
THE

HUMANITARIAN

SASKATCHEWAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

in this issue

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***Animal Safekeeping
Information***

SPRING 2017





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Moving?

Please let us know your new address.
Call 1.877.382.7722
or email info@sspca.ca

ANIMAL SAFEKEEPING COORDINATOR HELPING VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE



My name is Leanne Sillers and I am the new Animal Safekeeping Coordinator here at the Saskatchewan SPCA. In this newly-established position, I will be working to help improve access to resources for people fleeing interpersonal violence and abuse, and their animals.

I have been a social worker for nine years. I am married and have three stepchildren and four grandchildren. When I am not working I enjoy spending time with family and friends. I recently obtained a golden retriever, Jack, who is certified as a therapy dog.

For the past eight years, I worked at Family Service Saskatoon as a half-time youth exposed to violence coordinator and half-time domestic violence court case worker. In both positions I was assisting individuals who either currently or previously had experienced violence in their lives. And, according to the most recent Statistics Canada report, Saskatchewan's per capita rate of intimate partner violence is more than double the national rate. This means there is definitely lots of work that needs to be done in this area.

By accepting this position I am able to combine both my passion for working with victims of domestic violence and my love for animals. I am looking forward to being a part of such important work.



**Community
Initiatives Fund**

Funding for the Animal Safekeeping Program has been provided by the Community Initiatives Fund. The Community Initiatives Fund invests in the quality of life of Saskatchewan residents by offering grants for community projects that help support community development, inclusion, leadership and vitality.

COMING SOON!

SASKATCHEWAN SPCA SUMMER CASH LOTTERY

GET YOUR TICKETS IN MAY 2017

ONLINE: LOTTERY.SSPCA.CA
BY PHONE: 1-877-577-7220



Volunteers assist as a stop-off and exchange for the Animal Rescue Foundation in Calgary. The Pack Project received 20 animals from Norway House, MB.

THE PACK PROJECT: UNITING HEARTS & PAWS

The Pack Project was formed in July 2014 as a new and innovative non-profit organization with the goal of assisting the community beyond the mandate of a traditional animal rescue. With that mission in mind, four unique programs were proposed. The Outreach Program was the first to get off the ground in the fall of 2014 with the Rescue Program following soon after in January 2015. The Education Program launched its first major initiative with the PAWS conference in November 2016. The Therapy Program is in development and is expected to launch in 2017. Launching four unique programs has been an ambitious goal for a group that is 100% run by volunteers, but we are committed to see it succeed to the benefit of our community!

Outreach Program – The mission of this program is to gather supplies including kibble, leashes, collars, kennels, toys, medical supplies, and other necessities for distribution to other rescue or animal welfare groups. In 2016 we consistently assisted 15 animal welfare groups, a community group that assists those who find themselves impoverished, and also provided supplies to a number of individual, front-line rescuers. We have also assisted in providing food and supplies during provincial emergency situations. For example, during the 2015 wildfires, we successfully sent over 50,000 pounds of kibble to the north for distribution to the affected areas. We partnered with many individual groups and organizations to make this happen. Most notably, in 2016 we sent out over 30,000 pounds of kibble, 5,000 pounds of kitty litter, and 35 kennels for cats and dogs in need.

Rescue Program – We are a non-breed specific dog rescue for stray, abandoned, abused, and surrendered dogs. The focus of our rescue program is to provide high quality care for dogs in our care as well as provide ongoing support to our foster and adoptive homes. In 2016 we assisted approximately 61 dogs in finding their forever homes.

Education Program – Following the lead of the Saskatchewan SPCA, we envisioned providing animal welfare education



Volunteers from The Pack Project prepare to deliver 5,000lbs of food to La Ronge.

opportunities to Regina and surrounding communities. In 2016 we launched the Personal and Animal Wellness Symposium (PAWS) which consisted of a conference and trade show. With a line-up of exceptional speakers, our inaugural conference was attended by approximately 30 individuals. The animal wellness tradeshow was attended by over 200 individuals and received local news coverage.

