



Annual Report 2022/23



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118 Falcon Road, Yellowknife, NT



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (PAST)

From June 2022 to April 2023, I had the pleasure and the privilege of serving as the NWT SPCA's President. During that time, I was fortunate to have met and worked with amazing people, from other Board members to our shelter staff, to folks in communities all over the NWT whose care for animals and devotion to animal welfare brought me to tears on more than one occasion.

We had a lot of ups-and-downs as an organization over the past year. Some of the issues we faced are the same problems that animal welfare organizations nationwide are currently struggling with, including a shortage of veterinarians, shelters and rescue organizations operating at or above capacity, and everything becoming more expensive. But we also faced and tackled several issues that were specific to the NWT SPCA – including infrastructure issues at the shelter and the confusion that came with operating with an entirely new Board of Directors.

We also, however, managed to achieve quite a lot in a short period of time, holding several successful events and hiring the organization's first Executive Director. But what I personally found most rewarding was hearing the countless stories of how this pup or that cat was brought into the shelter struggling, and then found a loving home where they were able to thrive and at the same time bring joy to their new family.

For me, I came into the organization as someone who others would describe as a "cat person", and I left it with two puppies (Kimchi and Moe - see below) who have completely changed my life and 100% for the better. I can't make it ten consecutive minutes around these two without smiling; they are now my whole world.

Kimchi was found all alone in a parking lot at around 8-weeks old on a -40 day by a community member who brought her into the shelter, and Moe is the offspring of one of our Last Litter Program moms. The NWT SPCA shelter staff took both puppies in, loved them, fed them, and then found them each a home with me.

The work this organization does year-after-year spreads happiness like none other that I've come across, and I'm incredibly grateful to have been a part of it.

On behalf of the NWT SPCA's Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the 2022/2023 Annual Report.

Stephen Flanagan
Past President, NWT SPCA

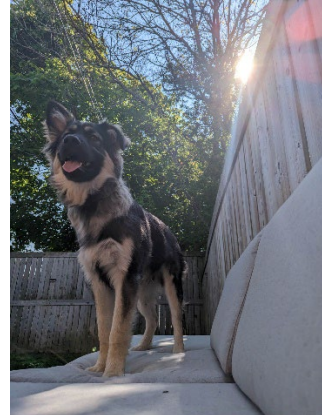


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Mission Statement

To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic animals in the Northwest Territories and to help support the North in appreciating and learning the value of the northern dog today.



Vision

To prevent animal cruelty by educating humane treatment of animals; by providing shelter and care to abandoned and abused animals; and by encouraging adoption to suitable homes. Through education and programming, we hope to promote responsible pet ownership and encourage vaccination and spaying/neutering, so animals can live the best life possible.

Our overall goal is to engage and encourage our society to help build communities where all animals who depend on humans for their wellbeing can experience freedom from hunger and thirst, pain and injury, distress, and discomfort.



Who We Are

NWT SPCA is the largest SPCA in the NWT located in the capital city of Yellowknife. We are a volunteer-based organization striving to protect and enhance the quality of life for all domestic animals in the Northwest Territories. Focusing on the health and wellbeing of all domestic pets, the NWT SPCA runs lifesaving Community Spay/Neuter and Animal Wellness Clinics for companion animals. Education initiatives and pet food drives, adoptions and dog transfers are just a few programs in place to reduce the number of stray and unwanted animals roaming our communities. We are here to help all 33 communities in the NWT and western Nunavut. These programs are improving the welfare of our Northern pets and the communities they live in.

NWT SPCA believes in taking a positive and collaborative approach to saving lives and helping everyone understand and appreciate the value of companion animals in modern society. With determination, ability to learn and adapt to challenges together with our volunteers, staff, and on-the-ground network of partners, we will find every pet a home.

Strategic Plan Objectives

- Funding & Ongoing Donations
- Community Outreach & Support
- Improved Animal Care
- Advocacy for Animal Welfare in the North

The NWT SPCA is committed to work to achieve our objectives and goals. Our Board is dedicated to the overall success of the organization and the animals we care for.



Our Partners

NWT SPCA would like to say a huge thank you to our partners, for without them, we would not be able to accomplish all that we do for the domestic animals in the NWT and Western Nunavut.

