



Calgary  
Humane  
Society

# 2024

## ANNUAL REPORT







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## Land Acknowledgment

With gratitude, mutual respect, and reciprocity, we acknowledge that Calgary Humane Society is situated on Treaty 7 territory - the traditional and ancestral territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy, which includes the Siksika Nation, Piikani Nation, Kainai Nation, the Îlethka Stoney Nakoda Nation, consisting of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Good Stoney Bands, and the people of the Tsuut'ina Nation. The City of Calgary is also within the historical Northwest Métis Homeland known as the Battle River Territory.

At Calgary Humane Society we celebrate the human animal bond and are proud to serve all communities within this territory. We acknowledge that our work is a continuation of the work done by the ancestral caretakers of this land. We hope to continue this important work with gratitude and respect to those that came before us, and alongside their successors now.







## MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on the past year, it is with a tremendous amount of gratitude to all those who stood with us during this transformational year at Calgary Humane Society. There is also a tremendous sense of pride as the organization made significant strides in achieving our goals and moving us closer to our vision.

In 2024, we launched our new strategic plan, and with it, a bold new direction for the organization - one focused on addressing the root causes of the animal welfare issues we face in our community through advocacy, connection, and expanded programming designed to keep families together. This year, we proudly launched our **Continued Companionship Programming**, providing close to **1,000** families with the support they needed, which enabled them to keep their animals with them and out of the shelter.

One of the greatest challenges Calgary Humane Society has managed for the past several years is caring for the large number of unwanted litters of puppies and kittens surrendered or being born while in shelter. Calgary Humane Society's new PAWWISE Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinics were, therefore, introduced in 2024 at a critical time. These newly approved clinics offer veterinary support to individuals who are having difficulty accessing basic veterinary care, such as wellness exams, vaccinations, and spay/neuter surgeries. This is care that is fundamental to the ongoing health of their animals and also prevents the spread of infectious disease amongst other animals in the community. Once introduced, the demand for these services was overwhelming, making it necessary to continue these clinics into 2025. Our goal is to continue until we are confident every litter born is wanted and has a home to go to.

The Continued Companionship Programming and public clinics have reduced the number of animals requiring admission to the shelter, making space for those who truly needed our intervention. In 2024, with the support of our

volunteers and foster families, we cared for over 3,600 animals and provided them with all the love they needed to thrive until they found their new home. With our highly skilled team, ongoing operational improvements, the development of enrichment programs, and expanded foster programming, we ensured all adoptable animals got the second chance at the life they deserved right from the start.

As we begin 2025, the second year of our strategic plan, we will continue to build on the momentum of the past year and are excited about the possibilities ahead. We know there will be new challenges that will arise as we enter one of the most uncertain times this generation has experienced, however, with your ongoing support, we will rise to meet them together to make a positive difference in the lives of the animals who need us.

We would like to extend a very sincere thank you to all the staff, volunteers, and foster families for their tireless efforts over the course of the year. You gave some of the most vulnerable beings your voice when they needed it most and your work is a true inspiration. We would also like to thank our Board of Directors for their governance and leadership, which helped Calgary Humane Society reach its goals. Finally, thank you to all our committed donors and supporters who make this work possible! You are the reason the team at the Society has the confidence to meet whatever challenge that greets us in order to improve animal welfare in our community. Thank you for standing with us to protect animals, support people, and create a more humane world.

With sincere gratitude,

Andrew Wilson  
Board Chair



Carrie Fritz  
Executive Director





## 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

### In 2024, Calgary Humane Society...

Was honoured to be recognized as a Nonprofit Employer of Choice – an award presented annually to organizations that strive to cultivate a culture of excellence within their teams.

Earned a place on Charity Intelligence's Top 100 Rated Charities which speaks to the high level of transparency, accountability, effective resource management, and overall integrity that has become a part of the culture of the organization.

Grew the Continued Companionship Program by 85% – striving to keep animals in their homes with the families who love them and out of the shelter – strengthening the human animal bond.

Launched the Calgary Humane Society PAWWISE Spay/Neuter Clinics and Wellness Clinics to ensure every Calgarian has access to the care they need to maintain the ongoing health of their beloved animal.

Expanded our Protection & Investigations team with three new Peace Officers hired in 2024 to accommodate the growth of the city, ensuring the most vulnerable animals are safe from cruelty, abuse, and neglect.

Increased community connection by 47% to raise awareness on the animal welfare issues that we collectively face, giving a louder voice to those who do not have one.

Received tremendous community support which enabled us to achieve our goals and work towards our vision of being a part of a community with the courage to advocate for animals creating a world where all lives are treated with compassion and respect:

- 54,627 donations made to Calgary Humane Society providing \$5.8 million in fundraising and donation revenue.
- \$2.3 million received from generous donors who wanted to have a lasting impact for animals in need through a gift left in their will. Thank you to all those who are members of our Nine Lives Society.





# SUMMARY OF REVENUE BY PROGRAM

Summary of Revenue by Program		
Program	\$	%
Animal Care, Comfort, and Adoption	\$ 893,898	8.5%
Community Outreach	\$373,935	3.6%
Investment Income	\$1,179,796	11.2%
Fund Development	\$5,784,564	55.0%
Bequests	\$2,291,398	21.8%
	\$10,525,591	100%
Unrealized Gain on Marketable Securities	\$292,320	
Gain on Sale of Capital Assets	\$8,900	
	\$10,824,811	

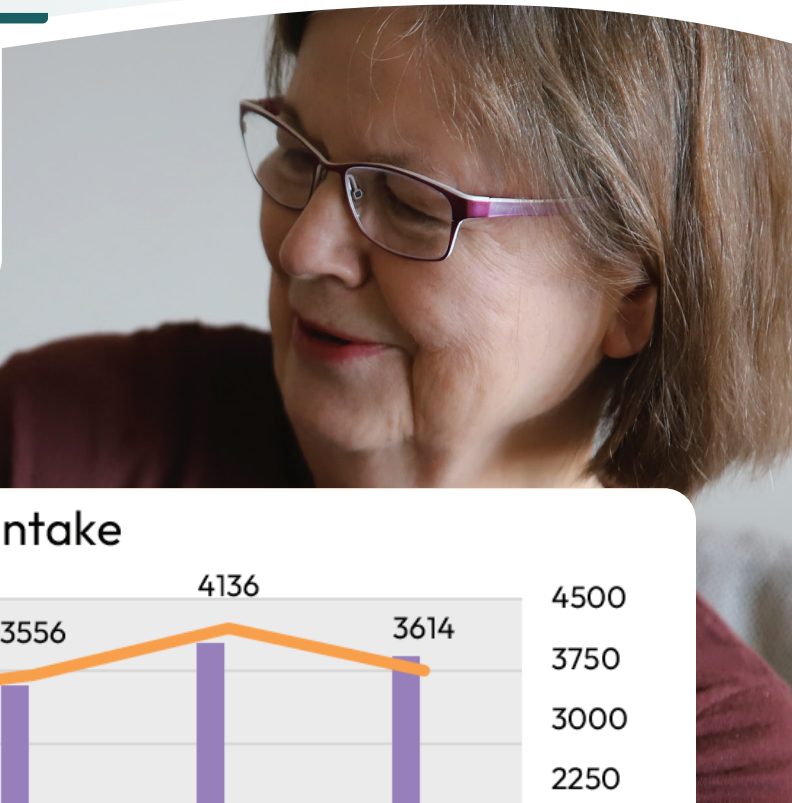
# SUMMARY OF EXPENSE BY PROGRAM

Summary of Expense by Program		
Program	\$	%
Animal Care, Comfort, and Adoption	\$ 4,889,008	51.4%
Animal Investigation & Protection	\$867,028	9.1%
Community Outreach	\$1,028,420	10.8%
Fundraising	\$1,069,253	11.2%
Administrative	\$1,090,557	11.5%
Facility Costs	\$568,703	6.0%
	\$9,512,969	100%
Amortization	\$1,351,153	
	\$10,864,122	

