
THE

HUMANITARIAN

SASKATCHEWAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

in this issue

Spotlight on NFACC

The Mary Ellen Wilson Story

Reading Pet Food Nutrition Labels

Studying Service Dogs

SUMMER 2017





The Humanitarian is published quarterly by the Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Saskatchewan SPCA)
 Box 37, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3K1
 1.877.382.7722
 Fax: 306.384.3425
 Email: info@sspca.ca
 www.sspca.ca

Staff:

Executive Director:

Frances Wach

Program Director:

Sandra Anderson

Administrative Assistant:

Crystal Stubbs

Community Relations Coordinator:

Josh Hourie

Animal Safekeeping Coordinator:

Leanne Sillers

Administrative Support:

Twyla Polson

Board of Directors:

President:

Dr. Sandra Neumann, Saskatoon

Vice-President:

Tiffany Koback, Saskatoon

Treasurer:

Margaret (Peg) Northcote, Arelee

Members at Large:

Ken Krause, Meadow Lake

Jack MacKay, Yorkton

Calvin Nickel, Saskatoon

Carol Thomson, Saskatoon

The material in this newsletter may be reproduced or quoted with appropriate credit. The authors of submitted and reprinted articles are responsible for the contents and accuracy of the information. Opinions expressed in **The Humanitarian** are not necessarily those of the Saskatchewan SPCA.

Moving?

Please let us know your new address.

Call 1.877.382.7722

or email info@sspca.ca

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 2017 SUMMER CASH LOTTERY

Start your summer by supporting the Saskatchewan SPCA! Buy a ticket for the 2017 Summer Cash Lottery! This summer's prizes include the \$15,000 Grand Prize, a \$5,000 Huge Supporter Prize, \$500 Winning Wednesdays, and the \$1,000 Early Bird Prize (deadline June 18). And remember, you can win more than once with daily cash draws all throughout July! Don't forget to buy your 50/50 Kitty Pool tickets. Last winter's winner took home over \$27,000!

We help make a positive difference in the lives of animals and humans throughout the province through

initiatives such as:

- support for retired police dogs
- humane education
- dog bite prevention programs
- The Link Conference: exploring the relationship between animal abuse and interpersonal violence

Get your tickets online at lottery.sspca.ca or call 1-877-577-7220. We operate with the generous support of our members, donors, and volunteers. Proceeds from the Summer Cash Lottery are used in the development of new education programming and to promote the humane treatment of animals.

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

SASKATCHEWAN SPCA SUMMER CASH LOTTERY

TICKET PRICES

Summer Cash Lottery	50/50 Kitty Pool
1 for \$25	1 for \$10
3 for \$40	5 for \$20
10 for \$80	10 for \$25
20 for \$100	

*You must purchase a cash lottery ticket to be eligible to buy a 50/50 Kitty Pool ticket.

daily cash draws PLUS a chance to win the \$5,000 Huge Supporter bonus prize!

ONLINE: LOTTERY.SSPCA.CA
BY PHONE: 1-877-577-7220

SUMMER CASH LOTTERY PRIZE CALENDAR JULY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WINNING WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
\$1,000 EARLY BIRD DRAW: JUNE 19						1 \$200
2 \$200	3 \$200	4 \$200	5 \$500	6 \$200	7 \$200	8 \$200
9 \$200	10 \$200	11 \$200	12 \$500	13 \$200	14 \$200	15 \$200
16 \$200	17 \$200	18 \$200	19 \$500	20 \$200	21 \$200	22 \$200
23 \$200	24 \$200	25 \$200	26 \$500	27 \$200	28 \$200	29 \$200
30 \$200	31 \$15,000 \$5,000	TOTAL PRIZE PACKAGE: \$28,200				

SPOTLIGHT ON NFACC

Article provided by Jackie Wepruk, General Manager, NFACC

The National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) plays an important role in advancing farm animal welfare. The organization represents a diversity of stakeholders, including farm groups, veterinarians, animal welfare groups, animal welfare researchers, governments, processors, food companies, and retailers.

Animal welfare groups are represented on NFACC by the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS), World Animal Protection, and a coalition of three provincial bodies responsible for animal welfare enforcement in Canada (BC SPCA, Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan, and Ontario SPCA). CFHS also has a seat on NFACC's Executive Committee, which oversees many of the day-to-day operations of NFACC.

The aim is to facilitate an open collaboration regarding Canadian farmed animal welfare issues among a broad range of stakeholders and other key partners that, while accepting the use of animals by humans, firmly believe all animals deserve to be treated well. Efforts are focused on robust processes to draft or renew Codes of Practice for the care and handling of farm animals as well as a framework process for the development of animal care assessment programs.

