

# AnimalKind

## Second chance for dogs with face-fulls of porcupine quills



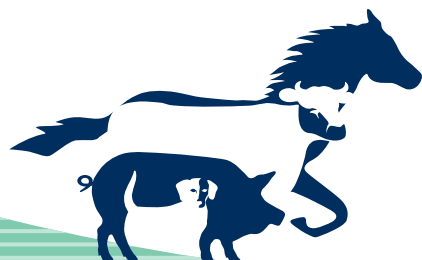
**In August, the Alberta SPCA responded to a call from the Cardston area about dogs that had a run-in with a porcupine.**



The dogs were running loose, but our peace officers managed to collect two of the dogs on the first day. They got the third dog when they returned the next day.

The quills were extensive, and the dogs likely couldn't drink, let alone eat. Our officers immediately took the dogs for veterinary treatment.

After the veterinarian removed the quills, our officers transferred the dogs to the Red Deer and District SPCA. The dogs will recuperate there and then be adopted into new homes when they are ready.



Alberta  
**SPCA**

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## Pet Safekeeping Program sees steady growth through its first year

From its start in July 2014 until mid-September 2015, the Alberta SPCA's Pet Safekeeping Program helped 28 women escape violent situations by caring for their pets. The program took in a total of 45 pets during this time.

The Pet Safekeeping Program offers temporary care for the pets of domestic violence victims. It helps people who need to escape abusive situations and have no other place for their pets.

The program began with a pilot project in the greater Edmonton area. It has been expanding in scope and area ever since. It now has established agreements with 30 agencies within a 200 kilometre radius of Edmonton, allowing them to refer their clients to the program. Discussions are underway with 10 more.

In setting up the Pet Safekeeping Program, the Alberta SPCA sought the advice of other agencies with established programs, including the Calgary Humane Society, the Red Deer and District SPCA, and New Brunswick's Safe for Pets Too.

Once accepted into the program, the animals are given veterinary checkups and receive vaccinations and any necessary treatments. They may be spayed or neutered if the owner requests it. To date, only one animal has been turned down because it didn't qualify for the program.

Anyone in Edmonton and surrounding areas can access the program through one of the Edmonton-area women's shelters, or by calling 211. Anyone who is in immediate danger should call 911.



*"I would have lost my pets if it wasn't for the Pet Safekeeping Program. I can't express how grateful I am."*

The Alberta SPCA works together with SPCAs or humane societies operating similar programs in Calgary and Red Deer. Our coordinated approach ensures the best program delivery.

The Pet Safekeeping Program is offered at no charge to those who need it. A grant from the Edmonton Community Foundation will support staffing for the next year, but it's primarily funded by Alberta SPCA donors. Private donations, including a recent gift of \$5,000 from the Rotary Club of Edmonton Gateway, are essential to keep the program going.

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*Executive Director:* Terra Johnston

Opinions expressed in *AnimalKind* are not necessarily those of the Alberta SPCA.

To find out more about the work we do for animals across Alberta, visit our website at <http://albertaspca.org>.

The mission of the Alberta SPCA is to protect, promote and enhance the well-being of animals in Alberta.

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RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO THE ALBERTA SPCA:

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Edmonton, AB T5M 0H3  
Phone: 780-447-3600  
Fax: 780-447-4748  
Email: [info@albertaspca.org](mailto:info@albertaspca.org)

**From January to June 2015, Alberta SPCA peace officers drove more than 386,000 kilometres to investigate 1,242 animal welfare concerns province-wide. Our peace officers have laid charges under the Animal Protection Act in 15 cases so far in 2015. What follows are summaries of three recent successful prosecutions.**

## Neglect leads to 10-year ban from donkeys and llamas

**When our peace officer first attended the property, he found two lethargic donkeys in the same field as two donkey carcasses.**

Peace Officer Don Ferguson immediately called a veterinarian to the Bentley-area property. The two donkeys were in poor shape and had overgrown hind hooves. The veterinarian advised giving the owner three days to correct the issues.

Peace Officer Ferguson left alfalfa cubes and oats for the donkeys and went to check another of the subject's properties. There he saw five llamas, eight donkeys and a horse. They had access to water, but no feed. The llamas and donkeys were eating straw bedding.