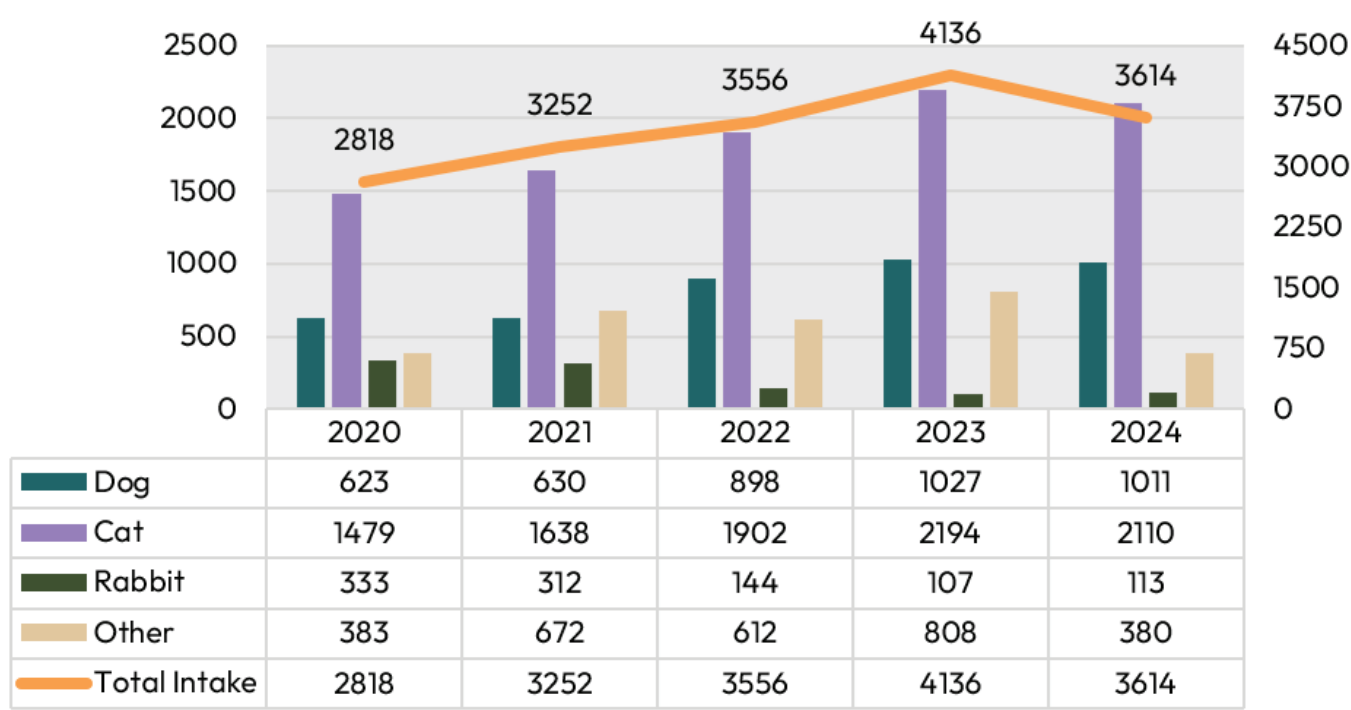


# CONTINUED COMPANIONSHIP: A NETWORK OF SUPPORT

In 2024, Calgary Humane Society took in **3,614** animals, with our largest intake types coming from owner surrenders (1,572 animals or 43% of intake), strays (826 animals or 23% of intake), and seized animals (525 animals or 15% of intake).



Animal Intake



At Calgary Humane Society, our goal is to accept a surrendered animal only if it is the choice of an owner to do so, believing the best place for an animal is with the family who loves them. By analyzing our top owner surrendered reasons, we were able to expand and create new Continued Companionship Programs to address the underlying concerns for pets and their owners in our community. In 2024, our top owner surrender reasons were:

- **Too Many Animals** – highlighting the need for no-cost spay and neuter surgeries to address the rise of unwanted litters of puppies and kittens.
- **Inability to Access Care** – indicating the financial strain the community is facing in affording annual wellness exams and vaccines to prevent future disease, along with the inability to afford veterinary care for medical emergencies.
- **Housing Insecurity** – emphasizing the difficulty in the rental market to find pet-friendly housing and having the financial means to address problem pet behaviors to avoid eviction.



## CONTINUED COMPANIONSHIP: A NETWORK OF SUPPORT

The bond between a pet and their family is more than companionship—it is life-changing, and in many cases, life-saving. At Calgary Humane Society, we don't just recognize this truth—we act on it. Unlike other resources, which often focus on either the pet or the owner in isolation, Calgary Humane Society's Continued Companionship Programs takes a holistic approach, ensuring that animals, as well as their people, are supported in meaningful, lasting ways. We stand in the gap where pet owners often feel forced to make heartbreaking choices, providing an alternative to surrender.

Through our Continued Companionship umbrella, we directly combat some of the most common threats to pet ownership. We equip pet owners with the resources they need to succeed. But what truly sets us apart is our deep-rooted belief that preserving the human-animal bond means supporting the entire family unit—because when people thrive, their pets do too.

Nowhere is this philosophy more evident than in our Seniors Program, an initiative that not only provides veterinary care for pets of low-income, isolated seniors, but also connects their owners to critical human services. This program has been lifesaving in countless situations, but perhaps none more so than Shelly's story.

### Shelly's Story

Shelly was desperate. Her beloved dog, Chester, was in pain. His dental issues had progressed to the point where extractions were necessary, but the cost was insurmountable on her fixed income. Facing an impossible decision, Shelly did what so many others in her position have done—she prepared herself to say goodbye, believing surrender was the only option left.

But when she reached out to Calgary Humane Society, she was met not with a surrender appointment, but with hope. Instead of being told when to bring Chester in, she was introduced to the Seniors Program, a resource designed specifically for people like her—people who deeply love their pets but lack the means to afford urgent care. Relief washed over her as she realized there was another way.

Yet, when her application was approved, Shelly's reaction was unexpected. Instead of joy, she sounded exhausted, defeated. When staff asked if she was alright, she hesitated before revealing the full weight of her struggles—her husband's declining health, her role as his sole caregiver, and the toll it had taken on her own well-being. She was grateful to ease Chester's pain, but hers had only just begun.

Once again, Calgary Humane Society had an answer. We offered to connect her with Calgary Seniors Resource Society, a partner organization dedicated to supporting seniors in situations just like hers. We explained that while we could take care of Chester, they could take care of her. For the first time in a long while, Shelly's voice lifted with genuine relief: yes, she would love some help.