Great Slave Animal Hospital has been with us from the beginning when we started in 1988 and continues to work with us in treating all those animals who come to us in need of emergent medical attention, handling the spaying/neutering of animals within our care, and all medical treatments were are not able to provide on our own.

The University of Calgary, has the One Health Initiative, led by Dr. Kutz and her many 4th year veterinary students, which has been providing veterinarian services to the five communities in the Sahtu Region for over 16 years and their results and efforts have proven the success of having these services provided are reflective of our intake numbers from the Sahtu Region, outlined in our Intake Comparative Analysis by Region further on.

Vets Without Borders started their Northern Animal Health Initiative, recognizing remote communities of the north do not have access to veterinary services for prevention of diseases and the increase of dog populations. They continue to partner with us in providing spay/neuter clinics in northern communities. NWT SPCA supplies the necessary medical equipment to make this happen.

Northern Airlines are an important part of our operations, without them we would not be able to assist as many animals as we do. Canadian North Cargo, Air Tindi, Summit Air, and Buffalo have assisted in emergent needs of northern dogs over the last year. For all your expertise, devotion, and care for the domestic animals of the north we...

Thank you!

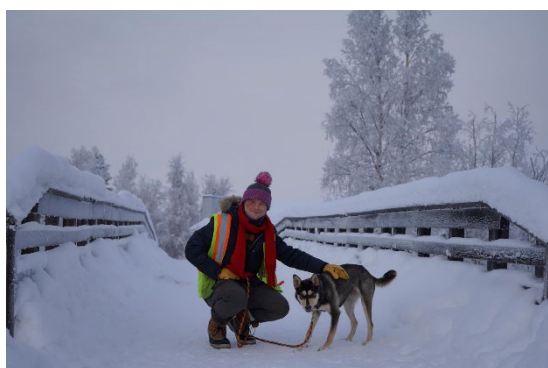
Shelter Highlights

Our Dedicated Staff & Volunteers

2022 has been a year of transition and change! The key operational leadership for our shelter was done by a dedicated board of volunteer directors who resigned at the last AGM and stayed on to assist with transition. The previous board was very much a “hands-on” (operational) board and started the process of making the changes to a governance board. A lot of those operational roles transitioned to our full-time staff who willingly took on those roles without hesitation. Those roles included managing adoptions, handling intakes and all the logistics which goes with it,



medical oversight of all animals in our care, coordination of medical and grooming appointments and working with communities – to name a few. Our staff are dedicated, passionate, and devoted to the animals in their care. They have done an amazing job!



animals.

We want to acknowledge that volunteers are a valuable part of our organization and are so grateful for those who came out to our shelter to help us ensure the dogs had their walks, for those who foster, and for those who assisted with general cleaning, laundry, and dishes. Volunteers are vital to making us be successful in caring for the needs of our shelter

Animal Intakes

Animal intakes always vary slightly year over year, however, dogs received from communities outside of Yellowknife amount to 74.4% of our intakes for this year. Further details are on the next page. The breakdown of intakes by domestic animal is:

361 dogs

98 cats

1 rabbit

1 Hedge Hog

2 Hamsters

1 Chinchilla



Helping Alberta Rescues

We try to help other rescues especially in Alberta where there is an over population of cats. In 2022, 54% of our cats came from Alberta (Drayton and High Level) while 17 % were from Yellowknife and 23% other communities.



Intakes by Geographical Area

Sahtu **30**

Colville Lake	5
Deline	17
Fort Good Hope	5
Norman Wells	1
Tulita	2

Beaufort Delta **31**

Aklavik	2
Ft. McPherson	21
Inuvik	4
Paulatuk	3
Tuktoyaktuk	1

Nunavut **119**

Cambridge Bay	7
Gjoa Haven	48
Qikiqtarjuaq	4
Iqaluit	1
Kugaruuk	7
Kugluktuk	23
Resolute Bay	3
Taloyoak	26

