances Wach/Ken Krause

Carried

## HUMANE EDUCATOR'S REPORT

Nadine Olson presented her report.

Motion that the Humane Educator's report be adopted as presented.

Frances Wach/Margaret Northcote

Carried

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Report presented by Sandra Neumann.

Motion that the Education Committee report be adopted as presented.

Sandra Anderson/Ken Krause

Carried

# 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## FUND RAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

Given by Frances Wach. There is need for more volunteers and more money.

## INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Given by Constance Roussel.

Motion that the Investigative Services Committee report be adopted as presented  
Constance Roussel/Margaret Northcote Carried

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Constance hasn't found the time to dedicate time to this, but must be addressed.

## NOMINATIONS

Constance presented the slate of nominees. There were no further nominations.

Motion to cease nominations.  
Constance Roussel/Margaret Northcote Carried

Motion that the nominees be elected by acclamation.  
Frances Wach/Ken Krause Carried

## AUDITORS

Motion that we appoint Collins Barrow as auditors for the 2014-2015 year.  
Frances Wach/Margaret Northcote Carried

## 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion that the 2015 AGM be held in conjunction with the 2015 Animal Welfare Conference.

Lorna MacMillan/Calvin Nickel Carried

# 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## PRESENTATION

Made by Sandra Anderson and Frances Wach, Presented by Frances Wach.

“Past to Present” – Background, progress, challenges, moving forward

Motion by Constance that the meeting adjourn.

Added – STOPS to Violence spoke to members – Tracy Knutson

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Constance Roussel  
President

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Janice Howden  
Secretary

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## President's Report

Good afternoon Ladies and Gentleman,

This past year has been a year of decision making, as you all know the Saskatchewan SPCA made the decision to not renew our contract with the Ministry. This decision was not made lightly. After 40 years of doing mostly enforcement the Board felt that we needed to go back to our main goal Prevention. I firmly believe that by educating the public we can prevent harm that comes to animals. I want to thank the Board of Directors for all the hours they volunteered towards making this decision. Without your dedication to animal welfare we would not be where we are today. I also want to thank the staff for their patience while we worked with the Ministry towards the transition. We all know that transitioning causes uncertainty and it is not easy to be patient. Last I want to thank the Ministry for working alongside of us in the transition period.

On a happy note we now have a new great organization the Animal Protection Services who are dedicated to the enforcement.

The Saskatchewan SPCA will be focusing on prevention and education; we have great plans for our future.

As for me my time has come to an end on the Board of Directors. My workload at my day job has increased tremendously and I regretfully have to make the decision to step down for now. Notice I say for now Frances..... I want to thank each one of you for what you have taught me and thank you for your support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Constance Roussel

## Executive Director's Report

It is an understatement to say the 2014-2015 year was a busy one. The Board of Directors made a major decision regarding our Investigative Services Program. A strategic planning session was held to consider the future of the program. The Board determined that, going forward, the Saskatchewan SPCA can best serve animals and the public by focusing on education and prevention. The Board advised the Ministry of Agriculture that the Saskatchewan SPCA would not be renewing its contract (set to expire on March 31, 2015) to enforce the *Animal Protection Act (APA)*.

On April 1, 2015, Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan (APSS) will begin enforcement of the APA. APSS plans to hire our former Investigative Services staff.

The Saskatchewan SPCA continued its work on the relationship between animal abuse and interpersonal violence. The Saskatchewan SPCA in partnership with STOPS to Violence is conducting a survey to improve our understanding of how the concern for the safety of pets and livestock as a barrier to individuals wanting to leave situations of interpersonal violence and abuse. We expect the survey report to be completed in the fall of 2015.

Evidence indicates that there is link between animal abuse and interpersonal violence. When animals are being abused or neglected, people may be at risk and when people are being abused or neglected, animals may be at risk. It is gratifying to see that animal welfare organizations and human service organizations are starting to work together to protect both animals and humans.

