



Calgary Humane Society Impact Report





For THEM Capital Campaign

Thank you for supporting Calgary Humane Society and our FOR THEM Building Enhancement and Renovation Project. Your support ensures we will continue to be there for our animals, for our community, for our people....
For THEM.

Thanks to you, your generosity, and your commitment to improving the lives of animals and those who love them, we were able to continue doing this critically important work that we have been doing for over 100 years. As we re-opened our building in August of 2022, we did so with renewed energy and optimism because we now have the facility and infrastructure in place to properly care for the close to 4,000 animals who came through our doors, ensuring all five freedoms of animal welfare are met.

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain, injury and disease
4. Freedom to express normal behaviour
5. Freedom from fear and distress

We are also incredibly pleased to announce that we have successfully raised our campaign goal of \$6.3 million for this transformational project.

Thank you to the 2,291 donors who gave to the capital campaign; 30 corporate sponsors who helped with the construction project; 15 foundations who recognized the critical importance of the project and the Government of Alberta who supported us to help make this dream a reality. You are all truly visionary because this project concluded at a time when our community needed us most.



Thanks to you...

3,557 animals were admitted

1,195 cases of suspected animal cruelty were investigated by our Peace Officers.

891 animals were saved from unsafe situations as a result of these investigations.



1,778 surgeries were performed in our new surgical suite

238 animals were returned to their owners

2,371 animals were adopted

1,715 animals were placed in foster homes to shorten their length of time in shelter

415 animals recovered from infectious disease safely in our new isolation wards



Calgary Humane Society Peace Officers educated 2,100 owners on responsible pet ownership through compliance orders.

1,592 training classes, consultations and assessments were offered to animal owners to further enhance the human - animal bond.



719 volunteers donated 22,613 hours of time to Calgary Humane Society

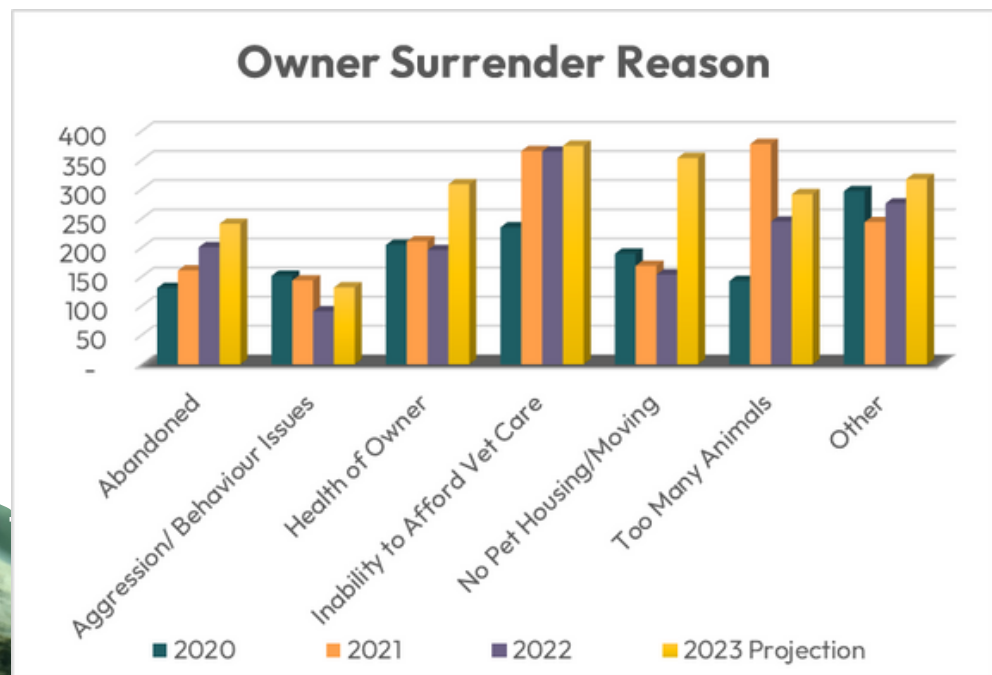
19,822 people were reached through Humane Education and Outreach programs



