



VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY  
HELPING PEOPLE HELP ANIMALS



**2017 Annual Report**



### **Our Mission**

The Vancouver Humane Society is dedicated to exposing animal abuse and assisting individuals, businesses and governments to end animal suffering, cruelty and exploitation.

### **Our Vision**

The Vancouver Humane Society envisions a future in which humanity recognizes and respects the inherent rights and needs of all animals – a society in which all animal cruelty is unacceptable and animal protection is valued and acted upon by the public and its policy makers.



**Human Resources and Infrastructure**

In June, VHS appointed a new Office Manager, Sara Walters, bringing the staff total to four full-time positions.

---

**Board Development & Governance**

VHS Director Marylee Davies was elected President of the Board in 2017. Outgoing President Liberty Mulkani, whom we thank for her more than 10 years of service in that role, remained on the Board as a Director. Two new Directors, Chris Morcom and Angela Yadav joined the Board. Director Frances Kelly left the board in 2017 and we thank her for her service.

During the year, VHS completed preparations to ensure compliance with the new B.C. Societies Act, which will affect our governance arrangements. The work involved a complete review and updating of our bylaws.



**Marylee Davies**  
*President*



**Chris Morcom**  
*Secretary*



**Rob Monteverde**  
*Treasurer*



**Angela Yadav**  
*Director*



**Rebeka Breder**  
*Director*



**Frances Kelly**  
*Director*



**Liberty Mulkani**  
*Director*



**Chris Hajek**  
*Director*



**Aarti Gupta**  
*Director*



### **Finances & Fundraising**

VHS raised \$41,575 from participating in the annual Scotiabank Charity Challenge walk/run thanks to the enthusiasm and dedication of VHS staff, directors, sponsors and volunteers.

We received a generous challenge grant from an anonymous donor, to support our emergency veterinary assistance program and another major grant to support our Meatless Monday and Go Veg Vancouver programs, also from an anonymous donor.

VHS also received grants from the Humane Society International/Canada, the Eden Conservation Trust, and from an anonymous donor in support of our farm animal welfare campaigns.

We raised \$14,000 through the Giving Tuesday fundraising initiative, half of which was used to pay veterinary expenses for the rescued farmed animals at The Happy Herd Farm Sanctuary, with whom we partnered in the effort.



## Communications

VHS had 100 pieces of media coverage during the year and six opinion editorials published in various media outlets. We also had four letters to the editor published. We produced three newsletters (distributed to 2700 supporters and used at events and other distribution points), sent out 14 Action Alert emails and published 25 blog posts on our website. Our electronic newsletter, issued three times during the year, was sent to more than 5000 subscribers. We continued to make use of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to keep supporters informed and reach the public with our message.

VHS again ran ads as part of the City of Vancouver's free bus shelter advertising program in June and July at 10 locations. The ad featured a photo of a dog, along with a fundraising message: Help us help animals like Lucy.

In May, VHS launched an ad campaign on Vancouver trolley buses, supporting our Go Veg Vancouver initiative. The campaign, which was timed to coincide with Vancouver's popular Veg Expo event, was supported by blog posts, opinion editorials and social media, including Facebook ads.





**Bam Bam**



**Taylor**



**Boots**



**Noah**

## **Emergency Veterinary Assistance Project**

Stories of some of the animals we helped in 2017:

### **Bam Bam**

Bam Bam was a cross-eyed kitten with a broken tail that no one wanted to adopt. Passed over by everyone, he eventually won the heart of a care-giver at the adoption centre. One day Bam Bam began to lose weight and stopped eating. Tests could not pinpoint what was wrong and his guardian was running out of funds. That's when they reached out to VHS.

Our McVitie Fund paid for further diagnostics to discover the answer: Bam Bam had a very aggressive cancer. It was heartbreaking news but it meant his guardian could now focus on making sure Bam Bam's remaining days were comfortable and pain-free.

### **Taylor**

Taylor is a senior black lab who has been with her guardian since she was a puppy - the pair had been through a lot together. Taylor's guardian was on a limited income, which made finding reliable, pet-friendly accommodation difficult. The pair struggled to find a home but they were able to stay together. Suddenly, Taylor began showing signs of discomfort and her guardian had no money for vet bills. It turned out that Taylor had an infection in the uterus and surgery was required to save her life. Thankfully, because of VHS donors, Taylor had the operation and has since made a full recovery.

### **Boots**

Boots, a beautiful ginger boy, needed help. He had a blocked urinary tract, which is a potentially life-threatening condition. His guardian rushed him to the vet, and when faced with the diagnosis, did everything she could to raise the money to help him, including calling VHS. Thanks to our generous supporters, Boots get the treatment he needed, made a full recovery and returned home to enjoy life with his family.

### **Noah**

Noah found his way into the home and heart of his current guardian several years ago, after his previous family no longer wanted to care for him. His guardian describes him as a wonderful companion who brings her joy every day. Noah developed a tumour in his mouth, along with an ear infection. His caregiver took him to the vet, but as a pensioner on disability, her funds were limited. VHS stepped in to help and Noah underwent surgery to remove the tumour and receive medications to treat his ear infection. He's since recovered and his guardian is grateful for the assistance she received in a time of need.