In 2017 we plan to expand our Education Program to advance animal welfare education for youth through presentations in schools.

Therapy Program – The goal of this program is to enhance the quality of life for individuals confined in care facilities, hospitals, group homes, and private residences through interaction with dogs. We are currently developing assessment criteria for individuals (and their dogs) that may be interested in volunteering for this program with tentative plans to launch the program in 2017.

In addition to carrying out the purposes related to our four main programs, our volunteers also organized 10 fundraisers, held monthly adoption events, and attended a number of community events to spread awareness about our organization. It's safe to say that 2016 was a busy year but we look forward to having an even bigger impact on our community in 2017!

For more information on The Pack Project, please visit their website at thepackproject.ca.



Ixodes sculptus, the sculptured tick, is commonly found in North America. Photo: Clare Anstead.

TICKS 101

By Sarah Figley

April showers bring May flowers ... and ticks? That's right. The increased humidity and warm weather of spring and summer provide ideal conditions for these parasites to thrive, and your pet is the perfect host.

"Tall grass and bush are places where ticks like to hang out, so if your dog visits this type of environment, they can pick up ticks," warns Dr. Jamie Rothenburger, a veterinarian and PhD student in veterinary pathology at the University of Guelph's Ontario Veterinary College.

She adds that ticks require moisture and humidity to stay hydrated so they're not often found in dry, sandy areas.

Rothenburger provides more information about ticks and gives some recommendations on how to keep your pet safe this summer.

What is a tick?

Ticks are arachnids: they have eight legs with separate head and body sections — just like spiders and scorpions. There are over 900 species of ticks worldwide, so it's not surprising that they come in varying shapes, sizes and colours.

Ticks can be red, brown, black or tan, and some species of ticks can be very small and hard to see or feel on your pet. Most ticks are protected by a very hard shell, which makes them resilient and difficult to kill.

Ticks latch onto their host and survive by eating blood. As they eat, their bodies grow and become engorged. In

North America, deer, moose, elk, dogs, rodents and birds are major carriers of ticks, so areas with large populations of these species are suggested to be key environments for ticks.

Ticks and diseases

It's true that ticks can carry one or more diseases, but it's fairly rare that your pet will contract a tick-borne disease.

Although Lyme disease is in the spotlight right now, wood ticks (also called dog ticks) – which are a common species in Saskatchewan – do not carry the disease-causing bacteria. Blacklegged ticks (formerly called deer ticks) are the ones responsible for carrying and transmitting Lyme disease, but they do not normally cycle in Saskatchewan. "Owners should be aware of ticks if they are traveling to a Lyme-endemic part

of Canada including parts of southern Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces or the U.S.," explains Rothenburger.

"But keep in mind that less than 10 per cent of ticks carry the bacteria in these areas, so the chances of your dog becoming infected is probably low. Also, only a small fraction of dogs that become infected with the Lyme disease bacteria become ill."

Rothenburger notes that there are other tick-borne diseases including babesiosis, anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis, hepatozoonosis and possibly bartonellosis.

The good news is that all of these diseases are quite rare in Canada; they're more prevalent in southern regions of North America. Unless you are travelling with your dog in these areas, the risk is likely low. But that risk is expected to increase with climate change: researchers have noted a rise in tick-borne diseases worldwide including Canada.

If a tick has recently bitten your animal, watch them closely. For a few weeks following the bite and/or removal of the tick, look for infections and skin irritations near the bite area. Keep an eye out for any changes in behaviour, appetite or mobility as these can be symptoms of tick-borne diseases. If you notice any changes, Rothenburger recommends contacting your veterinarian.