In the end, Chester got the veterinary care he needed—but more importantly, Shelly and her family received the support they needed to sustain his care. Calgary Humane Society's collaborative, long-term solution preserved the human-animal bond ensuring that both pet and owner could continue their journey together.





This philosophy extends to every aspect of our Continued Companionship programming.

- Our Pets and Renters initiative recognizes the complexities of pet-friendly housing by considering both landlord and tenant needs while ensuring pets receive the training necessary to thrive in shared spaces.
- Pet Safekeeping removes barriers for individuals fleeing domestic violence, allowing families to stay together in pet-friendly shelters while they rebuild their lives.

Each program is intentionally designed to address not just an animal’s needs, but the challenges their owners face as well.

In 2024, Calgary Humane Society’s Board of Directors utilized funds from our unrestricted reserves to fund our Continued Companionship Programs. These programs are aimed at supporting pet families by providing the tools and resources needed to properly care for their animal’s well-being, so they can stay with the family who loves them and prevents them from ever having to enter a shelter.

In 2024, \$314,801 was utilized from this fund to support 966 pets and their families. If these animals would have been admitted to the shelter, the estimated cost of care would have been \$699,765.

### The Difference Our Continued Companionship Programs Make

Through ongoing collaboration with other social service agencies and not for profit organizations, Calgary Humane Society was able to support **966** (2023 – 521) families through Continued Companionship in 2024 – an **85%** increase from the prior year – and the need continues to grow.

- **303** Calgary seniors were supported with veterinary care for their pets through the Seniors Program – a segment of our population most at risk of social isolation, often their animal being the only companion they have.
- **173** families sought temporary shelter for their animal through the Pet Safe Keeping and Emergency Boarding programs in order to keep their pets safe from domestic violence or during a crisis.
- **372** pet food hampers were distributed through our Pet Food Bank, ensuring every animal received the nutrition they needed, even if they required a specialized diet.
- Rosco’s Keep Them Home program allowed our veterinary team to provide urgent veterinary care to **14** animals when they needed it most.
- Our Behavioural Consultation program provided **55** pet families with free training to understand their animal’s unwanted behaviour and take appropriate steps to modify it.
- The PAWWISE Spay/Neuter Clinics and Wellness Clinics provided free spay/neuter surgeries and wellness exams and vaccines to **49** pets in the community.

Continued Companionship Programs					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pet Safekeeping and Emergency Boarding	94	70	147	163	173
Rosco’s Keep Them Home	4	11	14	7	14
Seniors Program	-	-	-	52	303
PAWWISE Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinics	-	-	-	-	49
Behaviour Consultations	-	-	-	-	55
Pet Food Bank*	-	-	178	299	372
Total Families Supported	98	81	339	521	966
Increase (Decrease in Program Utilization)		-17%	319%	54%	85%
*Although program existed in 2020-2021, utilization was not tracked and quantified before 2022.					



# PROTECTING CALGARY'S VULNERABLE

Calgary Humane Society is the only animal welfare organization in Calgary that employs Peace Officers to uphold the Animal Protection Act of Alberta. While our Continued Companionship programming focuses on keeping animals in the home they are familiar with, our Peace Officers are skilled in determining when this is not a viable option for an animal.

The Protection and Investigations team at Calgary Humane Society investigated **1,038** complaints called into our Call Centre from individuals reporting animals in unsafe situations.

Among the many heartbreaking cases they encountered:

- Severe neglect which led to the tragic death of two cats and seizure of two dogs
- A litter of puppies found abandoned and starving, needing immediate medical attention
- Two llamas abandoned by their owners when they moved away, left without food or access to a clean water source
- A single home housed 110 cats, a situation that had quickly spiraled out of control before our Peace Officers stepped in

Each case is a reminder of why our work is so important, and why we remain committed to protecting vulnerable animals, no matter the circumstance.

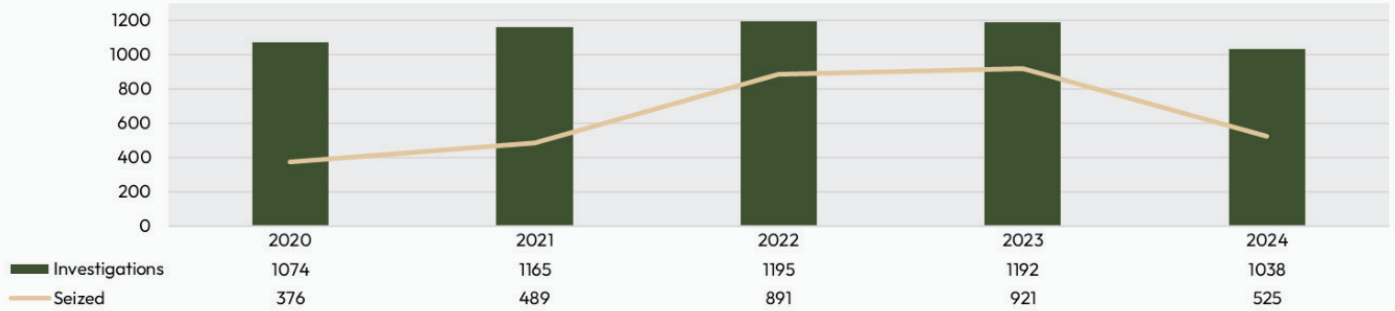
In 2024, Calgary Humane Society Peace Officers were contacted by the owner of two cats found to be deceased after several months of pet sitting after a housefire. The owner had collected the remains from the offending party with no advance notice of their deaths. Through a pathology report, it was noted these cats had died much earlier than reported by the offenders with evidence of starvation and heatstroke. Officers returned to the home of the offenders, finding it in deplorable condition, covered in feces and garbage. They also found two dogs in a terribly neglected state! Both dogs suffered from unaddressed mobility issues and severe dental disease. It was later determined they were also fighting urinary tract infections and kidney stones. The totality of concerns culminated in criminal charges against Crystal Joseph and Charles White, which came with restrictive conditions that prohibited the return of the dogs.

In 2024, the conviction was finally handed down and sent a message of deterrence. Both offenders were sentenced to 30 days incarceration, six months of probation, and a lifetime ban from owning, possessing, caring for, or residing with animals.

Protection Investigations					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Abandoned	146	174	228	273	192
Abused	133	133	112	144	135
Dirty Conditions	53	62	74	77	82
Basic Needs Not Met	94	110	95	116	109
Inadequate Shelter	214	228	163	149	179
Medical	277	286	292	253	209
Other	157	172	202	142	132
Prohibition	0	0	29	38	0
Total Investigations	1,074	1,165	1,195	1,192	1,038



## Animal Investigations & Seizures



## Growth of Protection Team

The prohibition from owning animals is a sentence that brings a sense of comfort and satisfaction to the team, knowing that animals will never suffer in the hands of these individuals again. In the past, Peace Officers have lacked the resources to do prohibition checks, which is a critical part of the prevention piece of their work.

Thanks to the support of B. Shaw and Family and our community, in 2024, Calgary Humane Society was able to welcome three new Peace Officers to the team. The training to become a Peace Officer is a long and arduous process that takes determination and focus to successfully complete.