It is important to note that NFACC itself does not create farm animal care standards. NFACC creates the forum by which farm animal care standards are developed by bringing together the diverse groups who need to be part of that decision-making process. The challenging nature of building consensus amongst diverse groups is what makes the process effective; providing an opportunity for improved decision making and stronger results.

The Code Development process brings together the latest science, public expectations, and achievable reality. Code committees are composed of a diverse array of stakeholders, who have often worked collaboratively for over two years to come to consensus on a draft Code. The dialogue has been rigorous and covered a breadth of animal welfare considerations. Subsequent to this, each Code undergoes a public comment period to further support quality and



Members of the NFACC Bison Code Development Committee

success. The public comment period enables the Code committee to check its work with a broader representative group, rather than assume that every angle of every issue has been considered.

Nine Codes have been updated since 2009, including Codes for dairy cattle, beef cattle, pigs, mink, ranched fox, equine, sheep, poultry (chickens, turkeys, and broiler breeders), and laying hens. Codes for bison, veal cattle, and rabbits are expected to be complete later in 2017. The rabbit Code will be the first of its kind for Canada. All of the Codes can be accessed at www.nfacc.ca.

The big question once a Code is released is 'do farmers follow the Codes?' Several provinces incorporate the Codes by reference within their animal protection legislation, including Saskatchewan. In addition, many livestock and poultry groups have already developed on-farm animal care assessment programs. NFACC has developed an Animal Care Assessment Framework (ACAF) process that enhances the consistency and credibility of how animal care assessment programs are developed while demonstrating that Codes are being followed. Several livestock and poultry groups are now developing or updating their animal care assessment program in accordance with the ACAF. More information can be found at www.nfacc.ca/animal-care-assessment.

Bringing together all the groups that make up NFAAC has changed the conversation about farm animal welfare in Canada. We can make more sustainable decisions when we understand the intersection of animal welfare science, public expectation, and achievable outcomes. These decisions are best taken together when trying to improve the lives of farm animals.

We are very fortunate in Canada that our society values collaborative approaches and that we have a history of animal welfare groups working with farmers on animal welfare standards. We need to treasure and preserve this ability to work together as it is critical for making real and lasting impacts on the lives of animals under human care.



THE MARY ELLEN WILSON STORY

A turning point in the child protection movement

The development of enhanced anti-cruelty legislation helped improve the lives of animals and children in the 19th century – an era in which both were viewed as “property” with minimal protection under the law.

The case of Mary Ellen Wilson (also known as Mary Ellen McCormack or Mary Ellen Schutt) is reported to be the first successfully prosecuted case of child abuse in America. Mary Ellen was born in 1864 in New York to Thomas and Frances Wilson. When Thomas was killed in the American civil war, Frances found that she was unable to care for her young daughter and was left with no option but to send her to an orphanage. Mary Ellen was illegally adopted from the orphanage in 1866 by Thomas and Mary McCormack, who claimed that she was Thomas’ illegitimate child. Thomas McCormack died shortly after the adoption and his widow married Francis Connolly.

Mary McCormack Connolly badly abused Mary Ellen. The child was viciously beaten and kept as a prisoner inside the family’s apartment. In 1873 the Connolly’s neighbours brought Mary Ellen’s plight to the attention of a Methodist missionary worker, Etta Angell Wheeler. Etta Wheeler was able to briefly enter the Connolly’s apartment and see Mary Ellen’s condition for herself. She would later report that Mary Ellen bore significant bruising and scarring on her arms and legs, that Mary Ellen was dirty, thin and clad in threadbare clothing, and that although she was nine years old, she was barely the size of a typical five-year-old.

Etta Wheeler approached numerous agencies including the police, benevolent societies, and charitable organizations for help in removing Mary Ellen from her situation. At the time, animals and children held the same status in that both were considered to be property with which the owners could do as

Mary Ellen was terrified by her first exposure to the outside world. The policemen who removed her from her situation bought her a large peppermint stick in hopes that it would calm her down; however, Mary Ellen had no experience with candy and waved the peppermint stick around like a weapon rather than eating it. When she arrived in court Mary Ellen bore, in addition to her other scars, a new, large gash down the side of her face where Mary McCormack Connolly had struck her with a pair of scissors only the day before.

On April 10, 1874, Mary Ellen would testify before Judge Abraham R. Lawrence that: "Mamma has been in the habit of whipping and beating me almost every day. She used to whip me with a twisted whip – a rawhide. The whip always left a black and blue mark on my skin... I have no recollection of ever having been kissed by anyone – have never been kissed by mamma... I never dared to speak to anybody because if I did I would get whipped . . . I do not want to go back to live with mamma because she beats me so."