Preventing ticks

See your local veterinarian. Several "spot-on" medications that repel or kill ticks after they bite are available to control ticks in companion animals. Here are some more suggestions:

- Areas with ticks, fleas and heartworm mostly overlap so a good option is to treat your pet with multi-purpose, preventive medications. It's important to dose these products according to weight.
- No product is 100 per cent effective so owners who use them on their dogs should still expect to find some ticks.
- Certain tick control products for dogs can be deadly to cats. Check with your veterinarian about the safety of their use if your household includes dogs and cats. Tick products for dogs must never be used on cats.
- Be aware of dense tick environments and avoid spending time near them.
- Strategic landscaping in your yard



A high resolution image of a tick, captured using a scanning electron microscope. Submitted photo.

can prevent ticks from living on your property. Here are some tips:

- keep grass short
- remove leaves and branches around the yard
- keep wood piles and bird feeders away from the house
- use wood, tile, concrete or wood chips in high traffic areas of the yard
- reduce rodent activity on your property
- if you live on an acreage or farm, discourage deer from coming near your home by building fences around food sources or planting your garden away from your house

Visit the Council for Disease Control and Prevention website (<http://www.cdc.gov/ticks/index.html>) for more tips.

Checking for ticks

After spending time outdoors, take a few minutes to check for ticks on your pet. You can often find ticks crawling along your pet's skin or fur. Look and feel all over your pet, but ticks will generally migrate towards warm, dark areas such as armpits, the groin area, ears, feet (in between the toe pads on the paw) or near the anus (under the tail).

Removing ticks

Do not panic! If you are comfortable removing the tick at home, you can do so. If not, consult your veterinarian for assistance. Here are the steps for removing a tick:

- Get a pair of clean tweezers.
- Wear gloves (if possible) since ticks do carry diseases.
- Separate the fur around the tick as best as possible.
- Grab the head of the tick (the part that is attached to the skin) as close to the skin as possible but be careful not to pinch your pet!

- With even pressure, pull upwards with the tweezers. Avoid twisting or bending since some parts of the tick could be left in the skin. You do not want to pull off the body and leave the head embedded in the skin, as it may cause an infection.
- Place the tick in a small container of isopropyl alcohol. This will kill the tick and also allow you to keep the evidence. If your pet develops symptoms in the days after a tick bite, your veterinarian may find it extremely helpful to know the species of tick and have access to the actual parasite for testing.
- Clean the tick bite area with isopropyl alcohol or soap and water.
- Give your pet a treat – a reward for being calm and patient.

Rothenburger adds that the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) conducts a tick surveillance program that's operated by Dr. Neil Chilton in the university's Department of Biology. If you find one or more ticks on your pet and wish to have them screened, submit your samples to:

Dr. Neil Chilton
Department of Biology
University of Saskatchewan
112 Science Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E2

In addition to your contact information, provide the date and location of where the tick came from, the source (human, dog, cat and other species). Please note if there has been any travel outside of the province during the previous month.

Reprinted with permission from WCVM Today (wcvmtoday.com), news website for the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.

LEAVING AN ABUSIVE SITUATION IS HARD... ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE ARE ANIMALS INVOLVED

Animals are also exposed to and affected by violence in the home. Not only can animals be abused, they can be used as tool for the abuser to control and punish the victim. Pets are seen as part of the family, making it hard for many victims of abuse to leave the home knowing their pet is left behind.

If someone punches, kicks, throws, or hurts an animal in any way, that person has demonstrated the capacity for violence. You cannot assume that the violence will stop there. If the person has harmed or seriously threatened your animal, you and your children may also be in danger.

What effect does animal abuse have on my children?

Some victims of domestic violence have reported that their children have become more aggressive after witnessing animal cruelty in the home. Children sometimes behave more cruelly to animals, and often become more hurtful to others (for example, bullying) or withdrawn and emotional. It's important when talking to a counsellor that you mention any animal abuse that has occurred.

What steps can I take to protect my animals?

Try to remove the animals from the situation as soon as possible.

Gather supplies that might be useful if you have to leave quickly with your pet: a carrier, a collar and leash, medications.