## **Rodeo**

VHS campaigned hard against rodeo during the summer, raising concerns about animal cruelty at rodeos in Williams Lake, B.C., at the Calgary Stampede and in Chilliwack, B.C.

In response to our campaign, the Chilliwack Fair agreed to review steer-wrestling and calf-roping but sadly they chose to continue the events with some rule changes that will make no significant difference to the animals' welfare. Calves and

steers will still be subjected to fear, pain and stress for the sake of entertainment, so we will maintain our call for the two events to be banned. The controversy attracted considerable media coverage, raising awareness of the issue.

We were pleased that retail giant Lululemon agreed to stop sponsoring the chuckwagon race at the Calgary Stampede after we complained to the company.



### **Meatless Monday and Promotion of Plant-based Diet**

Our Meatless Monday program continued to grow over the year and attracted considerable attention when Sir Paul McCartney sent VHS a message praising the cities of Vancouver, New Westminster, North Vancouver and Port Moody for proclaiming **Meatless Monday on May 15th** in their communities. The superstar and animal lover wrote:

“Congratulations to Vancouver, the City of North Vancouver, New Westminster and Port Moody for going meat free on Monday 15 May. A great step forward in showing how easy and fun it is to have meat free days and help protect the planet from climate change. Well done. Love Paul and family.” – Paul McCartney

The proclamations were the result of the ongoing Meatless Monday initiatives of VHS and local schools. By the end of the year, 15 secondary and post-secondary institutions and two health care facilities were participating in the program. David Thompson Secondary made a special effort to mark the day. The school’s Green Team, in partnership with VHS, South Vancouver Neighbourhood House and City Councillor Adriane Carr, hosted an outreach event, covered by local media.

VHS also played a key role in a ground-breaking plant-based food event. Chefs and food service professionals from around

British Columbia and from as far as Winnipeg gathered at the University of British Columbia in May, for the **“Forward Food Culinary Training & Summit”**. The plant-based workshop has already helped over 1,100 food service professionals in the United States meet the growing demand for humane, healthy and sustainable menu items.

Hosted by UBC Food Services, in partnership with VHS, Humane Society International/Canada, and HSUS, the Culinary Training instructed attendees on how to prepare delicious meatless, eggless, and dairy-free entrees that will appeal to guests of all dietary preferences.

Our **Go Veg Vancouver** campaign continued to promote a plant-based diet during 2017, with approximately 16,000 of our “Live Well” booklets being distributed by outreach volunteers and at events. Our bus ads, social media and other communications tools supported the campaign and our table at the Veg Expo event in May attracted considerable attention from people curious about a plant-based diet.

VHS also participated in a federal government **consultation on a National Food Policy**, raising the issue of farmed animal welfare and encouraging a greater focus on humane, healthy and sustainable plant-based diets.



### **Cetacean captivity**

VHS applauded the decision on May 15th by the Vancouver Park Board to prohibit the display of cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium.

VHS is proud to have played a part in the broad and growing movement to end cetacean captivity. In December 2016, we and Zoocheck published a powerful report that questioned the claimed value of the aquarium's cetacean research. The report was distributed to each Park Board Commissioner and was followed up by a VHS presentation to the board in March of 2017.



### **Other animal welfare issues addressed by VHS**

**Battery cages for laying hens:** In March, the National Farm Animal Care Council announced that battery cages for laying hens would be phased out by 2036. This was a victory for VHS and all the groups and individuals who campaigned for many years on this issue. We were, however, disappointed at phase-out's long time lines and expressed concerns in the media about this and the continued use of "enriched" cages by the industry.

**Animal Transport:** In January, we made a submission to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), which was consulting on proposed changes to animal transport regulations. We pointed out how the proposals fail to adequately address the tremendous suffering animals endure in Canada when shipped long distances in extreme weather conditions. We called for a number of specific changes, including shortening transport times without food, water and rest to eight hours instead of 24.

**Sled dogs:** VHS continued to draw attention to the plight of sled dog racing and tours, promoting the documentary Sled Dogs (which went on to attract international media attention).

**Animals in entertainment:** VHS had an opinion editorial published in the Vancouver Province in January, revealing the provincial government's failure to protect exotic animals used in local television production. VHS used information obtained through a Freedom of Information request, which showed the government was willing to permit companies under investigation for animal cruelty to supply animals for use in a Vancouver production. We also drew public and media attention to two circuses touring B.C. (Zerbini and Garden Bros.), which had poor animal welfare records.