Other accomplishments this past year included the following:

- Developing a funding program for retired police dogs. The program will assist with the costs of routine and emergency veterinary care for police dogs that served with the RCMP or municipal police services in the province. The Stryker K-9 Care Fund will be launched in April 2015.
- Growing our social media presence
- Sponsoring a second St. John Ambulance therapy dog
- Hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Animal Welfare Conference in September 2014

The Society also purchased an acreage near Asquith. This property was purchased for investment purposes with the possibility of future development by the Society.

One of the Society's priorities for 2015-2016 will be the development of a strategic plan. One of my concerns for the future is the potential financial liability arising from the five statements of claim



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

made against the Society pertaining to our enforcement of the *Animal Protection Act*. We need to raise funds for operational costs plus cover the potential legal costs arising from the Statements of Claim.

I thank our Board of Directors and Consultants for their caring, commitment, and hard work this past year. I appreciate and thank our staff who worked diligently to carry out their duties through this period of transition, change, and uncertainty. I thank the Ministry of Agriculture for their ongoing support and a special thank you to Dr. LeeAnn Forsythe, who has worked with the Saskatchewan SPCA for over twenty years.

I look forward to the future as we work together with animal welfare and human services organizations to improve the health and well-being of animals.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frances Wach  
Executive Director

# PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

## Project Manager's Report

The province of Saskatchewan enters a new era in animal welfare beginning April 1, 2015. At that time, a new agency will assume responsibility for the enforcement of animal protection legislation. This frees the Saskatchewan SPCA to focus on programs and services designed to help prevent animal cruelty and promote the humane treatment of all animals.

In January 2015, we made a public announcement of our decision to give up our role in enforcement. We communicated this message directly to our members and donors, and shared the news of our decision in our newsletter, on our website, and through social media.

Our stakeholders, members, and donors have been supportive of our decision to focus on the prevention of animal cruelty through education. Initially there were some concerns that animal protection legislation would not be enforced after April 1. However, those concerns were eased following the official launch of Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan (APSS).

We are excited about the future. The Saskatchewan SPCA will be devoting all of our resources to education and the prevention of animal cruelty, while APSS will focus on the enforcement of animal cruelty legislation. The Saskatchewan SPCA remains deeply committed to improving the welfare of animals, and looks forward to the opportunity to work with a broad range of individuals and organizations who share our vision for a more humane and compassionate future.

### EDUCATION

The 2014 Saskatchewan SPCA Animal Welfare Conference was held September 26 to 28<sup>th</sup> in Saskatoon. We were very pleased to have Dr. Kate Hurley, a nationally recognized leader in shelter medicine, provide a day-long session on the Capacity for Care (C4C) management model. C4C helps animal shelters improve the welfare of individual cats in their care, reduce the incidence of illness, increase adoption rates, and cut the lengths of stay.

Other topics at this year's conference included coping strategies to deal with pet loss and euthanasia; shelter medicine basics; new research on the benefits of animal-assisted therapy; feral cat trapping; codes of practice for farmed animals; shelter animal health assessments; and animal safekeeping programs.

# PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

Our sincere thanks to all of our conference speakers and wet lab presenters for sharing their expertise with our audience. As well we thank all of our generous sponsors and donors for helping make it possible for us to host this event.

**Platinum:**



**Meal Sponsor:**



**Gold:**



**Silver:**



**Bronze:**



# PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

**Contributors:**

- **Balcarres Animal Clinic**
- **Ernie Olfert**

## CFHS CONFERENCE

Executive Director Frances Wach, Manager of Animal Protection Services Kaley Pugh and I attended the April 2014 Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS) conference in Toronto.

A common thread in all conference presentations was the need for individuals and organizations to work together collaboratively in order to “build a humane Canada.” It is also evident that there are many strongly held and often sharply contrasting views on how best to promote the welfare of companion animals and livestock. Notwithstanding these differences, all organizations must find ways to work together at the local, provincial, and national levels in order to improve animal welfare.