New Challenges in Animal Welfare

As we slowly emerged from the pandemic and fully re-opened our doors in August 2022, Calgary Humane Society has seen an alarming increase in animal's being admitted to the facility and has been operating at, or over, capacity, since this time, with waitlists for surrendering animals increasing daily. While we anticipated this was going to be an undesirable consequence of the pandemic once restrictions were lifted, the severity has been compounded by the challenging economy, high inflation, a shortage of veterinarians at a time when more people than ever have companion animals, and a severe shortage of pet-friendly housing in Calgary.

Humane Societies and animal shelters across North America are bursting at the seams. These animals have nowhere to turn for help. As a result, animals are suffering.



Calgary Humane Society is here to help, thanks to you.

Thanks to your support, our building is complete, the team at Calgary Humane Society is able to shift our focus to helping these animals who truly need us!

In 2022, Calgary Humane Society admitted 3,557 animals into the facility seeking a second chance. 43% of these animals were owners surrendering their pets as they simply could no longer manage their care.

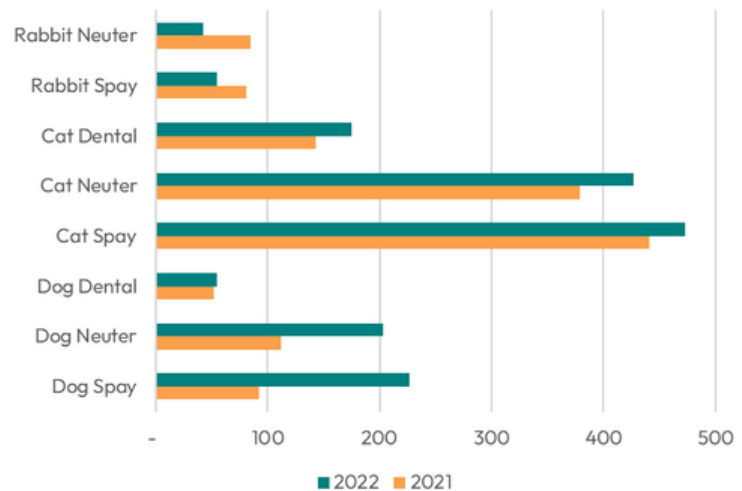
In 2023, we are projecting over 4,400 animals will be admitted to Calgary Humane Society and over half will be surrendered by their owners. These animals are arriving at our facility with:

1. A Lack of Basic Veterinary Care

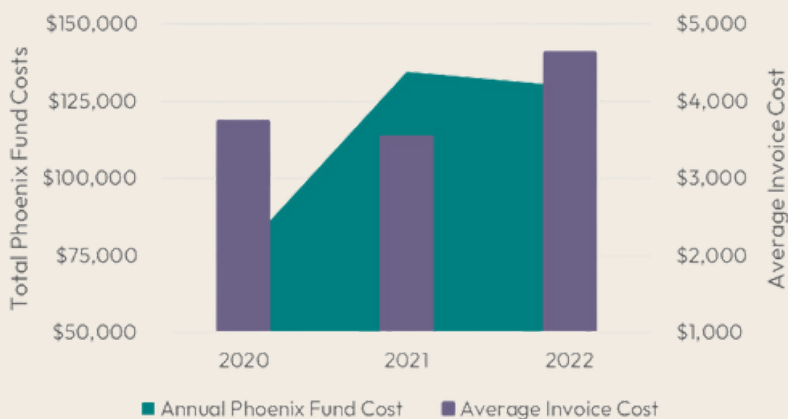
Many animals arrive at Calgary Humane Society with no previous experience with a veterinary clinic. Every animal admitted to Calgary Humane Society receives a complete medical exam with vaccinations and approximately 40% of all animals require surgery. Our Animal Health team was able to utilize the new state of the art veterinary clinic for this work and completed 1,778 surgeries in 2022 (2021 – 1,597) and are on track to surpass this total in 2023 by 36%.