On the next day, January 4, 2014, Peace Officer Ferguson returned with a search warrant, accompanied by the veterinarian and Peace Officers Stuart Dodds and Rod McLaughlin. Our peace officers took into protective custody the llamas and

donkeys, including the two donkeys from the first property. Four of the 10 donkeys had such severe hoof issues that they had to be euthanized.

When Peace Officer Ferguson returned to the property later, he saw 18 large round bales on the property for the horses. The field had been plowed up to the cattle shed and they had access to water.

On December 30, 2014, Stanley Anderson pleaded guilty in Rimbey Provincial Court to two charges under the Animal Protection Act. He received a \$3,000 fine and is prohibited from owning or having charge of donkeys or llamas for 10 years.

## Rancher limited to 30 head of cattle for 10 years

**Peace Officer Colin Loov and an RCMP constable found a herd of approximately 60 skinny cattle and 4 horses when they visited a property near Drayton Valley.**





The officers were responding to a report from another RCMP officer. There was no feed and no sign of any water on the property. They also found the remains of 19 cattle. The owner, James Kurz, was located later in the afternoon on February 17, 2015. He was ordered to get feed for his animals.

Peace Officer Loov returned with a veterinarian after he had obtained a search warrant. Kurz had put out greenfeed bales, but there was also a recently dead cow. The veterinarian said it had died from asphyxiation after inhaling feed material—it was so hungry it didn't stop eating to breathe.

The veterinarian advised that the cattle and horses were all in distress. Peace Officer Loov took them into protective custody and transported them to a place where they could receive adequate care.

Analysis of the cattle remains indicated severe malnutrition. The feed analysis indicated it was of poor quality.

On June 2, 2015, Kurz was convicted of two charges under the Animal Protection Act. He was fined \$3,000 and is prohibited for 10 years from owning more than 30 cattle.




## Failure to provide veterinary care nets five-year ban

**Bylaw officers with the Town of Strathmore called the Alberta SPCA when they learned of a sick dog whose owner refused to take it to veterinarian. The dog was very thin, it had several visible lumps, and it had difficulty standing up and walking.**

The dog's owner, Cameron Fraser, told Peace Officer Grant Love that the female German Shepherd cross, Kooda, had not been well for approximately one month. Fraser said he suspected it was cancer, but he couldn't afford to take Kooda to see a veterinarian.

Peace Officer Love seized Kooda and took her to be examined by a veterinarian in Strathmore.

The veterinarian confirmed that Kooda was in distress from emaciation and numerous masses that were likely cancerous. Kooda was humanely euthanized by the veterinarian.

Cameron was convicted of two charges under the Animal Protection Act. He was ordered to pay \$214.73 in restitution and prohibited for five years from owning a dog or any other small domestic animal. 

## ALBERTA SPCA ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES

**Director:** Ken Dean (Innisfail)

**Northern Region Supervisor:** Stuart Dodds (Edmonton)

**Edmonton:** Ryan-Ann King, Colin Loov, Karen Stevenson, Rod McLaughlin

**Grande Prairie:** Shirley Klatt, Stan Webb

**Southern Region Supervisor:** Rick Wheatley (Okotoks)

**Okotoks:** Angie Bailey, Grant Love, Joan Treich

**Innisfail:** Erin Deems

### Report suspected animal abuse or neglect in Alberta

SPCAs and humane societies rely on the public to help prevent cruelty to animals. Report suspected cases of animal abuse or neglect to the appropriate agencies:

**Outside Calgary and Edmonton**

Alberta SPCA: **1-800-455-9003**

**In Calgary**

Calgary Humane Society: **403-205-4455**

**In Edmonton**

Edmonton Humane Society: **780-491-3502**



## Kindness Challenge

Gloria Ho, a watercolour illustrator based in Edmonton, was the artist for this year's Alberta SPCA kindness poster.

The poster is a free gift to school classes that join the Alberta SPCA's kindness challenge to try one week of daily kind acts—for animals, people and the environment.

To take part in the kindness challenge, a school class can

- spend a week engaging in thoughtful acts of kindness for animals, people and the environment
- plan a kindness project that will have a positive impact at school or in the community

During the challenge, teachers ask students to commit to one act of kindness each day. Our Education Department has a checklist of ideas students can use at school and at home.

We encourage teachers to ask the students how it went when the week is done. Simple questions can help the students reflect on how their actions affect others.

