

## Give animals something to look forward to

The Vancouver Humane Society depends on the generosity of people who want animals to be free from suffering – now and for years to come.

Planned giving allows VHS to keep helping animals long into the future. This brochure describes several planned giving options that can make the most of your long-term investment in kindness to animals.

Canada's tax law encourages donations to charities by providing tax credits to donors that reduce the taxes you or your estate will need to pay. Planned giving is the structuring of your charitable gifts to achieve your philanthropic goals and maximize tax benefits based on your circumstances.

Understanding the options available will help you plan gifts that will advance your passion for animal welfare. Gifts can be made during your lifetime so that you can see the impact you have, or they can be made as part of your estate plan to form part of a legacy. Donors have lots of flexibility to structure gifts to fit their circumstances.



## In addition to cash donations, charitable gifts to VHS can take many different forms

**Bequests:** These are gifts, made by Will, that take effect at the end of the donor's lifetime. They can be for a specific sum of money, a percentage of an estate, or a specific piece of property. The donor's estate receives a donation receipt for the value of the gift, which means the estate will pay less tax.

**Gifts in Kind:** This expression refers to gifts of property to charity. Examples are real estate, art, jewellery, collections, vehicles and household furnishings. The donor receives a tax receipt for the fair market value of the gift, and the charity may use or sell the gift to generate funds to carry out its charitable work.

**Gifts of Securities (Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds):** The capital gains tax rules were changed to encourage the donation of appreciated securities to charities, making this a popular form of giving.

**Life Insurance:** Donors can name a charity as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, and receive donation receipts for premiums paid. The proceeds of the insurance policy will pass directly to the charity and will avoid probate fees.

**RRSPs and RRIFs:** These funds can be left to charity and the resulting tax credit can offset the tax payable on them at the end of the donor's life.

**Trusts:** Here is an illustration of how this type of gift can work: A donor irrevocably transfers a sum of money to a trust which is structured to pay income from the sum to the donor for the remainder of her life for living expenses. At the end of her life the trust transfers the sum to the charity. The donor can receive a tax receipt at the time the trust is established for the present value of the gift.

You can provide instructions on the type of charitable work you would like your gift used for, or you can leave it to the VHS Board to decide where the greatest impact can be made. VHS also has a fund with the Vancouver Foundation (the VHS/Norma Berridge Fund), the income from which helps support our work. Contributions to this fund are greatly appreciated.

Gifts can be celebrated publicly or received without any fanfare or public attention, depending on your preference.

If you would like to discuss any of these options, VHS can arrange for you to meet with a charity lawyer who works with us. You should then speak with your own lawyer and financial advisor to implement your plan.

## VHS: We're there when animals need us

When the guardian of a companion animal has no money for veterinary treatment that could save their cherished friend's life, VHS is there to help.

When people can't afford to spay or neuter a companion animal, VHS will cover the cost – we don't want to see more unwanted, homeless animals.

When the misery of millions of farm animals is ignored, VHS is there to provide the research and the arguments that force industry to end inhumane practices.

When captive animals languish in zoos or are bought and sold as exotic pets, VHS informs government and educates consumers about their suffering and how it can be stopped.

When rodeos promote the abuse of animals as a sport, VHS is there to expose the truth of this barbaric practice and work to end it.



# If you want to build a better world for animals

please ask us about  
planned giving to VHS

Vancouver Humane Society  
303 – 8623 Granville Street  
Vancouver, BC  
V6P 5A2  
T: 604.266.9744  
F: 604.266.1311

E: [info@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](mailto:info@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)

Donations can also be made online  
[www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](http://www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)



Registered Charity: BN88971 3178 RR0001



## Make the future brighter for animals

The Vancouver Humane Society's  
guide to **planned giving**  
[www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](http://www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)