When an animal requires a specialized surgery, the Phoenix Fund is utilized. This fund was established by a caring donor who wanted to see every animal get the medical care needed to live a long and healthy life. In 2022, this fund, along with the support of our partner community veterinary clinics, provided 28 animals with live saving surgery.

Surgical Procedures Performed



Phoenix Fund Utilization



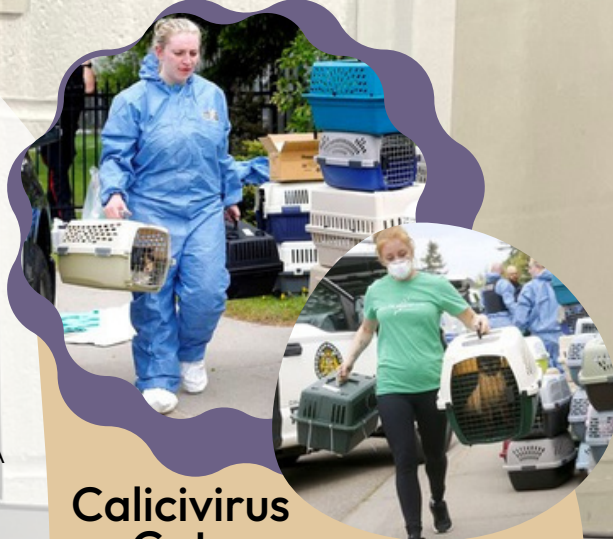
The Phoenix Fund was used to save the life of a stray dog found outside of the City of Calgary. During a routine dental, Calgary Humane Society veterinarians noted significant damage to the teeth and a severe malocclusion due to a trauma. It was believed he was hit by a vehicle. As the dog was only a year old and otherwise healthy, the specialist performed the surgery, which was a success. After recovery, the dog was adopted out to his forever home where he is thriving today.

2. Infectious Diseases

Because basic veterinary care, including vaccinations, is no longer affordable for many Calgary households, the team at Calgary Humane Society saw a significant increase in infectious disease over the past year. In 2022, Calgary Humane Society dealt with increased cases of:

- Parvovirus, a potentially fatal disease in dogs that is preventable with a vaccination
- Calicivirus, a highly contagious respiratory virus that effects cats. A vaccination will reduce its severity.
- Rabbit Hemorrhagic disease that impacts domesticated rabbits and is 100% fatal. This disease is also preventable with a vaccination
- Avian Flu which is a highly contagious disease that affects birds and is a high risk for domesticated birds during migratory seasons.

Thankfully, the newly renovated facility included an entire wing of isolation wards. These spaces provided 415 animals with a comfortable place to recover without jeopardizing the health of the other animals in shelter. Calgary Humane Society would not have been able to help these animals without these new rooms designed for everyone's safety.



Calicivirus Cats

Calgary Humane Society Peace Officers investigated a hoarding situation in June 2022 that resulted in 97 cats and 6 birds being seized from a home in Calgary. These cats were all suffering from calicivirus that required isolation and medical treatment at Calgary Humane Society. This was only possible because of your support!



3. Complex Behavioural Concerns

The team has seen an increase in complex behavioural concerns such as separation anxiety due to lack of socialization – an unintended consequence of the pandemic. Often this anxiety is displayed as aggression which becomes a safety concern for those interacting with the animal.

Once the building project was complete, Calgary Humane Society was able to immediately start utilizing our expanded “RUFF HOUSE” to offer training classes, spanning from puppy socialization and general obedience training to reactivity training for dogs.

Calgary Humane Society also offered private one-on-one dog and cat consultations between owners and our Animal Behaviour Specialists. This allowed owners to work directly with a trainer on issues they are experiencing with their pet and helped to restore the bond between an animal and its owner.

In 2022, we provided training and support to 801 pet owners (2021 – 692), which is an increase of over 15%.