Ask friends or trusted family members to care for your pet/pets temporarily.

Contact a kennel to make arrangements to have your pet boarded. Kennels will require proof of vaccinations so remember to bring a recent veterinary invoice with you. (Your veterinarian may be able to supply a full vaccination record directly to the boarding kennel, upon request.)

If you are applying for an Emergency Protective Order, protect your animals by including them in it.

Some animal shelters may be able to provide temporary pet care or help arrange for foster care. Talk with your nearest SPCA or Humane Society to see if they can assist.

If you live in Regina ...

The *Regina Humane Society Safe Places Program* accepts family pets when a victim of domestic violence is leaving, or has already left the home to enter a shelter environment. Pets are picked up directly from the safe house and taken directly to an approved foster family for care. If a pickup is needed outside of the Society's normal operating hours, contact Regina City Police at 306.777.6500. For further information on the Safe Places Program, please contact 306.543.6363 Ext. 244.

If you live in Saskatoon...

The *Saskatoon SPCA Pet Safekeeping Program* assists the victims of domestic violence with the short-term care of companion animals. Pet care is provided at no charge for up to one month. Caseworkers at emergency shelters and transition houses are able to provide referrals to this program.

Other things to keep in mind

If your animal is being threatened, keep any evidence you may have (such as photos, emails, or voice mail messages) to hand over to police.

Any receipts or paperwork you have related to the purchase or care of your pet can be useful if you have to prove ownership.

What can I do if my pet has been abused?

Report animal abuse to one of the organizations listed below or to your local RCMP or municipal police. They will investigate the situation and take appropriate action. You can make an anonymous complaint.

The Saskatchewan *Animal Protection Act* makes it illegal for a person to cause or allow an animal to continue to be in "distress." Distress is defined as:

- deprived of food, water, or adequate shelter;
- injured, sick, in pain, or suffering; or
- abused or neglected.

To report the neglect or abuse of: Pets:

Regina Humane Society
306.543.6363
Saskatoon SPCA 306.374.7387
Moose Jaw Humane Society
306.692.1517
Prince Albert SPCA 306.763.6110

Pets in all other locations or livestock anywhere in the province:

Animal Protection Services of
Saskatchewan 1.844.382.0002

For emergencies and after-hours assistance:

Contact your local RCMP or
municipal police.

Adapted from <http://www.albertaspca.org/neglect-abuse/cruelty-connection/victims.html>

NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE

The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS) National Animal Welfare Conference is the pre-eminent venue for thought leadership, sharing of ideas, networking and learning. It is Canada's only animal welfare industry event that represents the entire diversity of animal welfare leaders in Canada. Whether you work with a humane society, SPCA, animal rescue, advocacy group, animal control, conservation, an academic institution or the government – or are just interested in animal welfare, this exciting conference is the place for you! It will arm you with all the inspiration, information, tools and training you need to help build a Humane Canada on behalf of our nation's animals.

The 2017 National Animal Welfare Conference happens April 8-11, 2017 at the Westin Ottawa, and it's all about celebration! We'll be marking the 60th birthday of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, Canada's 150th birthday and celebrating our collective power as a community. Dr. David Suzuki is joining the conference as the keynote speaker at the 2017 CFHS National Animal Welfare Conference.

For more information CFHS and the National Animal Welfare Conference, please visit their website at conference.cfhs.ca.

PROGRESS MADE ON NEW REGISTRATION PROGRAM

The Working Group continues to meet to discuss the new voluntary Registration and Certification Program for Animal Rescues.