<http://everylivingthing.ca/challenge>



## Class Action

### *Uplands Elementary, Brooks*

Mrs. Harris' grade 1 class is one of the many school classes to participate in our AnimalTales book program. The class read the books and then moved into a community service project—the students chose to make pet toys (shown below) for their local animal shelter.

The students especially enjoyed the charades activity, which showed them how we communicate with each other and with animals. They had a chance to observe and practise what they had learned when they were fortunate to have a dog visit the classroom.

<http://everylivingthing.ca/map>



## How stories can promote empathy and compassion

Literature can be a powerful tool and literary characters powerful influences for students developing and shaping their moral code. Stories engage our imagination. They allow us to identify with characters and assume their actions.

Effective character education, however, must go beyond simply reading humane themed stories. Students who engage in reflection, discussion and analysis are more likely to understand and apply the values in a positive way.

### *Other ways stories can be useful*

Literature can also be used to help students deal with issues or problems they will inevitably encounter as they mature and grow. Topics such as grief,

bullying, overcoming fears, understanding and appreciating differences, and developing positive relationships are common themes in children's stories.

Students reading these stories can come to realize that they are not alone in encountering problems and can learn positive ways to deal with these issues.

### *How AnimalTales can help*

The AnimalTales program consists of picture books—short stories beautifully written and illustrated—with a powerful message or theme.

All the books focus on animals or our relationship with them, and they deal a variety of issues, including the

importance of being kind to all living things, responsible pet ownership, pet loss and bullying.

The accompanying teacher's guides include pre-reading activities to spark interest in the topics the students will encounter, discussion questions to encourage critical thinking and post-reading activities to explore the themes.

Through sharing and discussing stories and having meaningful reflection, we nurture the development of compassion and empathy in a safe environment.

For a list of recommended reading, visit <http://everylivingthing.ca/books>.

<http://everylivingthing.ca/AnimalTales>

*continued from page 1*

## Pet Safekeeping Program

The Pet Safekeeping Program's advisory committee is called the Alberta Alliance for the Safety of Animals and People (AASAP). This committee formed in 2012 partly in response to an Alberta SPCA study, *Inside the Cruelty Connection*. The researchers for that study had found that concern for their animals caused 59 per cent of pet-owning women in emergency shelters to have delayed leaving their abusive environments.

Our partners in the program—over a dozen animal- and people-related organizations—are vital to its success:

- A Safe Place Women's Shelter
- Alberta Association of Animal Health Technologists

- Alberta Human Services
- Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
- Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter
- Centre for Public Legal Education of Alberta
- City of Edmonton Animal Care & Control Centre
- Edmonton Humane Society
- Edmonton Police Service
- Lurana Shelter
- Red Deer and District SPCA
- WIN House

The Pet Safekeeping Program is looking for people in the Edmonton area who are able and willing to care for pets (mostly dogs or cats) for up to one month.

Safety is an important concern, and the program has high standards of confidentiality to protect everyone concerned.

Animal caregivers will need to be able to provide a safe home environment for the pet. They will also need to be sensitive to the animal owner's circumstances and respect their confidentiality. Training will be provided.

If you want to help or have questions about fostering pets in this program, email [aasap@albertaspca.org](mailto:aasap@albertaspca.org). 🐾



*"I'm so grateful for this program because I got to keep my pets. They're all I have left and even though I missed them I'm so happy that I was able to put them somewhere safe."*

*"Our client refused to come into shelter because she didn't have a place for her dog and cat. Thanks to the Pet Safekeeping program she was able to find safety for herself (and her pets)."*

## Rare group photograph of Alberta SPCA peace officers

It is only occasionally that all the Alberta SPCA peace officers come together in the same place.

Our 12 active officers are divided between four offices, and they spend a lot of time on the road—logging close to 65,000 km every month.

**Back row** (l to r): Rick Wheatley, Grant Love, Stan Webb, Stuart Dodds, Karen Stevenson, Colin Loov.



**Front row** (l to r): Rod McLaughlin, Angie Bailey, Erin Deems, Shirley Klatt, Joan Treich, Ken Dean. (Ryan-Ann King is currently on leave.)