At trial, Mary McCormack Connolly was found guilty of several counts of assault and battery and was sentenced to a year of hard labour. Following the trial, Mary Ellen was sent to live in a home for delinquent teenagers. Being of the opinion that Mary Ellen's living arrangements were unsuitable, Etta Angell Wheeler intervened once again and sent Mary Ellen to live with her own mother. Mary Ellen would later live with Etta Angell Wheeler's youngest sister. At the age of 24, she married widower Louis Schutt and the couple raised their own three daughters, as well as his three children from a previous marriage. Mary Ellen passed away in 1956 at the age of 92.

At Mary Ellen's trial, Henry Bergh emphasized that he was acting as a "humane citizen" and not in his official capacity as the President of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Following Mary Ellen's trial and at the urging of Etta Wheeler, Henry Bergh formed the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in 1874. Within its first year, the Society had introduced legislation to "prevent and punish" child abuse occurring in the home and investigated 300 cases of alleged child abuse.

This article is also available on the Saskatchewan SPCA website: sspc.ca under "The Link" section.

If you have concerns relating to the care of an animal, or if you need to report suspected animal abuse or neglect in Saskatchewan, contact one of the following agencies listed below.

In Moose Jaw: Moose Jaw Humane Society – 306-692-1517

In Prince Albert: Prince Albert SPCA – 306-763-6110

In Regina: Regina Humane Society – 306-543-6363

In Saskatoon: Saskatoon SPCA – 306-373-7387

For livestock and companion animals elsewhere in Saskatchewan:

Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan
1-844-382-0002

As a member of the community, if you believe a child may be neglected or abused, you have a legal responsibility to immediately report your concerns. To file a report, contact your local provincial child protection line (listed below).

Prince Albert – North: 1-866-719-6164

Regina – South: 1-844-787-3760

Saskatoon – Central: 1-800-274-8297

they wished. Laws existed to protect children from physical abuse at the hands of their parents/guardians but they were rarely enforced. Reportedly, Etta Wheeler had considered approaching Henry Bergh, President of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, for assistance in extricating Mary Ellen. Wheeler was finally convinced to do so by her niece, who said: "You are so troubled over that abused child, why not go to Mr. Bergh? She is a little animal, surely."

Bergh was deeply touched by Mary Ellen's case, but he was hesitant to move forward, saying that: "The case interests me much, but very definite testimony is needed to warrant interference between a child and those claiming guardianship." He requested that Etta Wheeler provide him with written evidence of Mary Ellen's plight, which she did. On the basis of the evidence that Etta Wheeler provided, as well as the results of his own investigation, Bergh hired lawyer Elbridge T. Gerry to secure Mary Ellen's removal from her situation. Gerry made creative use of Section 65 of the *Habeas Corpus Act*, an act against illegal imprisonment, to secure Mary Ellen's removal from her home. It is often believed that he made use of the animal abuse laws of the time; however this is reportedly not the case.



READING PET FOOD NUTRITION LABELS

By: Jenny Marriott

The *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act* requires that pet food labels list the species for which the food is intended, the weight of food in the bag or can, and the manufacturer's contact information. Additionally, it is generally accepted within the industry that labels will include the following: a guaranteed analysis containing minimum and maximum percentages of various ingredients, a list of ingredients in decreasing order by fresh weight, and a statement of nutritional adequacy.

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

Guaranteed Analysis:	
Crude Protein	Min 21 %
Crude Fat	Min 13 %
Crude Fibre	Max 12 %
Moisture	Max 11 %
Ash	Max 5.5 %
Calcium	Min 0.5 %
Phosphorus	Min 0.4 %
Vitamin E	Min 400 IU/kg
Ascorbic Acid* (Vitamin C)	Min 75 mg/kg
*Not recognized as an essential nutrient by the AAFCO Dog Food Nutrient Profiles.	

Pet food manufacturers are required to include minimum percentages of crude protein and crude fat and maximum percentages of moisture and crude fibre. It's important to keep in mind that these are not exact values and that one pet food claiming to have a minimum 11% fat may have 11.5% fat, while another may have 13% fat. This will have implications for the caloric density and palatability of the food

INGREDIENT LIST

Ingredients:
 Chicken, chicken by-product meal, ground corn, rice flour, fish meal, chicken fat (preserved with mixed tocopherols and citric acid), ground grain sorghum, dried beet pulp, chicken digest, dried egg product, brewer's dried yeast, flax, dicalcium phosphate, calcium carbonate, DL-methionine, potassium chloride, mineral supplement, vitamin supplement

The ingredient list contains the contents of the pet food in decreasing order by fresh weight. When an ingredient or combination of ingredients makes up 90% or greater of the food that ingredient can be used in the product name; e.g., Brand X chicken food for cats contains at least 90% chicken. The ingredient list gives no information about the quality of the ingredients in terms of their digestibility, amino acid balance, etc.