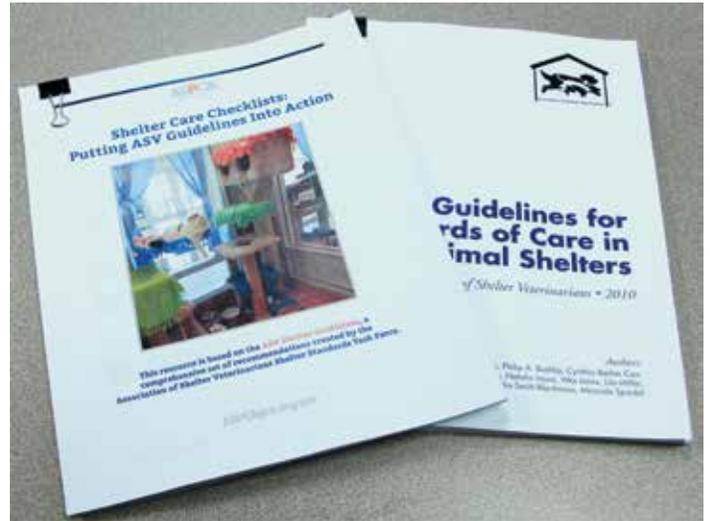
The Working Group includes representatives from rescue groups, SPCAs and Humane Societies, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association, as well as the Saskatchewan SPCA.

The Working Group has drafted a decision making framework for the program as well as a code of ethics and conflict of interest guidelines.

The certification and registration program will offer practical guidelines for the care of rescue animals. Care guidelines will be based on the Association of Shelter Vets *Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters (2010)* and the *ASCPA Shelter Care Checklists: Putting ASV Guidelines into Action*.

Once the program is finalized, it will be administered by the Saskatchewan SPCA, with a separate oversight committee.

A meeting for stakeholder groups in the animal welfare sector will be held in October 2017. The meeting will provide the opportunity for rescue groups to learn more about the program and how they can get involved.



CHRISTMAS CASH LOTTERY WINNERS

Draw Date	Winner's Name	City	Amount	Ticket #	Draw Date	Winner's Name	City	Amount	Ticket #
Nov. 12	Syanne Hilbig	Wadena	\$1,000	10368	Dec. 17	Ron Vick	Weyburn	\$100	22589
Nov. 19	Dale Johnston	Wynyard	\$1,000	12251	Dec. 18	Marcus Koeberlin	Prince Albert	\$100	04938
Nov. 23	Shelley Duxbury	Shaunavon	\$1,000	22509	Dec. 19	Doreen Richaud	Forget	\$100	11811
Dec. 1	Alice Porter	Conquest	\$100	21254	Dec. 20	Robert Solie	Regina	\$100	04598
Dec. 2	Chris Harold	Saskatoon	\$500	16080	Dec. 21	Viola Illingworth	North Battleford	\$100	14961
Dec. 3	John Gunn	Brock	\$100	06150	Dec. 22	Carmen Thompson	Saskatoon	\$100	12813
Dec. 4	Marcia Green	Saskatoon	\$100	09644	Dec. 23	Julien & June Prevost	Archerwill	\$500	02693
Dec. 5	Ruth L. Nergard	Bengough	\$100	02239	Dec. 24	Ken Dresser	Unity	\$100	18379
Dec. 6	Tonalee Rusnak	Melville	\$100	02272	Dec. 25	Wendy Schlamp	Grenfell	\$100	20257
Dec. 7	Charles Simpson	Saskatoon	\$100	00767	Dec. 26	Brad & Karen Beutler	Wapella	\$100	17523
Dec. 8	Veronica Nontell	Dinsmore	\$100	22124	Dec. 27	Judy Hogg	Saskatoon	\$100	02324
Dec. 9	Larry & Lucy Schroh	Unity	\$500	12536	Dec. 28	Carol Minty	St. Walburg	\$100	05275
Dec. 10	Joan Fallis	Estevan	\$100	06995	Dec. 29	Verol F. Smith	Abbey	\$100	20619
Dec. 11	Clint & Nadia Yarie	Kamsack	\$100	01430	Dec. 30	Charlene Goodwin	Christopher Lake	\$500	17586
Dec. 12	Leslie Hicks	Outlook	\$100	01542					
Dec. 13	Blanche White	Nipawin	\$100	19323	Dec. 31	Nicole Rewuski	Saskatoon	\$25,000	23978
Dec. 14	Donelda Gorniak	Wolseley	\$100	04672	Dec. 31	Rob & Chris Hopkins	Elrose	\$10,000	18359
Dec. 15	Darcelle Lemaire	Canora	\$100	15771	Dec. 31	Richard & Eileen Sword	Unity	\$27,462.50	013988
Dec. 16	Linda Schopfer	Marsden	\$500	08760					

