

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY





# EVERY ANIMAL MATTERS

We have a place for every animal in need at the Winnipeg Humane Society. We accept the abandoned, surrendered, stray, and neglected. It is our reputation and duty as an open admission shelter to receive animals that have nowhere else to go and nurture them until they find a forever home. Our community of both people and animals rely on us and deserve the very best The WHS can be.

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HER HONOUR THE HONOURABLE NICE C. FILMON, C.M., O.M LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MANITOBA

# Message from our Board of Directors and CEO

#### Dear WHS friends and supporters,

We are pleased to present the Winnipeg Humane Society 2015 Annual Report on our activities and finances. The past year has been a time of transition and change at our shelter, with a renewed focus on carefully listening to your ideas, opinions and direction. Staff and

board members, volunteers, donors, and the general animal welfare and rescue community have all provided excellent feedback as we prepared our strategic goals for the next three years, and we are heartened by your support and your confidence in our institution.

The WHS is over 120 years old, and over the years we have evolved to meet the community's needs and expectations. Our key strategic goals for 2016–2019 reflect new trends and views and are based on consultation with over 300 individuals. We are publicly committing to a new deal for cats, so we can improve our live release rates by at least 3% year-over-year. The WHS wants to become a trusted partner to all animal welfare organizations in our province, providing veterinary, shelter, and behaviour training



support and facilitating discussions between government, to pet owners, as well as using the space to help shelter advocates, and organizations representing various dogs in need of training, and expand our humane interests. We are also committed to improving humane education programs. education to our youth and to inform the public about the need to change the way we buy our food to support sustainable and humane farming practices.

The changes that The WHS are implementing are rooted in our tradition of excellence. We are and will remain a progressively managed open-admission shelter where

no animal will be turned away. No pet should live on the streets or suffer, and the Winnipeg Humane Society is committed to always help animals in need. But thanks to new partnerships with various organizations, we will try to improve outcomes and make sure that every animal has a chance at finding that forever home. The Winnipeg





Humane Society pursues adoptions and change for the benefit of our community. For these reasons, we are admired by other shelters across North America.

Taking in over 8,500 animals every year is complex, demanding and requires the talent and love of a dedicated group of staff and volunteers. We are truly humbled to have such an outstanding team at our shelter, a committed board of directors, and the most amazing team of volunteers and donors that a charity could hope for.

Finally, we would like to thank Jim Gauthier and his family for their leadership and vision in providing a major gift to build the Joyce Gauthier Behaviour and Training Centre. We are now offering nearly three times more behaviour and training classes

Thank you for your trust, your support, and your feedback. We remain open to new ideas and suggestions to ensure that we remain a trusted partner so that any individual is comfortable coming to us to adopt an animal that will be ready to love and thrive in their new forever home.

In service,

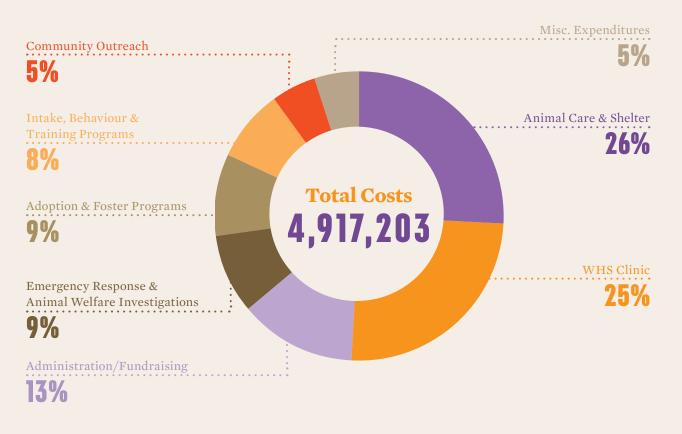
**Richard Pope**, CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS In service,

Javier Schwersensky, CEO

# SOURCES OF REVENUE



## HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT



# FOSTER FAMILES PROVIDE A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

When an animal needs time to recover from surgery, work on socialization skills, or a break from the shelter our foster families come through. Fostering a pet is a rewarding experience, with all of the supplies covered by generous donations to The WHS. In return, fosters support an animal during their journey to a forever home.

## **Nelson's Story**



The term failed foster can easily be associated with negativity, but in the world of The WHS, it's a good thing. A foster is considered a failure when they cannot resist adopting the pet. Nelson the cat arrived at The WHS missing his two hind feet. He was full of fear and would often hide in the corners or under blankets when being assessed by our staff.

Nelson needed a foster home to relax and build confidence in. At first, he spent most of his days in hiding. But curiosity got the best of this cat about a week into his stay with a foster family. He emerged from hiding to visit and slowly became a cat full of confidence, adventure, and personality.

Nelson's foster family helped him achieve success. The only thing his family failed at was making him a foster pet. They adopted him.