With the additional resources, Calgary Humane Society's Protection and Investigations team is looking enthusiastically into 2025. Shifting from a reactionary approach to one where enhanced, proactive work will now be possible and will prevent future animal abuse. These measures include inspections of businesses and events where animals are for sale, hire or exhibition and proactive offender management, which includes prohibition checks, ensuring those who have been convicted of animal cruelty are abiding by their court orders, keeping animals safe even after an investigation is concluded.





# A DONOR'S COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING THE ANIMALS OF OUR CITY

Calgary Humane Society is deeply grateful for the loyal group of supporters who have sustained our work for over 100 years. We say it often, but we truly mean it: this work wouldn't be possible without our committed community of supporters, volunteers, adopters, and members!

If you've been supporting Calgary Humane Society for any length of time, you're likely aware of the increasing challenges loving pet owners in our community face. These barriers can make it difficult for them to keep their pets. Our commitment extends beyond finding families to adopt animals from Calgary Humane Society; we also strive to prevent surrenders and keep pets in their homes. By doing so, we preserve the deep bond between humans and animals, enriching the lives of both.

In 2024, we shared the need for increased Community Programming far and wide and saw generous partners and donors join us in this relatively new territory of supporting animals by supporting their owners. B. Shaw and Family are one of these partners.

Well-known for their philanthropic commitment and community support, B. Shaw and Family have always had a heart for vulnerable neighbors, both animal and human alike. When asked what motivates their love of animals, they shared, "Animals have always been a part of our lives growing up. They are our lifelong friends and always support us, so we feel inspired to support them in return." B. Shaw and Family have been loyal supporters of Calgary Humane Society through the years. In 2015, they made a 10-year funding commitment to facilitate two critical developments at Calgary Humane Society hoping to make a difference across the province and show how long-term funding can help with the planning and overall success for charities. Their generous commitment certainly supported long-term planning and laid the foundation for:

- An upgrade to Calgary Humane Society's building ensuring the best possible care for animals in need.
- Development of Humane Education programs that focus on building empathy and compassion in the next generation.

If you have visited our building recently, or been involved in one of our Kids Camps or Clubs, you will see that this generous commitment from 2015 ignited big change and meaningful impact.

The building was upgraded, expanded, and redesigned to prioritize animal well-being and enrichment. Animals now have bigger spaces, more outdoor enrichment and are separated from other species. Visitors can now visit anytime, interact with animals, and build deeper bonds. Animals are happier while they are here, which means they are energetic, interactive and their personalities shine, ultimately leading to faster adoptions and less time in the shelter.

Likewise, our Humane Education Youth Programs have grown to include Day Camps, Summer Camps, School Field Trips and Kids Clubs where youth learn how to be kind and respectful to animals, building compassion and empathy for all living things. Humane Education programs also include outreach programming in-schools and reach over 4,000 youth every year.





So much has been accomplished over the last 10 years, but there is still so much more to be done. When B. Shaw and Family learned of Calgary Humane Society's Community Programming, including Protection & Investigation work, Seniors Program and Pet Safekeeping, they discovered a unique opportunity to support both animals and their owners and reaffirmed their commitment with renewed excitement.

When asked what inspired their support, the HOP Foundation shared that, "Putting our funds toward the protection work specifically shines a light on how prevalent the mistreatment of animals still is. We need to be advocates since [animals] can't speak for themselves. As a family, we have always had a love for all animals, big and small. We try to treat all animals with kindness. These types of programs align with our values and overall mission within our foundation. They give us an opportunity to turn our values into action, supporting individuals and organizations that are doing purposeful and compassionate work."

As we look to the future, Calgary Humane Society remains deeply grateful for the extraordinary generosity and unwavering support of partners like B. Shaw and Family. Their long-term commitment has not only facilitated critical developments and enhanced our facilities but has improved the well-being of the animals in our care and the growing empathy and compassion among the youth in our community. With the continued dedication of the HOP Foundation, along with other loyal supporters, we are confident that we can overcome the challenges ahead.

Together, we will continue to make a lasting difference, ensuring that every animal receives the care, compassion, and respect they deserve. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey and for helping us create a brighter future for all.





# PROVIDING ACCESS TO VETERINARY CARE

In 2024, Calgary Humane Society received approval from the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA) to launch the PAWWISE Spay and Neuter Clinic in 2024. This is a no-cost spay/neuter clinic available to those who are facing a financial barrier to getting their pet this critical veterinary care.

The program is application based and once the portal was open for submissions, over **100** were received in the first **48** hours.

The first clinic was held on June 27, 2024 and since this time, the Calgary Humane Society team has been hosting additional surgery days to meet the initial demand, with the intention of continuing the program until we are confident all animals have received their spay/neuter surgeries, thereby reducing the unwanted puppies and kittens in our community.

With Calgary Humane Society's Veterinary team managing more infectious disease in shelter than ever before, the team also hosted Wellness Clinics to provide vaccination against life threatening illness – which include such viruses as:

- Panleukopenia
- Parvovirus
- Rabbit hemorrhagic disease

By expanding our reach into the community to offer wellness exams and vaccinations to those who otherwise, would not be able to access this care, we are not only protecting these animals from the harmful effects of these illnesses, we are also preventing the spread to other animals in the community.

In order to meet the demand for Calgary Humane Society's Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinics, we will be partnering with Calgary's external vet community in the coming year. This is to ensure individuals living in all quadrants of the city have the ability to participate.

Thanks to approval just received from the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, we are planning this much needed expansion to this critical program in the spring of 2025.