Some pet foods have ingredient lists that vary from batch to batch, depending on ingredient availability and cost. These are referred to as **variable formula diets**.

Conversely, **fixed-formula diets** use the same ingredients regardless of cost. Fixed formula diets generally cost more than variable formula diets but they offer the advantage of consistency between batches of food.

STATEMENT OF NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY

AAFCO Statement:

Animal feeding tests using AAFCO procedures substantiate that Brand X dog food provides complete and balanced nutrition for the maintenance of adult dogs.

Pet foods that make a "complete and balanced" claim must either perform a feeding trial according to the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) procedures ("AAFCO feeding studies demonstrate ..." or similar on the label) or formulate the diet using AAFCO's nutrient profiles ("meets AAFCO's nutrient requirements ..." or similar on the label).

REMEMBER...

One cannot determine the true quality of a pet food by looking at the guaranteed analysis or the ingredient list. The nutrient content of two foods may vary widely despite similar guaranteed analyses. Similarly, the ingredient list does not provide information about the quality of the ingredients used in the food. It is possible for a high quality pet food to have an ingredient list that are very similar to a pet food of much lower quality.

Speak with your veterinarian for a recommendation on a quality pet food for your pet.

SASKATCHEWAN SPCA

theLINK

CONFERENCE

EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
ANIMAL ABUSE AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE



SEPTEMBER 21-22: REGINA

Learn more about the complex relationship between all forms of violence – and the options available to better protect animals and humans suffering from abuse.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Dr. Randall Lockwood, one of the leading authorities on the Link.

Conference topics:

- The Link between human and animal abuse: An overview
- Recognizing the signs of animal abuse
- Recognizing interpersonal violence and abuse
- Knowing the law: Legislative tools to protect animals and humans from violence
- The human-animal bond
- Care for the care provider: Trauma informed practice
- What's next? Taking action to address all forms of violence
- Establishing a collaborative coalition to provide pet safekeeping for domestic violence victims in Alberta
- Promising practices: What exactly does a "veterinary social worker" do?
- Working together: Tools to build effective intersectoral partnerships
- Saskatchewan-based safekeeping resources and options

Registration fees

Early bird rates (when you register by July 31st)

1-day: \$125

2-day: \$200

For more conference info or to register:

<http://sspca.ca/events/conference/>

1.877.382.7722

info@sspca.ca

Location: Delta Hotels Regina

1919 Saskatchewan Drive

Book your room by Aug. 21 to receive the special LINK CONFERENCE ROOM RATE: \$139/night – includes free parking!

FCC 4-H CLUB FUND

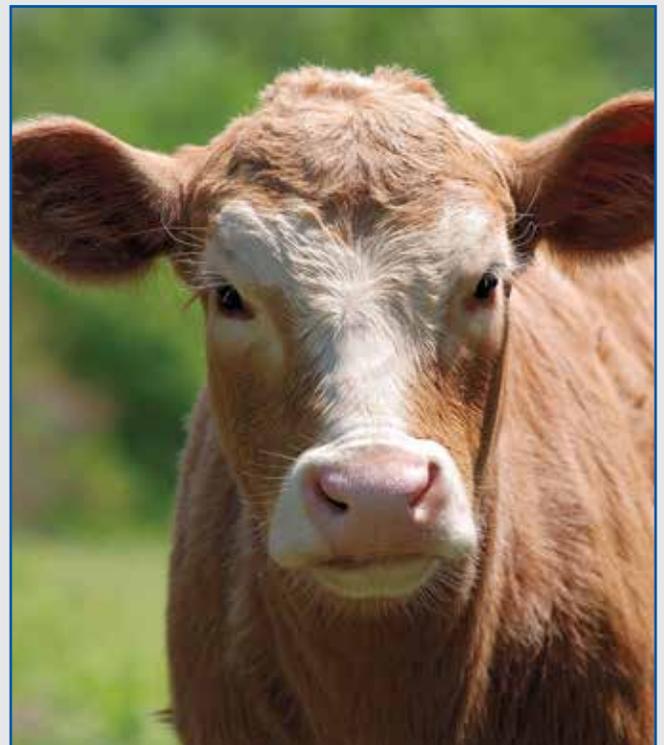
Did you know the FCC (Farm Credit Canada) 4-H Club Fund provides up to \$500 each for 4-H clubs, districts, and regions across Canada to assist with costs associated with development of existing programs and activities? Applications are open from August to October 2017.