Dehcho **16**

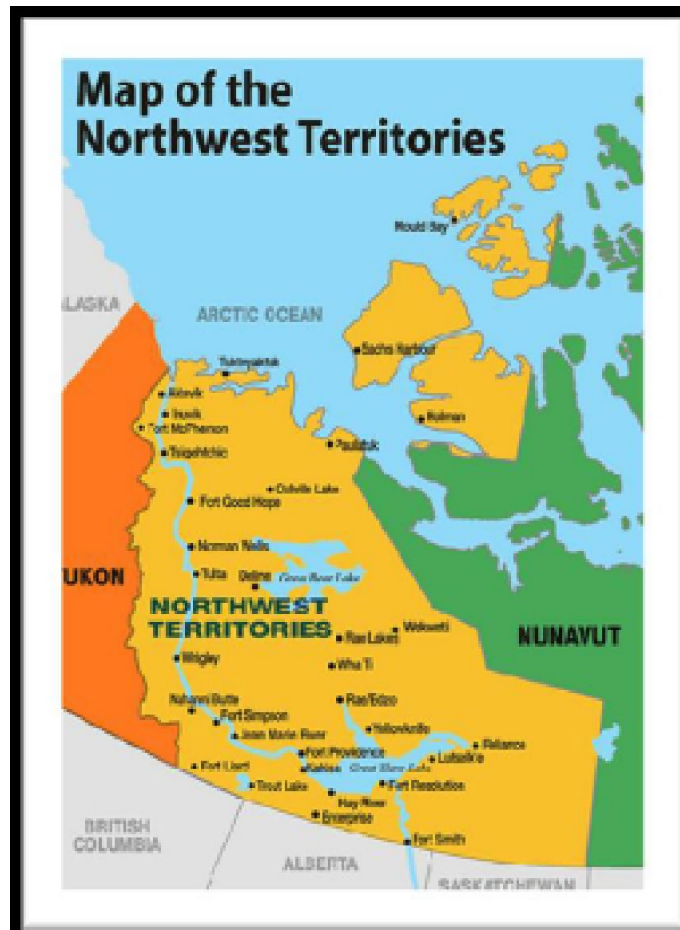
Fort Liard	1
Fort Simpson	13
Wrigley	2

North Slave **130**

Behchoko	40
Dettah	5
Gameti	5
Lutsel'e	16
N'Dilo	5
Whati	27
Yellowknife	32

South Slave **10**

Fort Providence	4
Fort Smith	1
Hay River	5



5 Year Dog Intake Comparison by Region (2018-2022)



We can see the downward trend over the years which is great news! All of this is possible through a network of partners, volunteers and sponsors who care about the welfare of domestic animals across the Northwest Territories and Western Nunavut.

North Slave region includes the communities that are closer and have easy access to Yellowknife where the shelter is located. The Beaufort Delta has a team of volunteers in many communities that provides help for dogs and Inuvik team coordinates and send some to Yellowknife via Canadian more difficult for other NWT has lower number impact of the One Health is having. Western Nunavut dedicated to helping dogs in the high number on the graph. These Nunavut communities use Canadian North Cargo to get dogs to us under our sponsorship agreement. Northern Canine Rescue in Cambridge Bay has been active for several years while Paws with Purpose in Gjoa Haven is relatively new. Kugluktuk has a team of people that facilitate sending dogs out through their local government administration.



North Cargo which can be areas. The Sahtu Region in which indicates the positive Initiative (University of Calgary) has teams of volunteers their region and this relates to

Adoptions (2018-2022)







	Adoptions within NWT			Adoptions outside NWT			Transfers to Other Rescues		
	<u>Dogs</u>	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Critters</u>	<u>Dogs</u>	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Critters</u>	<u>Dogs</u>	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Critters</u>
2022	197	131	6	21			187	4	
2021	172	122	1	72	10		164		
2020	198	88	1	68	0		63		
2019	214	107	9	103	1		170		
2018	242	101	5	129	0		228		

A few of our adoptees:



Calendar of Events 2022

<p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Betty White Fundraising Campaign 	<p>February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Cupcake Day Pop-up Shop 	<p>March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tibbit to Contwoyto Winter Road Donation 
<p>April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Race on the Lake Donation 	<p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fred Henne Poop Pickup Tradeshow 	<p>June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Father's Day 50/50 Draw Lady's Golf Tournament Donation Century 21 Golf Tournament Donation 2022 NWT SPCA AGM Great Canadian Challenge
<p>July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramble-n-Ride 	<p>August</p> 	<p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Yellowknife Community Organizations (Information Booth) Ft. Simpson Community Clinic with VWB Dog Jog
<p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome to Yellowknife (Information Booth) Puppy Yoga Dog Jog 	<p>November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calendar sales begin. Giving Tuesday Nick of the North Book Launch 	<p>December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boxing Day 50/50 Draw Pop up Booth Photos with Santa (Foodbank Drive) Ice Candle & Wreath Fundraiser (Laughing Lichen Wildcraft Herb & Tea Sponsor)