## **Bailey's Story**



Bailey, a Pug/Chihuahua mix, was surrendered to The WHS due to overfeeding. The small-breed dog weighed a whopping 33.5 pounds when she arrived in our care. Bailey was an obese girl and needed a lot of time in foster care on a proper diet and exercise schedule.

Bailey's foster family had her for four months. She would take a half-an-hour to an hour walk daily, and was kept on her diet. By the time she was ready for adoption, Bailey lost 12.5 pounds and weighed a much healthier 21 pounds.

# ADOPTON **BIULARE**

## In 2015, The WHS found homes for more animals than ever before

4,607 animals were adopted from our shelter. That's 4,607 success stories. 4,607 animals saved from despair. 4,607 animals leaving our care and rejuvenating homes across the province.

The WHS adopted 3,238 cats in 2015, which is 599 more than 2014's total of 2,639. A big increase of satellite adoptions numbers was crucial to this success, as was frequent cat promotions throughout the year offering adoption fees at lower rates.



ATELLITE ADOPTIONS:

## We will never turn down an animal in need

In 2015, we accepted 8,832 animals into our care. 1,702 of those animals came from other animal agencies and sources; many in dire need of the medical and behavioural care only The WHS offers.

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TOTAL INCOMING: CAT INCOMING: DOG INCOMING: 6,044 (2015 **8.832** (2015) **1.835** (2015 8.131(2014)**5.531** (2014) **5.822** (2013) **8.173** (2013) **1.585** (2013 **5.805** (2012) **1.690** (2012 **8.435** (2012)







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## **Robbie's Story**

Robbie, a two-year-old black lab mix, went through a lot before finding his forever home. Robbie had heartworm disease, a disfigured pelvis due to a poorly healed fracture, and his tail had somehow been severed. On top of this, our vet staff discovered a lodged pellet in his flesh. After his treatment Robbie recovered in foster care, and eventually met his new forever friend Mitch. Mitch was immediately enticed by Robbie and the pair quickly bonded. CBC Radio One hosted a live on location event at The WHS in October and featured Mitch and Robbie's story. Mitch said while many believe he was the one to save Robbie from the hardships of his life, but it was Robbie who saved him.

# A D O P T I O N S T O R I E S

## Shelby's Story

Shelby the cat filled the void in one family's life. The Fortin family was living without a feline after losing their cat, Missy, in a fire. The couple needed time to grieve their loss, but soon realized the love of a cat was missing in their life. After moving into a new place, they decided the timing was right and visited The WHS. They were instantly drawn to Shelby's personality and knew they had to adopt her. While Shelby will never replace their old cat Missy and the memories they created, she has found a special place in their hearts and made them a family again.

# LOST & FOUND

Part of The WHS's job is reuniting lost pets with their owners. When a lost animal arrives at our door, pet owners can take solace in the fact The WHS will do everything in its power to reunite them with family.

In 2015 The WHS openly invited other groups to partner with us. Winnipeg Lost Cat Alert (WLCA) was the first to come forward. The WHS started a partnership with WLCA and a group of committed animal welfare leaders to help control cat overpopulation, which, in turn, aims to limit the number of lost pets wandering the streets of Winnipeg.

When we receive a lost pet, our intake department checks its

## **Rocky's story**



Rocky the dog's lost and found story stretched across three provinces. In mid-April he was found in the Stonewall area and brought to The WHS. Our intake staff checked Rocky's microchip and were surprised with what they found. Rocky had been missing since October 2014 from Irricana, Alberta. After reaching out to his owner, she made the 16-hour trip to Winnipeg to pick up her forever friend. identification and uses their tattoo, microchip, or City of Winnipeg license to contact the pet owner. It's critical for pet owners to update their pet's identification in order to help create as many happy endings as possible.

### **Princess' story**



The Pelletier family was devastated after losing nearly everything in a house fire in December 2015. With no home and few items saved in the blaze, the family relied on the kindness of strangers for donations. At the time, the family thought they lost Princess in the fire too. But she was found near the house by City of Winnipeg Animal Services and brought to The WHS. Princess needed a bath to remove the toxic smoke from her fur, but otherwise she was in good spirits. The WHS contacted the Pelletier family to let them know Princess was still alive. They picked her up and we presented the family with a kitten care package containing some of the items lost in the fire.

# BEHAVIOUR

While some animals require medical care before seeking forever homes, others depend upon the work from our Behaviour Department to reach full potential. The WHS is a progressive animal shelter and understands that a well-behaved pet has a better chance of finding a forever home and adjust to the new home successfully.



#### JOYCE GAUTHIER BEHAVIOUR AND TRAINING CENTRE

Dogs arrive at The WHS for a variety of reasons. It can run the gamut of basic obedience training, to being extremely fearful due to experiencing abuse and neglect. Fearful and anxious behaviour can often come out as aggression, but The WHS



invests in behaviour training because we know these dogs need and deserve rehabilitation. We relate to these issues and understand that making a happy and healthy dog goes beyond receiving care in the vet clinic. Some dogs need encouragement, training, and guidance before they're ready for adoption. That's why all dogs at The WHS receive a behavioural assessment and get support if needed. Some dogs on our adoption floor receive basic obedience training, which prepares them for a new home.