## Unspayed Dog and Cat Reproduction

Including all offspring

### Unspayed Dog Reproduction

**1 Year: 16 puppies**

**3 Year: 512 puppies**

**5 Year: 12,288 puppies**

### Unspayed Cat Reproduction

**1 Year: 12 kittens**

**3 Year: 376 kittens**

**5 Year: 11,801 kittens**







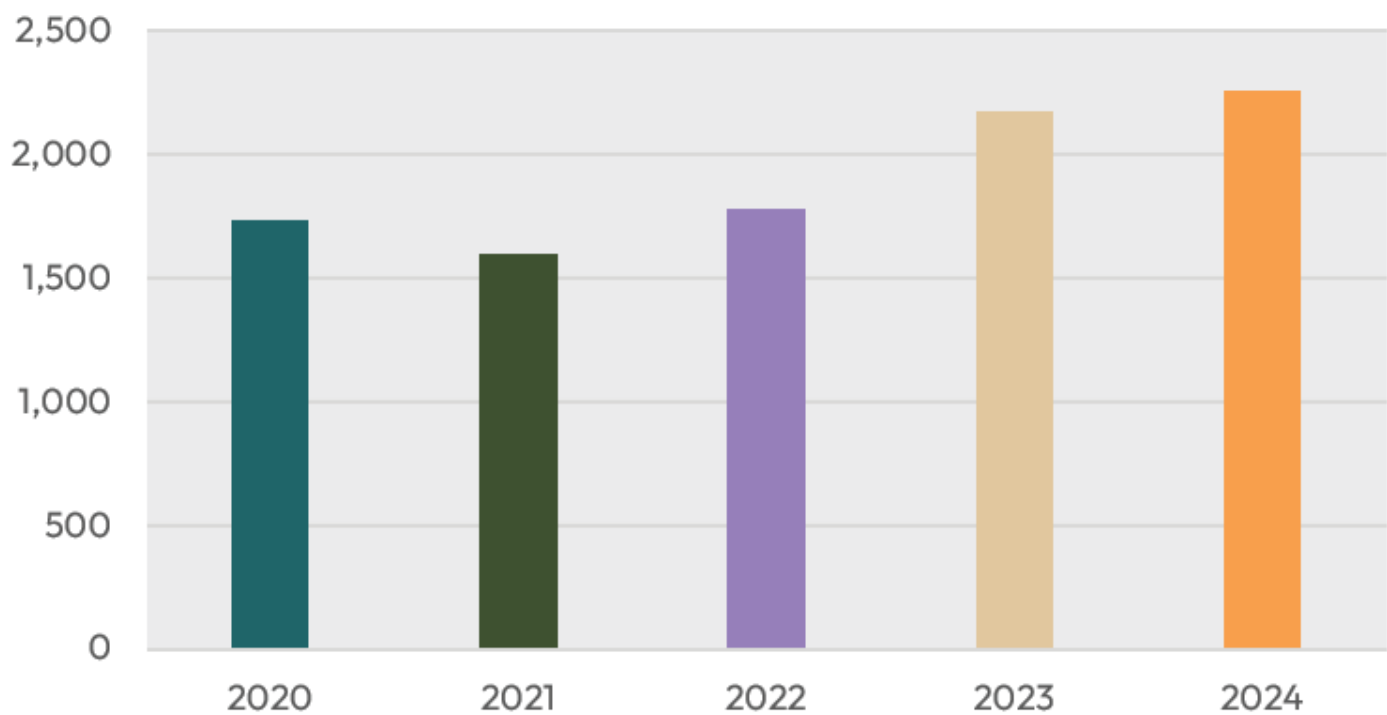
# IMPACT OF OUR VETERINARY TEAM

In 2024, Calgary Humane Society Veterinary Team:

- Performed **2,256** surgeries (2023 – 2,176)
- Performed **19,649** examinations (2023 – 21,555)
- Ran **960** diagnostic tests (2023 – 958)



Surgeries





## ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

In addition to the increased level of veterinary care, 2024 continued to pose challenges for other Animal Operations teams with a high number of behaviourally challenging dogs being admitted to the facility.

In 2024, Calgary Humane Society's Animal Care and Behaviour teams:

- Provided our animals with **31,470** hours of care, enrichment, and love.
- Prepared **125,057** cups of food to maintain the healthy vitality of our animals.
- Offered **474** animals increased behavioural support.
- Designed **535** socialization sessions tailored to each dog's specific needs.
- Introduced new enrichment programs to address the elevated needs of the animals in our care, including in-home consultation and cat consultations.

Through dedicated care, innovative programming, and the support of our Foster Program, Calgary Humane Society was able to decrease the length of time an animal was in the shelter to 16.1 days (2023 - 17.7 days) and increase the live release rate to 85.7% (2023 - 84.7%)

### Constructional Affection

Constructional Affection teaches animals to seek and receive attention appropriately by reinforcing desired behaviours rather than eliminating unwanted ones. Instead of ignoring problem behaviours, it shapes better alternatives. For example, reinforcing both jumping and calm approaches in a structured way prevents escalation to mouthing or nipping.

This approach includes the Interaction Guidelines, which reward calm approaches, and the Affection Loop, which teaches animals how to respond when petting stops. By reinforcing appropriate behaviour, Constructional Affection fosters clear communication, confidence, and a stronger bond, leading to lasting improvements and a more positive human-animal relationship.



### Dennis' Story

On March 17, 2024, Dennis arrived at Calgary Humane Society—a young, energetic adolescent dog with a sharp mind and a lot to learn. His enthusiasm often got the best of him, making him a handful for our shelter team to manage. But Dennis wasn't just another challenging case, he was an opportunity to showcase the power of patience and positive reinforcement-based training.

From day one, our Behaviour Team worked with Dennis daily, using the Constructional Affection training method to build foundational skills that would help him succeed in a home environment. Through positive reinforcement, he learned; four on the floor—keeping all paws grounded instead of jumping up in excitement as well as safe interactions—understanding how to engage with people and other animals appropriately.

As Dennis progressed, it became clear that he would thrive in a foster home where he could continue learning in a quiet and home-like environment. Not only did our Foster Team find the perfect rural foster placement, but the Behaviour Team personally delivered Dennis to his new home, ensuring a smooth transition. They spent time with his foster parent, providing guidance on how to support Dennis as he put his newly learned skills into practice.

At the time of writing, on his one-year anniversary in care, Dennis' journey is a testament to the expertise, commitment, and heart of our Behaviour Team. Their work doesn't just change the lives of animals—it transforms their future. And for Dennis, that future is looking brighter every day.

**EXCITING UPDATE: Dennis has been adopted as of March 30th, 2025!**



## FOSTER HOME PROGRAM

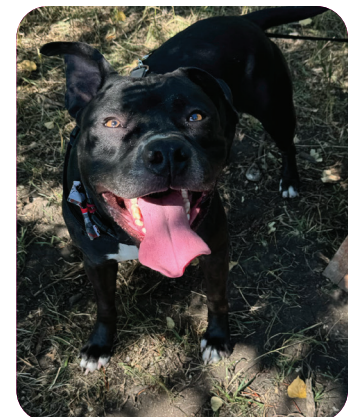
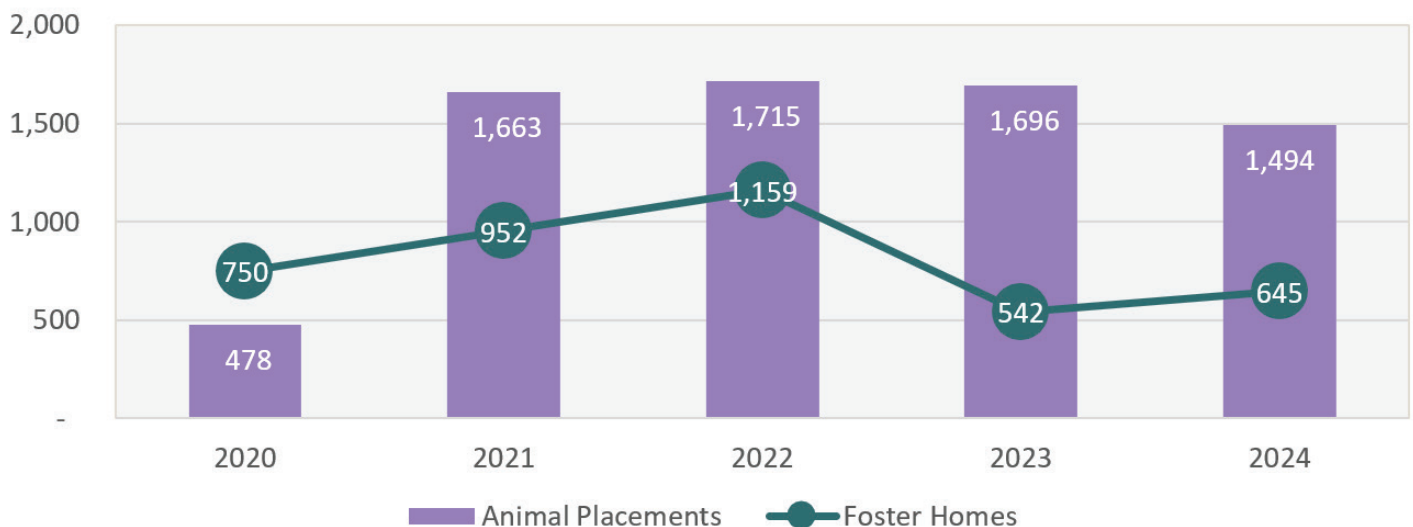
Finding a home for each of our animals is a responsibility we take very seriously. In 2024, the Foster Team worked with our **645** active Foster Families to provide a temporary home for those animals who were with us for a longer period of time or who struggled adjusting to life in an animal shelter.