4. Unweaned Litters With Nowhere To Go

The pandemic created opportunities for “back-yard” breeding to take place as the demand for a companion animal was unprecedented. Now that the pandemic has passed, the demand has dropped but the level of breeding remained unchanged.

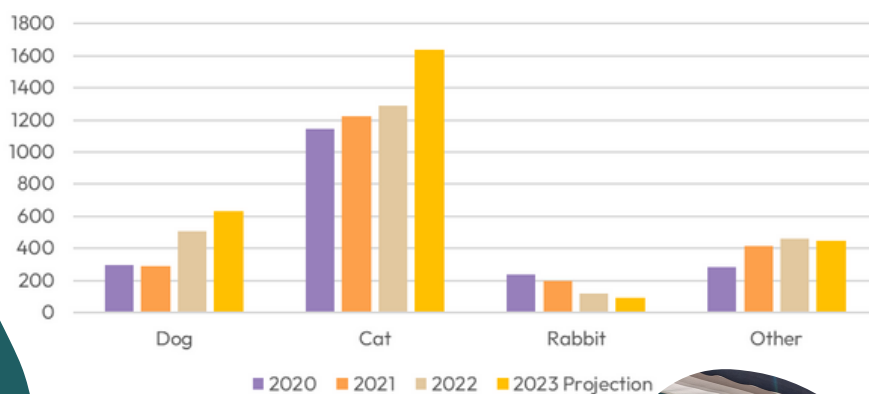
Calgary Humane Society has therefore seen a large increase in the number of puppies and kittens as these animals have nowhere else to go. Admissions for animals under six months of age was at a level we have not seen at Calgary Humane Society in decades as breeders find themselves with far too many animals to care for responsibly.

In 2022, Calgary Humane Society found innovative ways to house litters of puppies and kittens and provide them with the socialization necessary to ensure they grow up as well adjusted animals with appropriate responses to various triggers they will experience throughout their life.

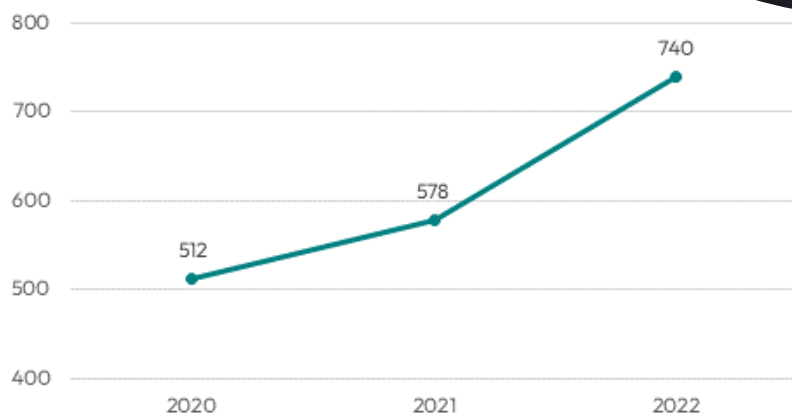
Getting Animals Adopted Any Way We Can

CHS has made itself a community staple by both inviting the community in, as well as appearing at various local events and businesses. Puppy parties allowed us to get puppies adopted out quickly and efficiently, saving us from expending resources on their care while they're in shelter. If our community was unable to come in for a puppy party, we made sure to connect with them at community events like the Lilac Festival and Comic Convention with our remote adoption vehicle we call our ROVER.

Adoptions by Species



Puppy & Kitten Adoptions



Community Supporting Community

The Calgary Humane Society Adoption team worked to improve the overall efficiency of an Adoption appointment in order to get more animals out the door and on with the next stage of their life. The team removed barriers to adoption and embraced the “Adopters Welcome” approach in order to get animals into homes faster (The Humane Society of the United States, 2016). They utilized their new adoption centre and technology in order to create a hybrid adoption appointment system to accommodate both scheduled and walk-in appointments.