The next progressive move in training these dogs is the opening of the Joyce Gauthier Behaviour and Training Centre. The centre gives these dogs a space to learn from our trained staff and allows our dogs to gain a new sense of morale.

Previous space restrictions didn't allow The WHS to do group work. Dogs are social beings that learn from each other, but also need space independently to interact with, learn from, and develop with our trainers.

The centre was made a reality by Jim Gauthier with a generous \$1 million donation in his late wife's name. The Joyce Gauthier Behaviour and Training Centre opened in 2015 and is a dynamic complex that benefits both animals in our care and the community.

Shelter dogs have a new year-round space to work on sits, stays, leash walking, and more. After gaining enough confidence, the dog is ready for adoptions and willing to showcase their newly-learned skills in a new forever home. Behaviour training before adoptions is crucial to keep return rates lower. The WHS is the only animal shelter in Manitoba to offer such a program.

In 2015, the new space allowed us to expand the list of obedience classes offered to the community: Advanced Dog Obedience, Loose Leash Walking, Stay and Play sessions, and Reactive Rover. Now, with its own dedicated training space, The WHS gives dog owners flexibility when booking a class. More weekend sessions are available to accommodate busy schedules, and booking a class is as simple as registering online.

#### CAT ENRICHMENT

While the amount of training and assessment cats require is different from dogs, it is still necessary. Although cats receive less assessment than dogs, we still need to keep them involved while they're at The WHS. A cat's enrichment is vital in finding forever homes.

The WHS can be a stressful environment for a cat and that's why keeping them engaged is critical. In 2015 The WHS implemented a cat enrichment program that reduces stress and anxiety for felines.

The program was introduced to backstage cats, as they tend to interact with fewer people throughout the day. The goal is to enrich and entertain cats, reduce their stress, and have them out on the adoption floor at a quicker rate.

A TV and DVD player were set up in a holding room for cats under medical care or recovering from surgery. Cats have a choice between two feline-specific movies: birds or bugs. The movies keep the cats engaged and entertained during those times when people are not around.

Staff and volunteers also spend time with the cats and have a series of eye-catching activities like blowing bubbles, light-catching mobiles, a lifelike robotic fish in a tank, and sound emitters. Cats are also encouraged to stretch and get some exercise by chasing a laser pointer around their kennel.

# THE UHS CLINC Mends bones and heals hearts

The WHS Clinic plays a critical role in our success. Our staff and volunteers monitor and improve the health of our shelter animals, keep them up to date with vaccinations, and perform spay and neuter surgeries. Successful adoptions begin with the health of animals, and this starts at our clinic.

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#### BROKEN BONES

While a lot of The WHS Clinic's time is spent maintaining and ensuring the health of animals going into adoptions, many workdays involve surprise emergency cases which must be dealt with in addition to day-to-day duties. In April, an astounding 19 cats and dogs with broken bones arrived at the clinic. As the weather gets warmer, pets tend to explore more, which means an increased chance of being hit by a vehicle.

Some of the pets are returned to their owners, while others make their way into adoptions to find forever homes. Regardless of where the animal ends up, it's because of the talent and determined spirits of The WHS Clinic staff.

#### THE GOOD WORK OF OUR Clinic Impacts our Entire City

In February, a PetSmart Charities grant allowed us to offer Beat the Heat, an initiative to offer spay surgeries to cat owners for the affordable price of \$20.

The WHS pursued this grant money because we know there is a need to do more combating cat overpopulation – a major issue within the city. Cats come into their first heat during spring and can have multiple litters during the warmer Winnipeg months. This was the second year of funding for the program and it proved popular.

Cat owners quickly booked spots to have their cat spayed and our clinic staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to not only complete all 500 spay surgeries, but also maintain their day-to-day duties caring for animals at the shelter.

## Snowflake's story



In mid-August Snowflake was brought to The WHS Clinic after being involved in a car accident. She arrived with severe burns and our staff wasted no time easing her pain. Snowflake needed hydrotherapy everyday, pain medication, and was wrapped in honey bandages.

Snowflake was transferred to The Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon for skin grafting surgery followed by recovery time. Amazingly, Snowflake reunited with her owner and canine sibling who were also involved in the crash. The trio celebrated Snowflake's third birthday in winter.

Snowflake's veterinary treatment was not possible without the support of donors. In just two days, you donated \$24,635.83 to cover medical expenses. This story showcased The WHS's fine work to the world. 53% of donations were from outside of Manitoba, with the furthest coming from England.