In 2024, the Foster team managed to place **1,494** animals into a foster home and in doing so, condensed their time in shelter by close to **40%** which is equivalent to 10.2 days. While this may not seem like a long time, to an animal, this time can be lifesaving.

In 2024, the shelter was inundated with animals that were significantly more difficult to adopt due to their behaviour or size. With the restricted housing market and condos often having size restrictions, the number of long-term dogs was getting unmanageable and foster families simply could not take in these large breed dogs.

Our Foster team therefore got creative and launched the **Fur-Low program**. This is a one-day foster placement where a shelter dog gets to go for a field trip. This gives them a break from the shelter and makes an immeasurable difference to that animal, without the long term commitment fostering sometimes requires.

### Foster Program









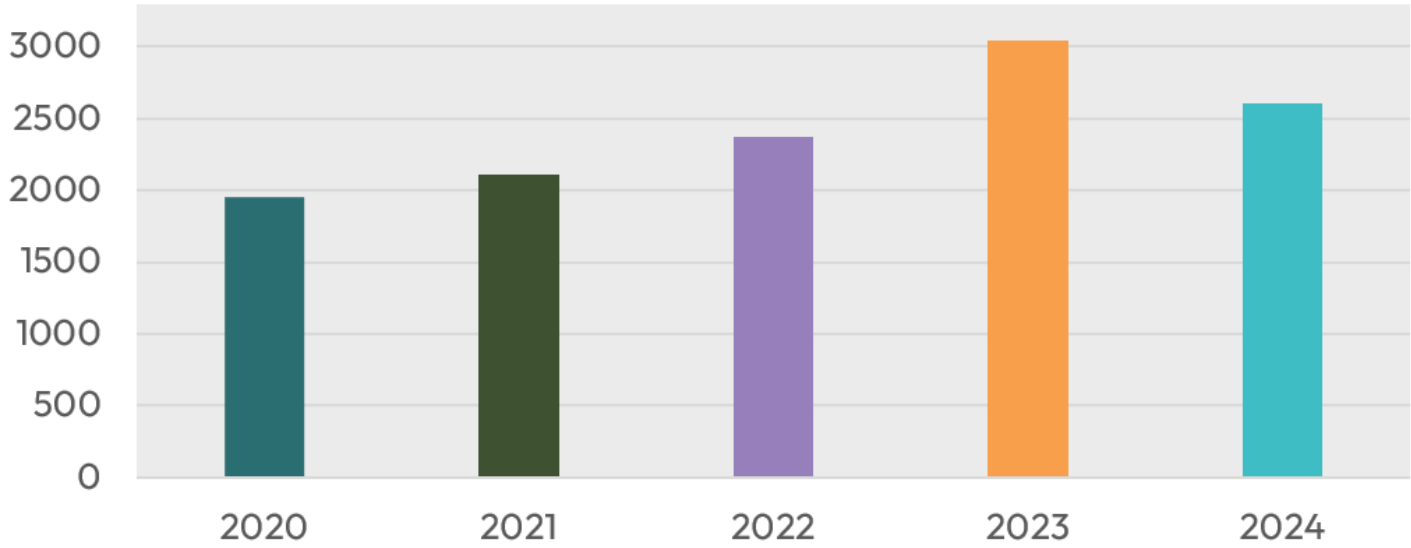
# ADOPTIONS

Calgary Humane Society Adoptions team has the joyful responsibility of seeking new homes for our animals once they are ready. This team has built an environment of cooperation and trust with our adopters to ensure every adopter feels prepared for the responsibility they are about to take on.



Adoption by Species					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Dog	294	287	508	632	613
Cat	1,142	1,222	1,288	1,787	1,621
Rabbit	235	194	116	77	76
Other	282	411	459	551	297
Total	1,953	2,114	2,371	3,047	2,607

## Adoptions





# POST ADOPTION SUPPORT

However, this relationship does not stop at adoption! In 2024, they strived to build a network of support around each adopter to ensure they had all the tools and resources they needed to be successful.

In 2024, the Adoptions team collaborated with the Behavior team to develop and expand adoption programs, and through this innovative programming they were able to place even more puppies in 2024 than they did in 2023 and succeeded in permanently adopting more animals through the Adopt from Foster Program and the Patient Paw Sleepover program which saw a growth of **84%** in 2024.

The Behaviour team created an in-home consultation program to support adopters long after the adoption process was complete. Recognizing that the transition to a new home can be challenging for both animals and their new families, this program is designed to ensure animals continue to thrive in their new environments.

Through this program, our Behaviour Team goes to the clients home while offering personalized guidance tailored to each pet’s unique needs. The in-home consultation program is an extension of our commitment to not only finding loving homes for animals but ensuring they remain happy, healthy, and well-adjusted in the years to come.



Post-Adoption Support Resources					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Class Registrations	313	481	601	657	601
Helpline Consultations	-	-	-	238	839
Behaviour Consultations	224	211	200	303	273
Total Class Registrants & Consults	537	692	801	1,198	1,713





# COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

## A Louder Voice to Protect Those Who Do Not Have One

Calgary Humane Society remained at the forefront of critical animal welfare issues in 2024. Through strong media relations and proactive media engagement, we ensured public awareness and advocacy on cases of animal abuse, large-scale surrenders, community initiatives, and policy changes.