The Saskatchewan SPCA and the Saskatoon SPCA jointly sponsored a conference break and shared an informational booth at the conference tradeshow. An eye-catching new brochure/poster that highlights the differences and similarities between our two organizations was produced for distribution at the conference.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Our newly redesigned website has proven to be multi-functional tool, allowing us to solicit donations, accept conference registrations, promote the work of the Saskatchewan SPCA, and share information on topical animal welfare issues. The website also makes it possible for the public to file reports of suspected animal neglect or abuse.

We produce and distribute our quarterly newsletter, *The Humanitarian*, to 2,000 members, donors, stakeholders, and volunteers. *The Humanitarian* is available in print form and electronically. Our social media presence continues to grow, allowing us to engage with a variety of audiences through Facebook and Twitter.

## STRYKER K-9 CARE FUND

Work continued on the development of a new program for retired police dogs. The Stryker K-9 Care Fund will be one of the first of its kind in Canada. The fund will provide owners with up to \$1,000 per year for the veterinary care costs for their retired police dogs. The program will be open to dogs that have served in Saskatchewan with the RCMP or other municipal police forces.

# PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

The Saskatchewan SPCA has committed \$10,000 to the first year of operation of the fund. Donations to the fund will help ensure the fund will continue to be available to serve the needs of these retired heroes. A public launch of the Stryker Fund is planned for spring 2015.

## THERAPY DOG OUTREACH

The Saskatchewan SPCA is pleased to announce our sponsorship of a second St. John Ambulance therapy dog team. Bentley, an adorable Pekingese-Terrier, and his owner, Allison Matice, live and volunteer in the Prince Albert area. This new sponsorship was made possible by donations received as part of our 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2013.

We also sponsor the St. John Ambulance therapy dog team of Melissa Gieni and her Great Dane, Lucy, who are active in the city of Saskatoon.

We salute Bentley and Allison, Lucy and Melissa, and all the other therapy dog teams throughout the province for providing this valuable service. Therapy dogs help reduce stress and bring smiles to the faces of students, hospital patients, residents in senior care facilities, and others. Looking ahead, the Saskatchewan SPCA hopes to be able to provide sponsorship for a third therapy dog team in the coming year.

## HUMANE EDUCATION

Humane Educator Nadine Olson had a busy year with the Saskatchewan SPCA. She helped with our Animal Welfare Conference and represented our organization at events such as Pets in the Park, the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists' trade show, and the Canadian Western Agribition. She helped facilitate communications between staff and employees through the development of a weekly news bulletin. Nadine Olson also oversaw the management of a new summer colouring contest for children.

She assisted with data collection being undertaken as part of the joint research project with STOPS to Violence. The goal of the project is to determine how the concern for the safety of animals (pets and livestock) acts as a barrier to individuals leaving situations of interpersonal violence and abuse.

# PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

## SUMMER STUDENT

Kirstie Seier worked as a Communications Assistant for the Saskatchewan SPCA in a 10-week term position funded through the 2014 Canada Summer Jobs program. She used her graphic design skills to enhance our visual identity and create a variety of communications materials that will serve our needs for many years to come. She created artwork for stationery, note cards, temporary tattoos, colouring sheets and other print materials. We are especially pleased with the intriguing new design she created for our lottery sales materials.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Anderson  
Program Director

## Education Committee Report

The education committee was only able to meet twice in 2014. The following issues and initiatives were discussed and the committee will continue to address and work on these as well as quite a few more in the 2014/2015 year.

### SHELTER LEGACY FUND

This fund was established to help animal shelters. However, before we can utilize this fund properly we need to determine criteria for its use as well as ensure that continued funding is available. The Saskatchewan SPCA donated \$500 from this fund to the Prince Albert SPCA at the opening of their new P.A. SPCA facility.

### COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER SPCAS AND HUMANE SOCIETIES IN THE PROVINCE

The committee felt very strongly that we need to stay in touch with other SPCAs and Humane Societies in the province so we can communicate openly with them in regards to issues affecting all of us.

Examples of key messages we would like to take to local societies are:

- We value the work they are doing
- We are here to offer advice and information on animal welfare legislation, animal control issues and other topics
- The Animal Welfare Conference is a useful event for networking
- The shelter legacy fund is going to be enhanced
- Discuss opportunities for local societies to get involved in Saskatchewan SPCA committees
- All shelters in the province need to be made aware of the new Canadian Shelter Guidelines

There is also a need to discuss and clarify the role of the Saskatchewan SPCA and the role of the local shelters.