#### **URI POLICY**

Feline upper respiratory infection, or URI, is a common disease among cats and equivalent to catching a cold, but can be very serious in some cats. URI is caused by several infectious agents and can become a severe issue in animal shelters like The WHS. Since it's contagious it can be costly to treat and once a cat has the infection, they may always be a carrier. This means The WHS needs to house cats with URI in contained areas of the shelter so the infection does not spread. An outbreak of URI can stretch The WHS's resources. In October, The WHS changed its policy to save and adopt more URI cats.

As we move into 2016, a top priority is to implement new strategies for adopting cats with URI.

## **Rocko's story**



Rocko arrived at The WHS Clinic with a broken leg in two spots, and a de-gloved paw. The young cat looked like he should have been in a lot of pain, but he still sat in the clinic with a calm and friendly disposition, accepting chin scratches and pets from the staff.

Unfortunately Rocko's left hind leg was damaged beyond repair and amputated. A veterinary student, under the supervision of a WHS vet, performed the successful surgery. After recovering in foster care, Rocko was adopted and found his forever home. Our WHS donors not only supported the care for Rocko, but also provide the chance for training future veterinarians who will go on to save many animals' lives.

# SHELTER UPKEEP



In order to keep animals in tip-top shape, the shelter must be kept in good working condition. It's important the infrastructure at The WHS is maintained, cared for, and repaired. In 2015 The WHS:

- $\cdot$  Repaired its pitless unit (replaced with a stainless steel unit)
- · Replaced a well pump and turbine
- · Repaired a leak in a standpipe
- · Repaired its heat exchanger with a gasket replacement
- · Repaired several glycol leaks
- · Fixed all of its outdoor lighting
- Closed a leak in the water supply line for the heat exchanger
- Repaired faulty valves within the pipe flashing system to avoid more water leaking down the drain (see our end of year campaign on page 19)
- · Replaced broken windows and doors
- $\cdot$  Replaced multiple door closers in the building
- $\cdot$  Repaired the faulty pressure switch on the boilers
- · Fixed multiple broken sensor faucets
- · Installed an automatic drain valve for fire department access.

#### ANIMAL CARE, THE UNSUNG HEROES

Behind the scenes is the hard working shelter staff. They make sure all the animals in The WHS's care have housing, food, water, and everything needed to be comfortable during their stay.

It's a critical job that is never put on the back-burner. Even though many of us take time off during the holidays or in the summer, the animals still need to be fed and cared for. Whether it's Canada Day or Thanksgiving, Christmas or August Long Weekend, there will always be shelter staff in the building to provide care.

These unsung heroes play such an important role in our organization and we appreciate their dedication. Eight members of the shelter staff have over 10 years of experience at The WHS and are invaluable members of our team.

With so many years of experience, it's only natural the staff picks up some knowledge about the animals they care for. Their familiarity with animal behaviour and needs make them valuable team members who can assist our behaviour and clinic staff.

Thank you for all of the hard work. It does not go unappreciated.

# PROTECTING ANDALS FROM DANGER AND GIVING OWNERS HOPE

There's nothing more terrifying for a pet owner than seeing their animal in distress. The WHS's animal emergency responders do everything they can when an animal is in danger.

On a cold February night, our dispatchers received a call from a couple in dire need of help. The Prince George, B.C., couple was travelling through Winnipeg on their way to Nova Scotia. The husband had kidney cancer and was going to spend time with his family on the east coast before passing away. Their van broke down in Winnipeg and they stayed at the Salvation Army Booth Centre for two days. However, their dogs were left in the cold van with temperatures dipping to almost -40 degrees Celsius with the wind chill.

The couple was using a propane tank and heater in the van to keep the dogs warm, but didn't know what else to do for them. It would be a few days before the couple could fix their van, so they called The WHS in hopes we could help their dogs. Our animal protection officers arrived to the van and noticed its windows completely frosted. Inside was the wife, with both of the shivering dogs. She refused to leave her dogs alone in the van and braved the cold with them.

The WHS gave the dogs a temporary home in the shelter where they would be fed, cared for, and warm. The couple called to check on their dogs every day and once the van was fixed they arrived at the shelter to reunite. The dogs were so excited to see their family and greeted them with kisses and excitement.

The WHS officers gave the couple a gift box for the dogs and they were warmly sent back on their way after a cold Winnipeg experience. As the husband left The WHS, he expressed his gratitude for the care and compassion we provided.

"You will always be in our hearts," he said. IN 2015 THERE WERE 625 EMERGENCY PICH-UPS

**226** ANIMAL LOCHED In Vehicles complaints

375 CALLS OF COMPLAINT FOR NOT PROVIDING ENOUGH FOOD OR WATER

**435** CALLS REGNADING Animals unduly exposed to cold or heat

171 ANIMALS ABANDONED OR LIVING IN CONDITIONS CRUSING ENTREME ANHIETY/DISTRESS

#### YEAR-END CAMPAIGN

In late 2015, The WHS felt the love and support of its donors and supporters. After an unexpected water bill of over \$30,000 and an increase of incoming animals, The WHS asked for support to help with the expenses. You responded in grand fashion by donating \$42,883 at the end of the year, which was 43% over the \$30,000 goal.