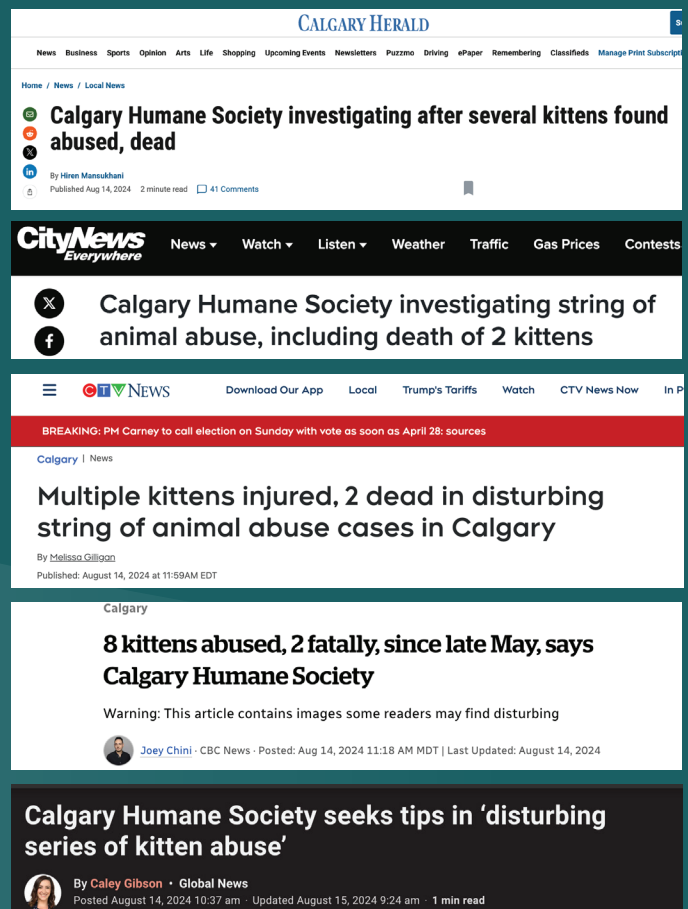
## Kingsland Kitten Killer

A deeply disturbing case of animal abuse shook the Calgary community, as multiple kittens were found injured or deceased in the Kingsland and Sandy Beach areas. Calgary Humane Society Peace Officers led the investigation and with the help of our Communications team brought attention to the severity of these crimes through media outlets.



### Kingsland Kitten Killer Articles

- CTV News: [ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/multiple-kittens-injured-2-dead-in-disturbing-string-of-animal-abuse-cases-in-calgary/](https://www.ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/multiple-kittens-injured-2-dead-in-disturbing-string-of-animal-abuse-cases-in-calgary/)
- CBC News: [cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/kittens-abused-calgary-humane-society-1.7294326](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/kittens-abused-calgary-humane-society-1.7294326)
- City News: [calgary.citynews.ca/2024/08/14/calgary-humane-society-kitten-abuse/](https://www.citynews.ca/2024/08/14/calgary-humane-society-kitten-abuse/)
- Global News: [globalnews.ca/news/10698301/calgary-kitten-abuse-kingsland-sandy-beach/](https://www.globalnews.ca/news/10698301/calgary-kitten-abuse-kingsland-sandy-beach/)
- Calgary Herald: [calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/calgary-humane-society-investigating-after-several-kittens-found-abused-dead](https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/calgary-humane-society-investigating-after-several-kittens-found-abused-dead)





# 110 Cat Surrender

In one of the largest cases of animal surrenders in recent history, Calgary Humane Society took in 110 cats from a single residence. This case highlighted the importance of responsible pet ownership and the need for ongoing community support in accessing spay and neuter services.



### 110 Cat Surrender Articles

- CTV News: [ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/more-than-100-cats-surrendered-by-calgary-homeowner/](https://www.ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/more-than-100-cats-surrendered-by-calgary-homeowner/)
- CBC News: [cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/110-cats-kittens-surrender-1.7413860](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/110-cats-kittens-surrender-1.7413860)
- City News: [calgary.citynews.ca/2024/12/18/calgary-humane-society-100-cat-surrenders/](https://calgary.citynews.ca/2024/12/18/calgary-humane-society-100-cat-surrenders/)
- Global News: [globalnews.ca/news/10923888/110-cats-surrendered-calgary/](https://globalnews.ca/news/10923888/110-cats-surrendered-calgary/)

# Notice of Motion

Calgary Humane Society supported a proposed motion to ban the retail sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in Calgary, advocating adoption over commercial breeding. The motion sparked debate among local businesses and residents.

Through these high-profile cases and initiatives, Calgary Humane Society reinforced our role as a leading advocate for Calgary’s most vulnerable animals. Our collaboration with media partners continues to amplify our message and drive meaningful change in animal welfare policies and community support programs.



### Notice of Motion Articles

- CTV News: [ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/calgary-businesses-split-on-possible-ban-on-retail-sale-of-dogs-cats-and-rabbits/](https://www.ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/calgary-businesses-split-on-possible-ban-on-retail-sale-of-dogs-cats-and-rabbits/)
- CBC News: [cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/dogs-cats-rabbits-sales-1.7414342](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/dogs-cats-rabbits-sales-1.7414342)
- City News: [calgary.citynews.ca/2024/12/18/calgary-notice-motion-ban-pet-sale/](https://calgary.citynews.ca/2024/12/18/calgary-notice-motion-ban-pet-sale/)
- Global News: [globalnews.ca/video/10923281/city-of-calgary-considering-banning-pet-sales-in-retail-stores](https://globalnews.ca/video/10923281/city-of-calgary-considering-banning-pet-sales-in-retail-stores)

CBC

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Calgary

110 cats surrendered to Calgary Humane Society from single home

It's one of the largest single intakes of cats the shelter has seen in recent years

Andrew Jeffrey

CBC News · Posted: Dec 18, 2024 10:42 AM MST | Last Updated: December 18, 2024

CTV NEWS

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Calgary | News

More than 100 cats surrendered by Calgary homeowner

By Kevin Green and Michael Franklin

Published: December 18, 2024 at 11:04AM EST

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'Largest single intake': 110 cats and kittens surrendered to Calgary Humane Society

WatchWorldCanadaLocalPoliticsMoneyHealthEntertainmentLifestyle

INVESTIGATIONS

110 cats surrendered in 'one of the largest single intakes' for Calgary Humane Society

Ken MacGillivray

Global News

Posted December 18, 2024 11:42 am · Updated December 18, 2024 2:20 pm · 2 min read

CBC

Top StoriesLocalClimateWorldCanadaPoliticsIndigenous

Calgary

Calgary council considering ban on stores selling pet dogs, cats and rabbits

City administration will prepare a review for late 2025

Andrew Jeffrey

CBC News · Posted: Dec 18, 2024 5:28 PM MST | Last Updated: December 19, 2024

CTV NEWS

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Calgary | News

Calgary businesses split on possible ban on retail sale of dogs, cats and rabbits

By Kevin Green

Published: December 17, 2024 at 8:11PM EST

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Calgary council notice of motion could ban retail sale of pets

City of Calgary considering banning pet sales in retail stores

DECEMBER 17, 2024

The City of Calgary is considering banning the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits in retail stores. Elissa Carpenter has the details.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