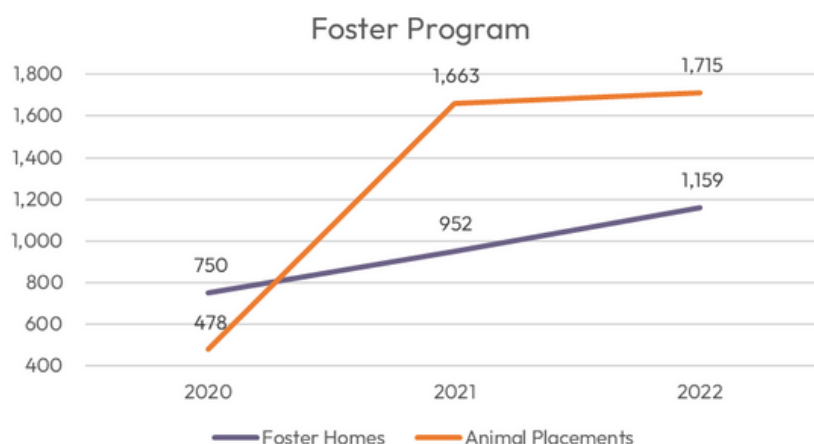
In 2022, we adopted out 2,371 (2021 – 2,114) animals, which is an increase of 257 animals or 12%, and are projecting total adoptions in 2023 to be over 2,800 animals.

Our Volunteer team created new roles to support our team and boost community engagement. Our volunteers worked alongside the team to enrich the lives of our animals, helping us to achieve our mission and proving just how important animal welfare is to our community.



In 2022, our volunteers donated 22,613 hours (2021 – 11,777 hours) to the organization, which is an increase of 92% from the prior year and equal to 12 full time employees.

The Calgary Humane Society Foster team also assisted in managing the steady stream of animals by recruiting new foster homes and developing an automated process to create foster matches. We call this our “Foster Tinder” and it has helped to get more animals out of the shelter and into a foster home until they are ready for adoption.



This amazing group of families, who open up the doors to their homes for our animals, took in 1,715 animals in 2022 and reduced the time an animal had to spend in a shelter from 30 to 17 days on average – a decrease of 13 days!

Intake Diversion

The team at Calgary Humane Society understands that the best thing for an animal's wellbeing is to never see an animal shelter at all. With our building project complete, we are now able to focus on some of the more complex societal issues that are leading to animal intakes and we are exploring new and innovative ways in which we can help more animals by helping the people who love them. With the additional space and advancement in our technology and processes, we are in a better position to expand our programming to offer this support to our animal loving community and keep an animal from ever arriving at Calgary Humane Society.

In 2022, Calgary Humane Society:

- Provided 100 families with a safe place for their animal through our Pet Safekeeping Program so they could flee domestic violence and rebuild their life, to be reunited with their cherished family member once they are settled
- Offered 47 animals a temporary home through our Emergency Boarding program
- Expanded the Pet Safekeeping and Emergency Boarding program from a 21 day program to an average stay of over 33 days to allow more time for families to regroup
- Saved 14 animals by providing critical emergency veterinary surgery or treatment through our Keep Them Home program so that animals did not have to be surrendered by their families
- Delivered 178 pet food hampers to families who were struggling to feed their animal
- Worked with our community vet clinics to provide 28 animals with specialized veterinary care which is outside of our scope of care through our Phoenix Fund
- Reunited 238 animals with their owners when they were found stray or returned through one of our outreach programs

"I'd like to applaud the team at Calgary Humane Society for helping Dory after she got hit by a car and her family had no way to help her. Thank you for being so supportive and taking her case on. It is really heartwarming to know that Dory will be able to stay with her family, and that they will get what they need to keep her happy and healthy".