Alice, Betty, Ellen, and Larry were dumped in the garbage when they were two weeks old and left to die, but WHS donors gave them hope. The four puppies were featured in The WHS's year-end campaign, sharing the story of how they went from abandoned pups to loving dogs in secure homes. WHS supporters were drawn to and touched by the photos of the puppies as they grew up. The story showcased why WHS supporters matter and the powerful impact they have when it comes to giving deserving animals a second chance. The campaign started in late November and launched our organization into a successful year-end campaign.

#### **NATIONAL CUPCAKE DAY**

When you give to The WHS you feel good knowing your gift supports an animal in need. When you give to The WHS on National Cupcake Day you also feel good because you get to enjoy a sweet treat. The WHS participated in National Cupcake Day for the first time in 2015. The goal was to host Cupcake Day Parties in homes, schools, and workplaces in Winnipeg while accepting donations for The WHS in return for a cupcake or two. With the help of Cupcake Corner (now Pinky's Bakeshop) and other bakeries in the city, The WHS raised a total of \$17,539.82. What a sweet way to raise funds.

# GRACIOUS AND GVNG FROM \$5 TO \$50,000, EVERY DONATION MATTERS

Fundraising is pivotal to The WHS. Our five Signature Events and Do-it-Yourself Events play critical roles in making sure animals in our care receive all the supplies, support, and resources to succeed. In 2015, these events, combined with generous donors and other fundraising raised a total of \$3,165,192.

The WHS's monthly donors are counted on as a stable foundation of support. In 2015, 535 additional donors agreed to give a monthly gift and increased revenue by \$109,126.44 annually. Monthly donations totaled \$807,844.78 in 2015 and provided The WHS with a

#### **DO-IT-YOURSELF EVENTS**











The WHS benefits from animal welfare supporters across Manitoba in many creative ways. From a dog-friendly Winnipeg Goldeyes baseball game, to craft and garage sales, our supporters in the community joined our cause by hosting their own fundraising events in 2015. There were a total of 836 DIY fundraisers in 2015,

raising a total of \$150,818.81. Of those events there were 204 people who celebrated their birthday in support of The WHS raising a total of \$14,809.30. One hundred and eight people donated their cars to The WHS, which brought in an additional \$29,438.49 in support of The WHS.

# MAJOR DONORS

## Guardian (\$10,000+)

Paul and Mary Lou Albrechtsen Anonymous BMO Affinity Program Jean Britton and Ransom Slack CanFel Foundation Wayne and Lana Demkey Tannis and Raymond Duerinckx Estate of Beatrice Antoinette E. Frederick Anonymous Estate of Anna Marie Hogg Estate of Betty Marie Jenkins John Lagrow Estate of Alexander James McAdam Anonymous Manitoba Community Services Council Estate of Stanley Albert Matthew Estate of Dorothy June Mestdagh Estate of William Harry Moore Bernice Mueller Estate of Stanley Netskar Estate of Martha Neufeld O'Regan Charitable Foundation Estate of Mary Ochitwa Anonymous Kelvin Shepherd and Ms. Deborah Wolfe Estate of Gerald Layne Sinclair Estate of Marlene Ann Stoker Estate of Tamara Faith Sydorko Estate of Gladys Tait Anonymous Estate of Helen Rosie Thompson Estate of Hugh James Walker City of Winnipeg City of Winnipeg Employees

### **Protector** (\$7.500-\$9.999)

Estate of Edith Margaret Brazzell Anonymous Estate of Elizabeth Flosszmann Anonymous Anonymous Krista and David Rempel Anonymous 

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## **Builder** (\$5000-\$7499)

Alan Burns and Wen-Lin Sun Estate of Myfanwy Elizabeth Bowman CN Employees' and Pensioners' Community Fund In memory of Peter D. Curry Tim Dewart and Denise Marks Estate of Lilia Marjorie Gardner Great-West Life Assurance Company Dr. Carol J. Harvey Estate of Dwayne Anthony Hillhouse Estate of Jessie King John N. & D. Patricia Knowles Charitable Fund Estate of Dorothy Grace Lees Ron Lypka E. Louise Nebbs Kathleen Richardson Estate of Byron Ernest and Eileen Snead Estate of Dorothy Jean Sulz Larry Vickar .....