### CAT OVERPOPULATION WORKING GROUP

The cat overpopulation steering committee met on September 4, 2014. It was determined that a more consistent message to the public of what each organization is doing would be beneficial. Future meetings are planned.

# EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

## ST. JOHN AMBULANCE THERAPY DOGS

We are pleased to announce that a new Saskatchewan SPCA sponsored Therapy Dog Team has been added in Prince Albert.

## ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE

Last year's animal welfare conference has been very interesting and we were pleased to be able to bring Dr. Kate Hurley to Saskatoon. She is an expert in shelter medicine and presented the Capacity4Care model.

This conference is not only an excellent information source but also an outstanding networking opportunity. Yes, we can all do everything sitting at home in front of our computers but there is much to be said for in person meetings. It is my hope the conference will continue to provide this exceptional opportunity for everybody interested in animal welfare in the province.

## STOPS TO VIOLENCE: INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE AND ANIMAL SAFEKEEPING PROJECT

The Saskatchewan SPCA and STOPS to Violence are working on a joint project to investigate how concerns for the safety of pets and livestock act as a barrier to individuals leaving situations of domestic violence.

For us to be involved in this research as a partner to STOPS is cooperation on a provincial level that enables us to reach other organizations and contribute to changes for the better. It is a valuable step in the promotion of cross reporting, cross training and better communication between different agencies.

A survey has been sent out about the "Interpersonal Violence and Animal Safekeeping" project. There have been responses to this online survey from SPCAs and Humane Societies, members of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association and human services organizations.

Looking at these initiatives I am pleased to see that our organization is on its way to become an important voice for animal welfare in this province; one that is listened to and asked for input. As the chair of the education committee I have been waiting many years for progress like this and I would like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Executive Director Frances Wach and Program Director Sandra Anderson who are both skillfully supported by Crystal Stubbs and Twyla Polson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Neumann



## Investigative Services Committee Report

The Saskatchewan SPCA received 623 complaints in 2014-2015; 380 were rural and 243 were urban. (See attached statistics for further information.)

Livestock Services of Saskatchewan conducted 48 drive-bys for the Saskatchewan SPCA.

The Investigative Services Committee:

- Made revisions to the Protocol for the Prioritization and Response to Calls. Response times for priority one complaints is not to exceed three business days and the response time for priority two cases is not to exceed 14 business days.
- Discussed the issue of the growing difficulty in securing placement for seized companion animals. This could result in not seizing animals that should be seized due to a lack of resources.

The Board of Directors approved the hiring of a 5<sup>th</sup> APO. However we only had 5 APOs for a couple of months due to sick leave, resignations and timing.

The Board of Directors made a decision not to renew the contract with the Ministry of Agriculture to enforce *The Animal Protection Act*.

The Investigative Services Committee has disbanded as the Saskatchewan SPCA is no longer enforcing *The Animal Protection Act*.

A new organization Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan will be enforcing *The Animal Protection Act*. We wish them all the best.

Respectfully submitted,  
Constance Roussel

# NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

## Nomination Committee Report

### BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED AT THE 2014 AGM, WITH ONE MORE YEAR IN THEIR TERM

Lorna MacMillan, Saskatoon

Janice Howden, Saskatoon

### RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

Jack MacKay, Yorkton

Teresa Johnston, Arcola

Calvin Nickel, Saskatoon

Constance Roussel, Prince Albert

### NOMINATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Board members eligible for re-election, and willing to let their names stand for re-election to the Board:

Teresa Johnston, Arcola

Other Saskatchewan SPCA members who are willing to let their names stand for election to the Board:

Tiffany Koback, Saskatoon

Margaret Northcote, Arelee

Ken Krause, Meadow Lake

Sandra Neumann, Saskatoon

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Financial Statements

The audited financial statements are attached to this report.