-Creekside Veterinary Hospital

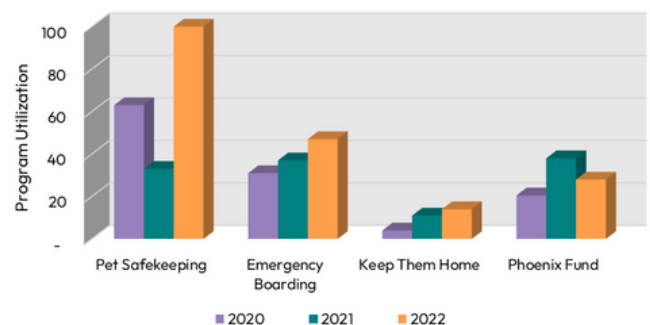


In 2023, Calgary Humane Society will continue to expand our existing programming to help more animals, but are also creating new initiatives to support the growing demand from our Calgary community and are partnering with other agencies to have an even greater impact!

Organizations we collaborate with include:

- **Calgary Seniors Resource Society** to launch a program designed for seniors to keep their companion animal in their home
- **Silvera For Seniors** to create a foster cat program to help combat the social isolation a senior may feel as they transition into an assisted living facility.
- **Calgary Housing Company** to provide training support to assist renters who may have landlord issues due to the behaviour of their companion animal
- **Parachute for Pets and Tails of Help** to align our resources in order to provide support to clients that may be struggling with homelessness and are also caring for animals
- **Petsecure** to provide pet owners with a trial pet insurance policy to demonstrate the benefits of pet insurance
- **Alberta Veterinary Medical Association** to support our community with access to veterinary care
- **University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine** to support vet students with their ongoing skill development
- **Calgary Police Service and the City of Calgary Animal Services** to ensure the people and animals living in the city of Calgary are living harmoniously
- **Humane Canada** to elevate our advocacy for the humane treatment of animals across the country

Community Support Programs

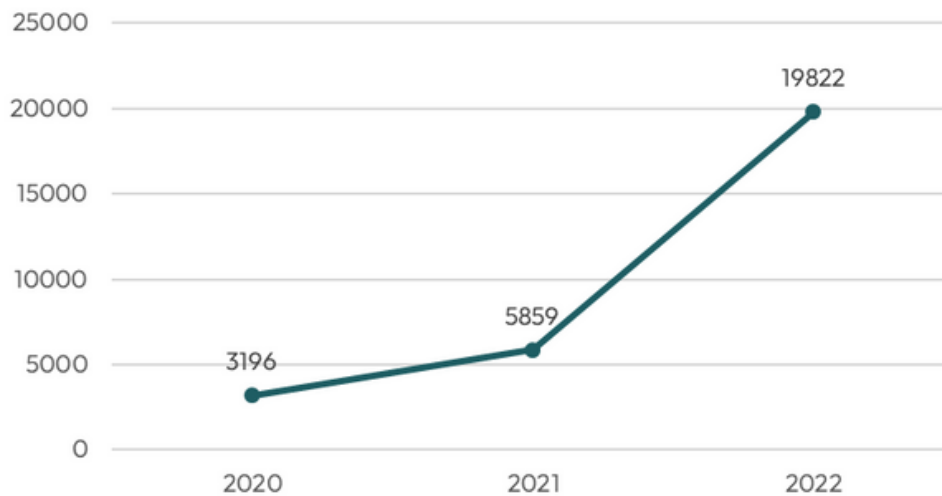


Prevention Work Rooted in Education

With Canada becoming much more diverse, we are experiencing new cultures with differing views on how companion animals are valued and treated. At Calgary Humane Society, we dream of a community where all animals are valued, humanely treated, and live enriched lives. We invite our entire community to advocate for a more humane world through compassion and understanding.