### Visionary (\$2500-\$4999)

In memory of Dorinda Bond Darwin and Carol Campbell Lois Chandler Crerar Family Margaret Dunstan Fund Estate of John Greenaway Jennifer Gyles Lloyd Hein N. Hein Hartley Katz Anonymous Ray and Lynne-Anne McFeetors Ethel Miller Theresa Perrier Donald and Moyra Perry The Pollard Family Foundation Red River Cooperative Ltd. Staff Giving Hartley and Heather Richardson Shaw Communications Inc. Staff Giving Estate of Andrea Joy Sigurdson

Some Wellbeing for Pets and other Animals Veron Consultants Inc Estate of Doris M. Walsh

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### Leader (\$1000-\$2499) Ron Ade

Sandra and John Allen The Gail Asper Family Foundation Inc. In memory of Rose Buraczewski Cliff and Linda Bakowski Joseph and Karen Barnsley Linda Barry Anonymous In memory of Munchkin and Dina Bellan Anonymous James Blatz and Shona Suderman Doryce Boddy Anonymous Christine and Brian Boult Michelle Bradet- Simpson Tracey Braun and Al Glasgow Anonymous Bristol Aerospace Employee Giving Robert and Bertha Butterworth Adrian and Maylene Cancilla Tom Caramanos Cynthia Carr - EPI Research Inc. Central Metal Recovery Inc. Anonymous Marilyn Chrabaszcz Mr. and Mrs. R. Chrunyk Leah Chudy in Memory of Fox Robert and Gail Cipryk Rebecca Coish Mike and Karen Costello D. Cottrell Curle Family Keith Daniels Brent Davidson Anonymous Monique Decarie June Derksen Kathy Deschamps The late Elizabeth Dimock James Douglas Jeff and Tamara Eckstein

Gary and Judy Edwards Anonymous Emergent Bio Solutions Jane Emslie and Brad Wladyka Tom Fischer and Mary Lynne Montgomery Fischer Kelley Fitzpatrick Kenn and Wendy Garrity Gateway Bookbinding Systems Robert and Phyllis Gaundroue Patricia Gaye Anonymous Anonymous Lee-Anne Gobeil V. Jean Goolia Bruno Gossen Anonymous Christine Goytan Beryl Grant Tonya, Sean, Roman, Jake, Ginger and William Gray Maureen and George Greenlay Edmund and Patricia Guest Judy and Ernie Halligan David Hambley Lena Harochaw Tom Haughton and Mary Anne Thorkelson In memory of Grace Hill Arlene Hirsch and family Anonymous Helene and Michael Hoffer Phyllis I. Hunter Lorne and Wanda Hyde Investors Group, Charitable Giving Program Investors Group, Winnipeg West Office Chad Ireland Anonymous Chantal Janssen Skipper and Cricket Jensen Bill and Bonnie Kawka Liane and Bruce King Raymond Koe Serena Kraayeveld The late George Krempler Dwane Krenkevich In memory of Wanda K. David and Carolyne Kulbaba

John and Joyce Lamb Gunter and Sheila Lavallier Dr. Lazarus Medical Corp. Shawn Levesque Naomi Levine Jim and Peggy Linklater Anonymous Dr. Ann Loewen W.H. And S. Loewen Daniel Lushchyk Anonymous Anna Marinelli Jeff Marshalok Jacqueline Martin Anonymous Leah McBride Deborah McGowan Joan McKelvey Mary Elizabeth McKenzie and John Corp Bob and Bey Mathieson Joanne and Alan Maxwell Mirwaldt,Gray,Poudrier Alan Moffat Padma Mongru Anonymous Sharon Moroz Sheila A. Mymryk John and Margy Nelson Karen Nicholson Allan Nimmo Tracey Novak Nurgitz Family Jean Olson Joan Olund Carrie Onofreychuk Valerie and James Orloff Michelle Ouellet Gary Pachal Tannis Pardon Bill and Theresa Parrish Julia T. Pawluk P. Dawn Phillips Allison Poff Jean and Bert Polet Lawrie and Fran Pollard Eleanor Poltronetti Arlene Pope

McKenzie family, in memory of Eleanor Karen Schmidt Nancy McQuade and Brian Macri

Richard and Connie Pope Zeus and Zena Prescott Quintex Services Dr. Jennifer Rahman Pat and Heather Randell Edward Ransby Heidi Rasmussen Anonymous MaryJane Reid Pam Reilly Law Office Paul and Patricia Reishel Lesley and George Rempel Ursula M. Rempel Robert and Karen Robertson Ross Robinson Family Sharon and Dave Rubel Verna Scanes Betty and Doug Scarth Hendrik and Inge Scholte Javier Schwersensky Christina and Roman Semaniuk Jvoti Seshia Lori Shane Catherine Skinner Dr. Jim Skinner William Sniderhan Anonymous Robert and Deborah Stevenson Jeffrev Stoba Anonymous Barry and Elane Talbot Jane and Ed Tataryn Aileen Thibaudeau Paula K. Thompson Jeffrey Timmy Anonymous Terry Tweddell Vet Novations Canada Inc. Kirby and Jessica Watson Noah and Myrna Weiszner The Whitmore Family Theresa Witkorski, in Memory of Sophie Blackner Stacy and Scott Wilson Ruth Zboroluk

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# ANIMAL **UELFARE** The WHS is the hub of

# animal welfare activity

The WHS is open to all opinions in the field of animal welfare and wishes to facilitate discussions to help enhance the well-being of all animals.