## **Financial Statements**

December 31, 2017 *(Unaudited – See Notice To Reader, page 11)*



## **Notice to Reader**

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Vancouver Humane Society as at December 31, 2017 and the statements of operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Loewen Kruse'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chartered Accountants

Burnaby, British Columbia  
March 2, 2018

**Statement of Financial Position**

December 31, 2017 (Unaudited – See Notice To Reader, page 10)

	General Fund	Capital Assets Fund	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>CURRENT</b>				
Cash	\$ 259,991	\$ -	\$ 259,991	\$ 129,963
Investments	167,758	-	167,758	190,816
Recoverable from government authorities - GST	2,592	-	2,592	2,030
Prepaid expenses	2,152	-	2,152	1,319
	432,493	-	432,493	324,128
<b>LONG TERM INVESTMENTS</b>	68,765	-	68,765	165,697
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS (Net of accumulated amortization)</b>	-	7,817	7,817	9,310
	<b>\$ 501,258</b>	<b>\$ 7,817</b>	<b>\$ 509,075</b>	<b>\$ 499,135</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>				
<b>CURRENT</b>				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 10,316	\$ -	\$ 10,316	\$ 24,338
Payable to government authorities - payroll deductions	6,409	-	6,409	5,955
	16,725	-	16,725	30,293
<b>FUND BALANCES - page 3</b>				
Unrestricted	484,533	-	484,533	459,532
Internally restricted	-	7,817	7,817	9,310
	484,533	7,817	492,350	468,842
	<b>\$ 501,258</b>	<b>\$ 7,817</b>	<b>\$ 509,075</b>	<b>\$ 499,135</b>

**APPROVED BY THE DIRECTORS**

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director  
  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

**Statement of Changes in Fund Balances**

December 31, 2017 (Unaudited – See Notice To Reader, page 10)

	General Fund	Capital Assets Fund	2017	2016
<b>FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	\$ 459,532	\$ 9,310	\$ <b>468,842</b>	\$ 494,481
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses - page 5	26,295	(2,787)	<b>23,508</b>	(25,639)
Interfund transfer for capital asset purchases	(1,294)	1,294	-	-
<b>FUND BALANCES - END OF YEAR - page 2</b>	<b>\$ 484,533</b>	<b>\$ 7,817</b>	<b>\$ 492,350</b>	<b>\$ 468,842</b>

**Statement of Operations**

Year ended December 31, 2017 (Unaudited – See Notice To Reader, page 10)

	General Fund	Capital Assets Fund	2017	2016
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Received contributions	\$ 246,168	\$ -	\$ 246,168	\$ 249,009
Un-receipted contributions	204,134	-	204,134	110,914
Interest and other revenue	8,840	-	8,840	7,278
Unrealized gain on investments	902	-	902	159
Loss on sale of investments	(1)	-	(1)	(125)
	<u>460,043</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>460,043</u>	<u>367,235</u>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>				
Salaries and benefits	170,934	-	170,934	155,692
Veterinary medical costs	48,646	-	48,646	49,576
Animal welfare general	37,640	-	37,640	26,739
Newsletters and direct mail	22,262	-	22,262	20,734
Rent and repairs and maintenance	22,445	-	22,445	17,969
Office and miscellaneous	12,078	-	12,078	7,507
Outreach and resource centre	5,459	-	5,459	10,589
Amortization	-	2,177	2,177	2,585
Insurance	1,045	-	1,045	1,025
Meetings, events and conferences	438	-	438	406
Website	435	-	435	493
Loss on disposal of capital assets	-	66	66	72
	<u>321,382</u>	<u>2,243</u>	<u>323,625</u>	<u>293,387</u>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>				
Salaries and benefits	25,399	-	25,399	22,133
Legal and accounting	18,328	-	18,328	16,829
Rent and repairs and maintenance	4,221	-	4,221	3,347
Office and miscellaneous	5,076	-	5,076	4,838
Meetings, events, and conferences	1,444	-	1,444	1,282
Insurance	1,301	-	1,301	1,304
Amortization	-	544	544	646
Website	8	-	8	7
	<u>55,777</u>	<u>544</u>	<u>56,321</u>	<u>50,386</u>

continued...

**Statement of Operations** – continued

Year ended December 31, 2017 (Unaudited – See Notice To Reader, page 10)

	General Fund	Capital Assets Fund	2017	2016
<b>FUNDRAISING EXPENSES</b>				
Salaries and benefits	\$ 25,554	\$ -	\$ 25,554	\$ 23,058
Fundraising expense	20,835	-	20,835	17,082
Newsletters and direct mail	7,284	-	7,284	5,718
Rent and repairs and maintenance	1,403	-	1,403	1,116
Insurance	1,068	-	1,068	1,068
Office and miscellaneous	414	-	414	1,032
Website	31	-	31	27
	56,589	-	56,589	49,101
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>433,748</b>	<b>2,787</b>	<b>436,535</b>	<b>392,874</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR - page 3</b>	<b>\$ 26,295</b>	<b>\$ (2,787)</b>	<b>\$ 23,508</b>	<b>\$ (25,639)</b>



**VANCOUVER HUMANE SOCIETY**

HELPING PEOPLE HELP ANIMALS



### **Vancouver Humane Society**

303 – 8623 Granville Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 5A2

Phone: 604-266-9744  
Fax: 604-266-1311  
Email: [info@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](mailto:info@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)  
Web: [www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](http://www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca)

### **Staff**

Debra Probert, Executive Director  
Peter Fricker, Projects and Communications Director  
Emily Pickett, Program Coordinator  
Sara Walters, Office Manager