For more information on the FCC 4-H Club Fund, visit the 4-H website at www.4-h-canada.ca.

LIVESTOCK EMERGENCIES

Summer in Saskatchewan can bring an array of emergencies. In the last few years, stories of flooding and forest fires have filled in the news cycle. If you are unsure of what to do in the event of an emergency, the Saskatchewan Premises Identification Database (PID) is available to help you protect your livestock.

If you are a livestock producer or business owner, you may be interested in learning more about PID. To register, and to receive more information, visit Ministry of Agriculture's website at www.saskatchewan.ca/agriculture.



STUDYING SERVICE DOGS

Article provided by Dr. Colleen Dell

AUDEAMUS Inc. is an injured veteran-run Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to providing service dogs to persons traumatized in the line of duty. Service dogs are increasingly recognized as a support for some veterans suffering an Operational Stress Injury (OSI), including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). To date, AUDEAMUS has paired 87 fully trained service dogs with persons traumatized in the line of duty and whose quality of life depends on the support. Approximately 80% of the dogs were adopted from a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), including in Saskatchewan.

There is a lack of quality evidence on service dogs for veterans with PTSD, although the research field is expanding. There is also a growing presence of service dogs for veterans with PTSD, and emerging stories about their benefits. For example, Master Corporal (retired) Eric Pellerin, an injured veteran with the Canadian Military and living in Saskatchewan, was paired with his Service Dog Sophie

a little over a year ago. He is now an Assistant Trainer with AUDEAMS Inc. because he says, "It is important to give back as the program has helped give me my life back." Eric knows the many benefits of the bond he has with Sophie, saying "She is my constant, she is always there for me." Sophie is also trained to do behaviour disruptions, break dissociation and help Eric to emotionally regulate. To sum up his relationship with Sophie, Eric shared that "She gives me something to do, but it is more than that. It is purpose. Kids grow up and it is easy for a teen to make his own supper. But Sophie can't. I have to feed her."

For a week in April of this year, another researcher with AUDEAMUS Inc., Dr. Darlene Chalmers from the University of Regina, Faculty of Social Work, and I began participating in the full AUDEAMUS Inc. Public Access Certification service dog training program with canine partners. The aim is to understand, to the extent we can, the veterans' program experience. This aligns with scientific research methodology compatible with AUDEAMUS's vision of making sure that the veterans' welfare forefronts any involvement in research. This experience is allowing Darlene and me to meaningfully inform the content and processes of research with AUDEAMUS.

Our team, in collaboration with Dr. Nathaniel Osgoode from the Department of Computer Science at the U of S, recently began a study titled *The Impact of Service Dogs in the Lives of Veterans who Problematically Use Substances*. So, for example, by training with my canine partner Subie I came to understand how some wearable



Photo of Master Corporal Eric Pellerin (ret.), along with Monty, a service dog in training, and Colleen Dell's dog, Subie

technology we were considering is unreasonable to ask a veteran training a service dog to engage with.

I have also gained a deeper appreciation of the role and welfare of a service dog. My experience of training Subie without treats for service dog work heightened his level of engagement with me; that is, it made learning and doing his job easier on him. It is through these on-the-ground experiences that our team can better understand and engage with our study and all of its participants – human and canine – in an informed and meaningful way.

For more information, visit:
www.AUDEAMUS.ca
www.colleendell.ca
Facebook: AnnaBelleSubieAdventures

WITH LOVE AND HONOUR

The Saskatchewan SPCA would like to recognizing those who have donated in memory or honour of a loved one.

The following individuals have donated in honour of a loved one:

- Shiela Lendsay in honour of Andrea and Reid's birthday
- Ashley Page in honour of Silver and Allegro (Mayce's cats)

The following individuals have donated in memory of a loved one:

- John W. Myers in memory of "my coonhound, Leeroy"
- Friends and Family in memory of Ms. Kay Braget
- Pauline Dziaduck in memory of Michael Harkusha "who had a great love of dogs"

- Deb Fehr in memory of Scooter
- Trevor Dubiel in memory of "my late cat, Rosie"
- Mrs. Willis McClymont in memory of "my cat, Toby"
- Sandra Archer in memory of "my beloved cocker spaniels, Cinnamon, Opal, and Thumper"

On behalf of the Board and staff of the Saskatchewan SPCA, we extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the Society.

Correction: In the Spring 2017 issue of The Humanitarian, we incorrectly spelled the name of Laurie L'Heureux. We apologize for this error.