In 2015 The WHS Farm Animal Compassion Committee hosted speaker series events throughout the year with the goal of enhancing discussion about farm animal welfare and creating a community. Dr. Arthur Schafer, Director of the Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics at the University of Manitoba, discussed humanistic reflections on animal welfare in June. Dr. Dale Douma of the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association talked about the complexities of farm animal welfare in relation to Manitoba's Animal Care Act.

In August 2015, The WHS met with Manitoba Egg Farmers and applauded the move to the enriched cage system. The WHS requests for the organization to provide a date when they believe all battery cages will be removed. The WHS respects the need to protect egg farmers' livelihoods, but also strives for the most progressive choices in farming that maintain animal welfare. As modern science improves, so does the agricultural research, which provides solutions for economic viability and the humane treatment of animals.







# VOLUNTEERS





are the foundation of

Volunteers dedicated their time aiding nearly all of The WHS departments: socializing and cuddling with cats, walking dogs, assisting at our Signature Events, filing documents, helping in the clinic, and more. At any given time during the year, The WHS has over 700 dedicated volunteers assisting with our mandate.

Last year, volunteers worked a total of 42,599 hours caring and supporting animals, and assisting with education, advocacy, and events. If The WHS had paid minimum wage for those hours, our volunteers' work would have cost \$459,349.58. But to us, their work is priceless because it allows our not-for-profit organization to focus on giving the animals the best care possible.

Our volunteers share our vision of protecting animals from suffering and promoting their welfare and dignity. Together, we are a strong community with a common goal.

# UHS VOLUNTER ANNVERSARIES

Celebrated between January – December 31, 2015



## 3 Years of Service

Fletcher Adams Emily Biggar James Blatz Laurie Bleeks Tammy Breland Jill Bristow Dion Cheung Tim Coutu Julia Domke Hannah Donnelly Ian Drysdale Kim Egert Russell Flint Aaron Frank Jayme Galloway Autumn Giles Michelle Gilroy Denise Grant Arlisa Greco Eric Grenfell Sarah Hamel Ted Hanlon Linda Harding Nikki Hawrylyshen Lindsey Hayes Ashley Henry Carol Henry Lois Isfjord-Verfaillie Joanne Joyce Anne Kapitan Kathy Kasian Meghan Kjartanson Colin Kruger Lorne Lagimodiere Jiho Lee Caitlin McIntyre Donna Meikle Ian Naften

Anna Nikoulina Aidan Novalkowski Dayna Olson Janet Pallick Susan Pannell Laurie Peddle **Emma Phillips** Jon Popoff Laura Prince Judy Pringle Margo Reimer Beaujena Reynolds Kim Scheitor Erin Schroeder Rosalee Seabrook Krista Semenchuk Pardeep Singh Sidhu Patrycja Sroga Merissa Stewart Bhavesh Tailor Elise Timmings Kaitlyn Watts Nancy Williamson Amanda Wondrasek Edwin Yee Wanda Young Nicholas Zachanowich Tracey Zacharia

### 5 Years of Service

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Krystina Balcaen Stephane Balcaen Barbara Beernaerts Cathy Bohn Michelle Bradet-Simpson Kurt Braun Neil Duboff Karen Flaming Colin Glass Brock Hindle Alisa Hobbs Elizabeth Legault Leslie Middleton Meagan O'Donnell Grant Parsons Jennifer Polet **Emily Prowse** Marlene Puls Christie Ratcliffe Christine Reeves Derek Resch Shirley Schnellert Christina Semaniuk Mariana Sklepowich Gwen Spiss Latrissa Steinke Hayley Stewart Fern Swift Ted Wakefield Erica Weselowski Don Wilgosh Vicki Wilson Lee Wood Diane Yaroshko

### 10 Years of Service

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Aimee Betker Claire Blomeley Joanne Dyer Karen Fraser Michelle Gagne Marilyn Hendzel Gail Holm Sheri Lebel-Marsden Wayne Rose Cynthia Stewart Joyce Wright

### 15 Years of Service

Carmen Asu Caroline Cantafio Alice French Denise Fyfe Barb Masterman

## 25 Years of Service

.....

Karren Antymniuk

## 25+ Years of Service

.....

Ethel Miller – 44 years Mavis Manning – 37 years Janie Marshall – 27 years

# SGARTURE EVENTS

Events are an important way to highlight the activities of our shelter and raise funds to sustain it.

In 2015 we raised \$357,924 through five Signature Events. These events require dedicated volunteers, support from our corporate sponsors, and compassionate donors willing to participate. There are many ways for you to get involved in our events and help the animals.