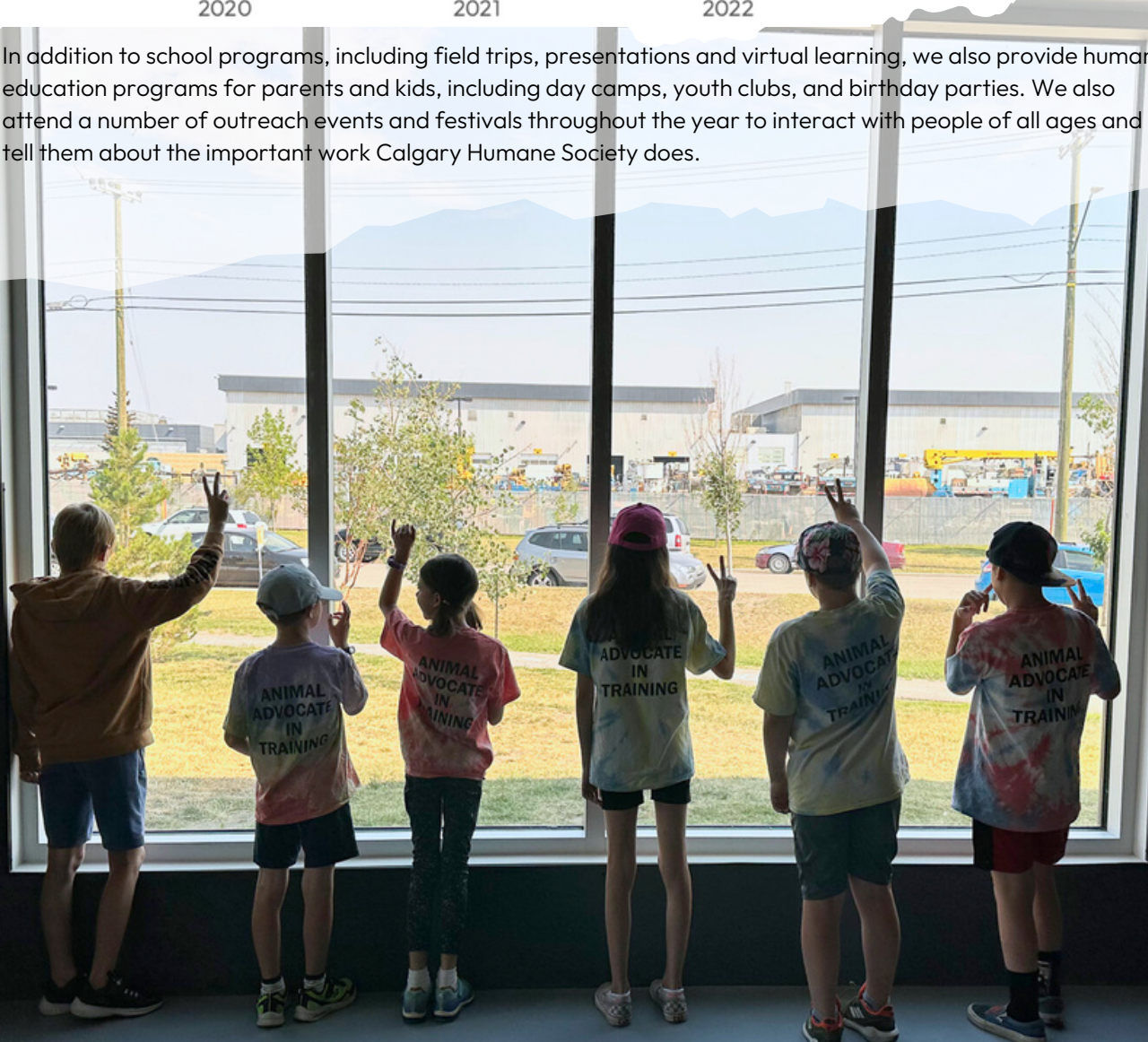
We do this through education and our Humane Education and Outreach team connected with 19,822 people in 2022 (an increase of 238%!) in an effort to build a more humane world.

People Reached



The Calgary Humane Society Humane Education team works with local educators teaching children about human rights, environmental preservation, empathy, and animal protection as interconnected and integral dimensions of a healthy, just society.

In addition to school programs, including field trips, presentations and virtual learning, we also provide humane education programs for parents and kids, including day camps, youth clubs, and birthday parties. We also attend a number of outreach events and festivals throughout the year to interact with people of all ages and tell them about the important work Calgary Humane Society does.