## Beloved people and animals remembered through memorial donations

Terry Baldwin by Ron Hodgson

William Bamford by Derrick Kershaw

Bear by Natalie Pettit-Ross & Timothy Ross

Rita Burnett by Janet Curley

Larry Comen by Nicole Thorhauer

Frank Cutts by Lynn Chuprun

Michael Dilts by Leslie Gauchier

Dennis Dowell by Sandra Kinnear

Vino Wayne & Helen Marie Havanka by Penny Fraser; by Marko & Brenda Marcetta; by Ailie Parchen; and by Bob & Lorna Valentine

Gordon Huntingford by Ian MacIntosh

Leora Jensen by Edith Wright

Karen Anne Johnston by Anne Chipchase & Mrs. D. Fregren

Nancy Klufas by Mr. & Mrs. W. Blocksidge; and by Elaine Lawton

Anne Konesky by E Marion Reid

Stanley LaBelle by Leslie Holmgren

Allan Lee by Corrine & Jim Cheng; by Robert Fraser; by Angele Hebert-Gunn; by Jocelyne Lamoureux; by Loretta Reid; by Michael & Vanessa Ruscoe; by Mary Totman; and by Ralph & Doreen Williams

Tiffany Ann Malkin by Rodney & Bonnie Koltusky; and by Alastair & Nancy MacKenzie

Lexie Mattern by Charles Gabruck; and by Sandra Jenkins

Mary McIntosh by Lorraine Groeneveld; by Kathie Van Lare; by Joanne Mercier; by Jim & Mauna Minue; by Marian Van Tighem; and by David & Mary Veale

Viola "Pat" McKenzie by Michael Ayre

Gary Mitchell by Ken & Anne Clough; and by Lionel & Gladys Ekroth

Noah & Red by Maggie Tomiak

Jay Allan Stuart Parks by Dolores Svensen

Shelley Racz by Carlee Price

Roo by Nicole Cronkhite

Aileen Scott by Alfred Brander; by Barbara Brander; by Robert Brander; and by Vera Fischer

Dana Scott by The team at ATB; and by North East Gas Co-op Ltd.

Shawna & Baby Shawn by Patricia & Charles Benson

Arnold L. Smith by Barbara Anderson

Ernie Sparks by Garry & Edith Wright & Family

Brian Taylor by Alex & Sharon Dyball

Velvet by Blaine Donald

## HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAM

### Bring them joy this year!

Our holiday giving program offers a unique opportunity for you to honour the special people and pets in your life with a gift that helps Alberta's animals.

### Here's how it works

#### Donations up to \$49

We'll send a note card to the person or pet you're honouring, advising them of your thoughtful gift.

#### Donations between \$50 and \$99

The honouree of your donation will receive a note card and our calendar.

#### Donations of \$100 or more

The honouree of your donation will receive a note card and our calendar, and you'll get a calendar, too!

### To make your gift visit

[www.albertaspc.org/support/holiday-giving.html](http://www.albertaspc.org/support/holiday-giving.html)



Holiday Gift Card

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO THE  
ALBERTA SPCA, 10806 124 STREET NW, EDMONTON, AB T5M 0H3



## ANIMALKIND REPLY FORM

If you believe that enforcement and education are vital to preventing animal cruelty, please support the Alberta SPCA's Animal Protection Services and Education Programs by becoming a member and/or making a donation. Help us help the animals by filling out this form and mailing it to: The Alberta SPCA, 10806-124 St., Edmonton, AB, T5M 0H3

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (home) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### Donations and Memberships

**Yes!** I support the Alberta SPCA's province wide Animal Protection Services and Humane Education Programs.

Enclosed is a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Income tax receipts are automatically issued for donations of \$10 or more.)

I would like to renew my membership or become a member of the Alberta SPCA.

\$15 student/senior       \$20 individual

\$30 senior family       \$35 family

#### I'm paying by:

Cheque       Cheque  
 Credit card       Visa       MasterCard

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

### Animal Response Team (A.R.T.)

#### Monthly Giving Program

I authorize the Alberta SPCA to deduct \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my bank account\* or credit card on the 1st day of each month or the next business day. I understand that I can change or cancel this monthly donation at any time, subject to providing written notice of 15 days or more.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Please withdraw this monthly amount from my:**

Bank account (attach a cheque marked VOID)  
 Credit card       Visa       MasterCard

CARDHOLDER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

\*To view a sample cancellation form or learn more about cancelling a PAD agreement, contact your financial institution or visit [www.cdnpay.ca](http://www.cdnpay.ca). You have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, you have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. For more information on your recourse rights, contact your financial institution or visit [www.cdnpay.ca](http://www.cdnpay.ca).