WITH LOVE AND HONOUR

The Saskatchewan SPCA would like to recognizing those who have donated in memory or honour of a loved one.

The following individuals have donated in honour of a loved one:

- Samuel Robinson in honour of Ms. June Dieffenderfer
- The Pre-Assessment Clinic Staff at Saskatoon City Hospital in honour of Jennifer Link
- Barry Gilliland in honour of WCVM
- Marjorie Ellison in honour of Liz and Wes Rempel

The following individuals have donated in memory of a loved one:

- Jacquie, Kelly, and Thomas in memory of their cat, Moby
- Antonet Tonya Kaye in memory of Elsie and Terry
- Marene Stevenson in memory of Alice Lang
- Allan and Verna Allinson in memory of Shirley Clark's dog, Shooter; also in memory of Troy and Jenn Gates' pet, Tuffy
- Earl and Terri Amendt in memory of Oscar
- Katherine Wach in memory of Eli Borys and Fritz Borys
- Polly Johnstone in memory of Geordy and Alastair
- Karen Stevely in memory of "my husband, Terry Stevely"
- Jane Warnes in memory of James A. Coles
- The families of Elmer & Linda Kinzel and Dale & Wanda Kinzel in memory of Brian Donald

- Kenneth Miller in memory of Carol Miller
- Carol Ferguson in memory of Jack Ferguson
- Ken and Marie Kleven in memory of Scott Bell
- Harold and Kathy Baumgartner in memory of Ronald Eckert
- Elma Facca in memory of Lindsay Facca
- Verna Allinson in memory of horses Wilma (owned by Trevor Tuplin) and Jake (owned by Norman Tuplin)
- Jack Isherwood in memory of Tiger
- Dianne Dreger in memory of Missy, Coon, Charlie, and Licorice
- Charlotte Christenson in memory of Moe
- Marc and Laurie L'Hereaux in memory of Tess
- Kenneth Moar in memory of Wally
- Ilya T. Silbar Margoshes in memory of Jersey and Blue
- Eleanore and Roy Romanow in memory of "all my precious creatures"
- Cindy Hort in memory of Jade
- Fred Irvine in memory of Abigale Munro
- Lori Moore in memory of Troy Dankesreiter
- Friends and family in memory of Mervin Maryniak
- Friends and family in memory of Mr. Laurie Derkatch

On behalf of the Board and staff of the Saskatchewan SPCA, we extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the Society.

CALL FOR CRITTER CLASSIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



The Saskatchewan SPCA is currently looking for individuals interested in joining a volunteer planning committee to help with coordination of the Critter Classic Golf Tournament. Activities for committee

members would include seeking event sponsorships, prizes and silent auction items, representing the Saskatchewan SPCA in media interviews, and participating in monthly conference calls.

If this sounds like an opportunity that interests you, please contact Josh by phone at 306-382-7726 or email josh@sspca.ca to learn more about the Critter Classic and how you can get involved. The Critter Classic will be in Regina in September 2017.

SAVE THE DATE!

SASKATCHEWAN SPCA
THE LINK CONFERENCE
exploring the relationship between animal abuse and interpersonal violence

Featuring Keynote Speaker
DR. RANDALL LOCKWOOD
Senior Vice President for Forensic Sciences and Anti-Cruelty Projects of the ASPCA and an internationally recognized expert on the animal cruelty/human violence connection.

September 21-22, 2017
Regina Delta Hotel

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