Programs & Initiatives

Volunteering



Our organization is built on our volunteers. From our Board of Directors to our everyday supporters they make what we do possible. Volunteers help at the shelter walking dogs, cleaning, hanging out with our cats in their fabulous room and they are also instrumental in making fundraising events possible. All volunteers working in or around the shelter must complete an orientation with our orientation coordinator.

Community Spay and Neuter Program

Under the umbrella of the NWT SPCA Animal Health and Wellness Initiative our organization offers a program for communities outside of Yellowknife to get their pets sterilized and vaccinated. For \$350 a family can send in their dog or cat, and we will get the dog spayed/ neutered, dewormed, and vaccinated. The animal is then sent back to the community.



Foster Program



Foster homes are the difference between surviving and thriving as some animals do not do well in a shelter environment, so we match them with foster homes. Fostering helps to socialize a dog or cat and offer them a stress-free environment to live temporarily. All food, supplies and medical care is provided.

Unable to Foster or Adopt? Did you know you can sign out an adoptable dog for an adventure? Go hiking, camping, jogging, canoeing, and more for a weekend, multi-day, multi-week adventure or have them join you on your trip to the cabin!

Northern Dog Transfer Network

Every year we give hundreds of dogs a second chance by transporting them out of the communities of the NWT. Some stay here in the Territory, but many are flown out to the southern rescue organizations that can foster and adopt them into great homes. This Network of organizations is an incredible chain of caring groups and individuals with a passion for saving lives. Without these wonderful people many dogs would not be living their best life.



Northern Pet Food Pantry

Thanks to Food Rescue Yellowknife and local people, donations of pet food and supplies will go to families in the NWT Communities who need a little help with caring for their pets. We donate straw for the warmth and comfort of outdoor dogs in these communities as well. Pet food and supplies are quite costly in Northern Communities, so this program helps with this issue. 100's out pounds of food and straw are provided every year through this program.

Bottle Recycling Initiative

Our recycling program brings in an amazing amount of money to help run our organization. We get bottles and cans from the Mines, the public and other businesses in town. We also have a recycling team that meets regularly to get all the big bags that are donated from the Mines sorted and counted into smaller bags so that we can then bring them to the Depot. In 2022 we accepted \$8000 from recycling.



Community Animal Health and Wellness Initiative

As part of the NWT SPCA's Strategic Plan our objective is to create safe, healthy communities by building working relationships between our organization and NWT Community Governments. Improving the health of family pets will build stronger human/animal bonds which is so important in the mental and physical lives of northern Canadians. Under the NWT SPCA Animal Health and Wellness Umbrella, in 2022 we were involved in 9 clinics with Vets Without Borders in Kimmirut, Qikiqtarjuak, Paulatuk, Lutselk'e, Kugluktuk, Gjoa Haven, Fort Liard, Fort Simpson, and Taloyoak 2022.



Community Education and Awareness



Our staff at the shelter are always willing to work with schools and organizations who want to learn more about what we do and how we provide care for the many animals that come to us. We provide a guided tour of the shelter, some time with the animals, and show them how to interact with them and how to care properly for them.



2022/23 Financial Highlights

Revenues

	(\$)
Adoptions	111,195
Donations	325,286
Grants and Contributions	109,050
Merchandise	42,335
Raffles and Events	48,102
Other Income	29,040
TOTAL	665,008

Donations are our highest revenues which shows the generous support of our animal community and all those who care for the welfare of domestic animals across the north. Even though we have struggled like many organizations across the country with high volume of intakes, so many northerners have opened their homes and hearts in **adopting** their forever friend(s).