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#### **1001 DONATIONS**

Liberty Tax Service 1001 Donations is our first signature event of the year. It is a live telethon hosted by Red River College Creative Communications students. We broadcast live from The WHS and reach out to thousands of people through radio, television, and social media. It's an intense thrill-ride of a day as the community pulls together to raise funds and generate awareness for our shelter.

Throughout the day, we share heartwarming stories about our animals and the people who love them. These stories highlight the power of every dollar we raise and every action our passionate supporters undertake to improve animal welfare in our community. We take our audience on a journey into the heart of operations at The WHS by introducing them to the many volunteers and staff who work tirelessly to rescue, care for, rehabilitate, and place animals in safe, loving forever homes.

#### PAWS IN MOTION

Since it began almost 20 years ago, The Fairmont Winnipeg Paws in Motion has grown into Winnipeg's largest pet friendly walkathon, and is our largest fundraising event of the year. Paws in Motion is a celebration of the wonderful bond between animals and the people who love them. Over 3,000 people and 1,000 animals gather in the sunshine at Assiniboine Park to show off the joys of animal companionship. Participants reach out to their peers to fundraise for the animals.

This event is much more than a walkathon. It's a promise that we at The WHS make to the animals of Manitoba. We promise them we are all working and walking towards a future where no dog, cat, or critter needs to suffer from hunger, homelessness, or neglect. We believe all animals deserve to live a happy life with a loving family.

#### IN THE RUFF

In the Ruff, presented by Scotiabank, the Winnipeg Humane Society's smash-hit annual golf tournament, has sold out every year since it began five years ago. Hosted at Breezy Bend Country Club, participants enjoy activities on the fairways, a BBQ lunch, an awards dinner, and great prizes. Our golf tournament brings together corporate and media leaders in the community, as we as genuine animal lovers. Everyone has an opportunity to participate in all the fun, while supporting our great cause.









#### **BOW WOW BALL GALA**

For almost 25 years, The Winnipeg Humane Society's annual Bow Wow Ball Gala has brought some glitz and glamour to supporting animals in need. This gala is held at the elegant Fairmont Winnipeg, and celebrates our corporate supporters by treating them to an evening of dinner, live music, dancing, silent auctions, and conversation. Each year, we set a new tone by embracing an original theme. From the 1940's Hollywood glam of Catsablanca to the emerald magic of The Wizard of Paws, the Bow Wow Ball Gala is black tie event with a posh party-animal twist.

#### PAWS FOR THE SEASON

Liberty Tax Service Paws for the Season is our annual holiday open house packed with cheer. Each year at the beginning of December, we invite the public to visit our shelter and participate in the festivities under our roof. The fundraising event features a bake sale, where our volunteers and staff bake delicious treats to raise money for the animals. There's a craft sale with more than 25 vendors set up in our Joyce Gauthier Behaviour and Training Centre, which allows guests to do some holiday shopping. A tree lighting ceremony with carolers brings everyone in the shelter together. There are also activities for children and the chance to visit with Santa Claus. It's a busy day for the shelter,

which brings adoptions as well.



# **MEDIA**

The WHS thanks all of its media partners for sharing the stories of animals in our care and initiatives throughout the year.



CTV Winnipeg featured The WHS on CTV Morning Live, while Andrea Slobodian's monthly CTV Pet Ed segments informed and educated viewers on issues such as pet health, behaviour, and more. Columnists Doug Speirs of The Winnipeg Free Press and Doug Lunney of The Winnipeg Sun would often write about WHS events and feature pet profiles in their work.

News organizations, both large and small, shared our adoptions ads throughout the year and helped connect animals in need with

forever homes. In 2015. The WHS also continued to work with Mars Media and Shaw TV with our longterm animal profiles and airing the annual 1001 Donations telethon.

A big thank you goes out to QX 104 and 94.3 The Drive for ongoing support. QX 104 morning show hosts Brody and Samantha are big WHS supporters and hosted the Bow Wow Ball Gala. Both stations also host live on-location segments at The WHS and are essential in fundraising for our annual 1001 Donations radiothon.

Brody and Samantha, along with Doug Speirs supported WHS animals in a variety of ways this year. All three carved pumpkins in support of The WHS at Kildonan Place's Carving for a Cause contest in October. Doug Speirs also volunteered his time as Santa Claus during the Pet Pics with Santa Paws event in November.



# EDUCATION

Education is the key to a future generation of animal welfare leaders. The WHS's education programs are integral in forming tomorrow's animal welfare leaders. In 2015, The WHS visited 193 schools and reached 3,860 students. The programs taught students about pet safety and animal compassion.

Students are also welcome to see how The WHS functions with in-house tours. The Education department hosted 173 birthday



parties last year which reached out to over 2,500 kids. The kids get to visit with animals, see how they're cared for, and how we find them homes.









DIGNITY

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