Protection for the Animals

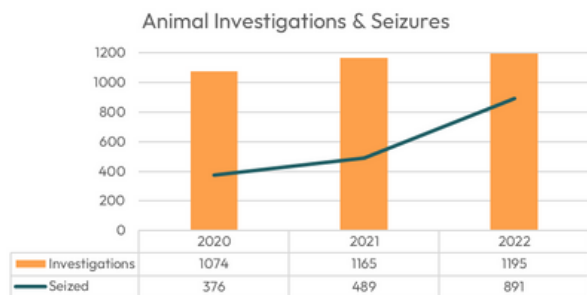
A very important part of the work our Protection and Investigations team does is to build awareness of “the Link” between animal cruelty and violent crimes against people later on in life. Not only do they do this through our Humane Education program, they also go out into the community and speak with partnering agencies to build collaboration for greater impact.

Educating Agencies

- Calgary Humane Society provided training sessions, in partnership with Calgary Police Service, Crown Prosecutors’ Office and a Veterinary Forensic expert, to frontline officers across the Province, reaching over 300 officers. This was hosted by Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police (AACP)

- Provided several Calgary Police District teams with a presentation on animal cruelty investigations and the Link
- Participated in a panel discussion alongside Calgary Police Service and Edmonton Police Service at Humane Canada’s Violence Link Conference, attended by over 100 allied professionals in the area of animal welfare and the justice system
- Collaborated with CPS liaison officer to develop an e-learning module on Animal Cruelty, including the Link, which is mandatory for all frontline Calgary Police Service officers

This is all in an effort to build an active and engaged community that will join forces with us to fight against animal cruelty and build a more humane world. In 2022, our Peace Officers investigated 1,195 cases of suspected animal cruelty and saved 891 animals from an environment of abuse, neglect and cruelty – an increase of 82% from the prior year.



In 2023, Calgary Humane Society will be engaging with our community through public service announcements, training sessions and educational opportunities to remind our community to do their research before welcoming an animal into their home and source their pet from a responsible and respected organization or breeder.

The team at Calgary Humane Society also understands we must develop a strategy to engage our Provincial and Municipal governments and encourage them to be proactive and work with us on amendments to current legislation that is outdated and not addressing the current needs of our community in regards to animal welfare.

Calgary Humane Society is the only animal welfare organization and registered charity in Calgary who’s mandate includes investigating, protecting, and upholding the Animal Protection Act of Alberta (APA). The last significant amendment to the APA was in 2005



Calgary Humane Society

Everyone is human. But not everyone is truly humane.

It's the essence of our humanity—within us all, yet an aspiration for most. Because real compassion takes selflessness.

And going beyond ourselves every day isn't easy to sustain. But when we achieve it, life takes on a deeply fulfilling purpose.

Our humanity bonds us with animals. Especially those in need.

At Calgary Humane Society, we exist to create a more humane world. When animals are at their most vulnerable, our dedicated care sees them through. We are always there to protect and nurture the welfare of all animals.

With sympathy and mercy. Kindness and love. And in turn, animals remind us every day what it truly means to be human.

We believe in inclusive animal welfare. Any animal and every situation are welcome through our doors. We'll explore all avenues and care until the very end—with animal wellbeing at the core of every decision.

We will support people and their animals, for life. The joy of initial adoption. The rewards of behavioural classes.

The sleepless nights when our animals need emergency care. Our team is there in good times and bad. When animals need protection, we respond. We'll never shy away from a tough situation—even if it takes an emotional toll.

Our work for animal welfare is unending.

Our dreams for the future are rooted in prevention. We're a true community hub for countless Calgarians.

Our voice has power. It's our job to inspire empathy and compassion for both animals and humans. For 100 years, Calgary Humane Society has been at the centre of animal welfare in our city. And for every day to come, we'll work harder than ever to create a more humane world.

We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for your support!