We were successful in receiving grants in 2022; however, one grant was received in 2022 and recognized in the prior fiscal year. The majority will be deferred into 2023 when the initiatives are fully implemented and are within the grant timelines. Below is a listing of the grants in the order received:

- **City of Yellowknife Core Funding Grant** in the amount of **\$10,000** and was the final payment of a multi-year agreement for 2020 to 2022.
- **CIRNAC – Territorial Development Fund** in the amount of **\$49,050** to support our Community Forum Initiative which will take place in 2023.
- **PetSmart Charities - Ramp Up Initiative** in the amount of **\$60,000** for medical equipment upgrades and the hiring of an Executive Director, most to be deferred to 2023.
- **Animal Alliance of Canada** in the amount of **\$15,000** (plus anonymous donation of \$7,000) for medical equipment to provide ultrasound diagnostic imaging of all animals in our care.
- **Field Law Spay/Neuter Inclusive Program** in the amount of **\$10,000** which will be implemented in the 2023.

Other revenue consists of Calendar Sales (\$7,950), Memberships (\$5,510), Community Clinic (\$10,000), and Miscellaneous (\$5,580).

Expenses

	(\$)
Animal Medical Expenses	155,542
Bank services and other fees	5,576
Events and Materials	20,004
Food	9,087
Freight	27,271
Insurance	9,814
Shelter Repairs and Maintenance	40,022
Shelter Utilities	25,196
Vehicle	1,939
Wages	337,788
TOTAL EXPENSES	632,239

Staff Wages represents just over 50% of total expenses and represents of two full-time staff – Shelter Manager and Assistant Manager and fluctuating part-time staff ranging from 6 to 15 employees at any given time. Due to the high turnover rate in part-time staff and the impact this had on our two full-time employees, the Board did a wage review across the country and increased the part-time rate from \$16 per hour to \$20 per hour, which came into effect on April 1, 2023.



Animal Medical Expenses is the second largest expenditure which consists of surgical costs for spaying and neutering, vaccines, and emergency services for all animals within our care.

Shelter Repairs & Maintenance is the third largest expenditure. In the fall we had a major failure of our septic tank and the response from local businesses was amazing, as we all know this is the busiest time of the year for those in construction before winter sets in. This expense amounted to ±\$27,000 even though everyone did their best with keeping costs as low as possible.

2022 Board of Directors

President	<i>Stephen Flanagan</i>
Vice President	Margo Thorne (<i>Danielle Thomson</i>)
Secretary	<i>April McLean</i>
Treasurer	Kavitha Balaji
Communications Director(s)	Rachel Burnet (<i>Chantelle Duval</i>)
Events Director(s)	Rod Brown, Bronwyn McPhail (<i>Jescinda Cullihall, Julia Randall</i>)
Facilities Director	Jonathon Renko
Medical Director	Alyssa Peeler
Volunteer Director	Margo Thorne

(Italics=resigned)

Our Sponsors

Ace Enterprises	Fibre Glass North	Northern Food Services
Air Tindi	Gas Town	Quality Furniture
Arctic Alarm	Great Slave Animal Hospital	Raquet Club
Arctic Petroleum	Happy Pooch	Rotary True North
Arctic West	Hard Rock Saloon	Side Jobs
Borealis Pet Services	Independent Electric	Signed
Buffalo Air	Independent Grocers	Summit Air
Cabin Radio	Java Roma	Sundog Trading Post
Canadian North Cargo	JSL	Sutherlands Drug Store
Canadian Tire	Kavanaugh Bros LTD.	True North FM
Century 21	KBL Environmental	Weatherby Trucking
Cheeky Chops	Laughing Linchen	Yellowknife Ladies Golf Association
Cooperators Grocer	Wildcrafted Herb & Tea	YK Food Rescue
Crooked Whisker	Midnight Energy	
DC Moving	Midnight Petroleum Nahanni	
	Butte Dene Band North	
	Creative	



Trail Tales

UNABLE TO ADOPT/FOSTER?

Did you know that you can sign out an adoptable dog for an adventure? Go hiking, jogging, canoeing, camping and more with a shelter dog for a weekend, multi-day, or multi-week adventure or have them join you on your trip to the cabin!

Taking a dog on an adventure outside of the shelter helps to improve their social skills and increases a dog's chance of getting adopted. Help a dog on their journey to their furever home and go on an adventure with a shelter dog today!