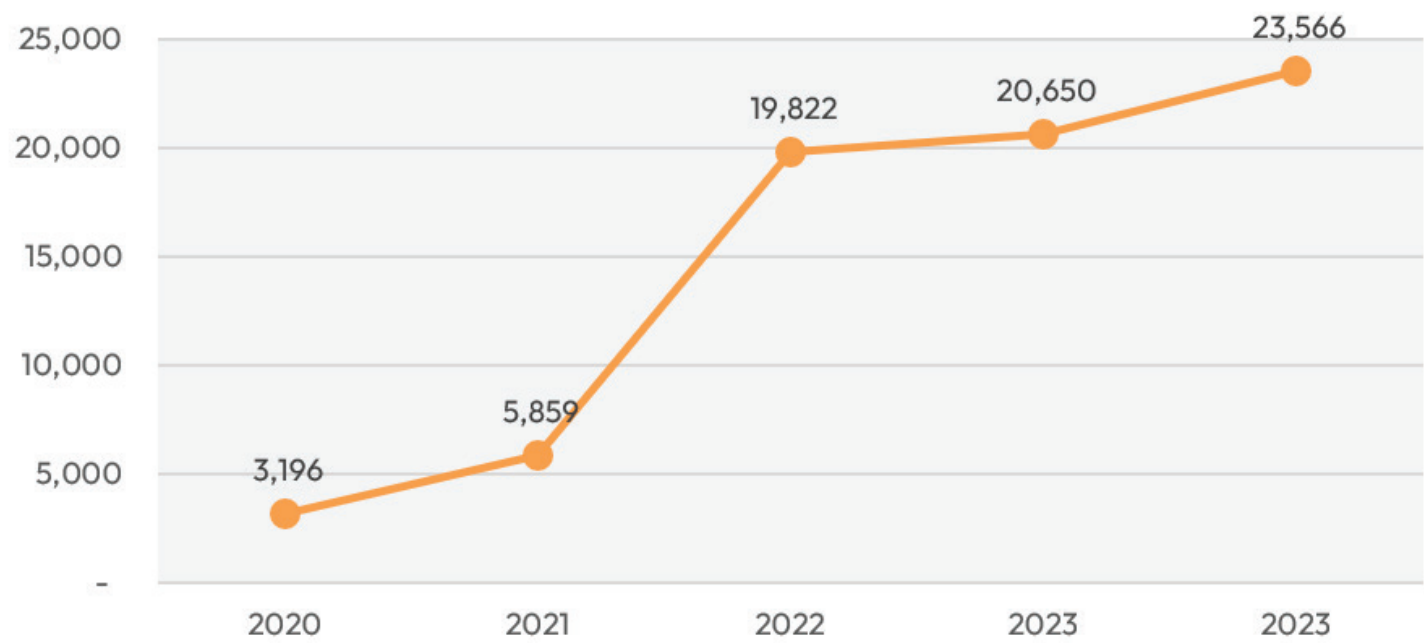
## Out in the Community

The messages which resonated with our community through our media relationships were extended further through the efforts of our Community Outreach team. This year we increased our reach by **14%** connecting with **23,566** individuals attending **112** events over the course of the year.



Humane Education & Community Outreach					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Outreach Events	-	24	49	76	112
Youth Connections	153	146	629	819	1,055
People Reached	3,196	5,859	19,822	20,650	23,566

People Reached







## Education

At Calgary Humane Society, we believe the best way to build compassion and empathy for animals and create a world where all lives are treated with respect, is through our youth. The Humane Education team works to teach our youth about responsible pet ownership, animal body language, and violence prevention in conjunction with larger lessons on human rights, environmental preservation, and animal protection.

In 2024, the Humane Education team connected with **1,055** (2023 – 819) children and youth through their Kids Camps, Field Trips, Tours, Clubs, and Birthday Parties – a **29%** increase from the prior year.

Our new Furry Friends in the Classroom presentation saw an overwhelming response from Calgary schools. This innovative program allows us to connect with classrooms while bringing one of our adoptable animals off-site for a live interaction. Many students don’t have the opportunity to meet animals in a controlled environment, so this program provides a unique chance to foster empathy and understanding for all living things.

During these classroom visits, our Humane Education Facilitators share the journey of animals coming into the shelter, including the care they receive and the adoption process. Students also have the opportunity to learn about animal body language, responsible pet ownership, and how to safely interact with animals. By bringing one of our animals directly into the classroom, we are helping build compassion and awareness, while inspiring the next generation of animal lovers and responsible citizens.

Humane Education					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Presentations	38	18	70	64	70
Field Trips	19	2	16	29	25
Tours	33	8	50	39	115
Day Camps	0	86	398	518	531
Youth Clubs	30	21	55	93	126
Reading Buddies	0	0	0	0	83
Birthday Parties	33	11	40	76	105



## FOSTER PARENT AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

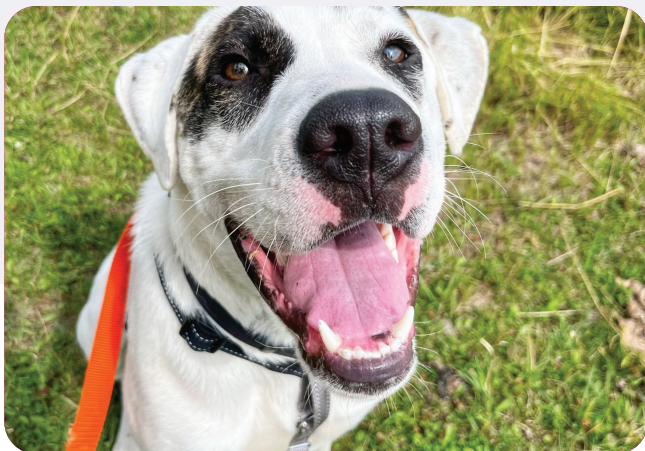
### Lori-Anne Egeland Foster Parent of the Year

We are proud to recognize Lori-Anne Egeland as our Foster Parent of the Year for 2024, a true embodiment of compassion and dedication to animal welfare. Since 2018, Lori-Anne has been a constant, loving presence in the lives of the countless animals she has cared for, providing a safe and nurturing environment to over **85** foster animals of all kinds.

One of Lori-Anne's most remarkable stories of 2024 is her journey with Titan, a dog who faced significant struggles before finding his way to adoption. Lori-Anne's steadfast care and guidance played an essential role in Titan overcoming his challenges and eventually finding a loving home.

During the same time, Lori-Anne fostered Dennis, a dog she took in as part of our Adopt-from-Foster program in September 2024 and he flourished under her care. It is no exaggeration to say that Lori-Anne has truly helped save his life, and her continued efforts give Dennis the chance to heal, grow, and prepare for his next chapter.

Lori-Anne's passion for fostering animals is a testament to her deep love for all creatures, large and small. Her impact on the lives of the animals she cares for is immeasurable, and we are incredibly grateful for her ongoing commitment to our mission.



### Christy-Anne Parker Volunteer of the Year

We are delighted to recognize Christy-Anne Parker as our Volunteer of the Year for 2024. Christy-Anne has been an invaluable part of our team, consistently going above and beyond to support our mission and enhance the community. Over the past year, she has contributed **474** volunteer hours in multiple ways - working reception, leading group volunteer days, assisting with laundry, and playing a key role as Volunteer Administrator.

Her work ethic, reliability, and passion for animal welfare have made a lasting impact. Christy-Anne's leadership and positive attitude have helped strengthen our volunteer team, foster collaboration, and grow our programs. She has also mentored new volunteers, inspiring them with her professionalism and dedication.

Beyond her work, Christy-Anne's kindness and compassion create a welcoming environment for everyone she meets, from staff to visitors. Her unwavering commitment and exceptional contributions truly embody the spirit of volunteerism.

Congratulations to Christy-Anne, who is our 2024 Volunteer of the Year.







**From everyone at Calgary  
Humane Society, thank you for  
an incredible year!**



# A LOOK INTO 2025

For many of us, as we look towards 2025, it is with great trepidation as we face a time that is causing many great concern. To say “unsettling” does not seem to do it justice. However, it is often during these times of instability that our community leans on Calgary Humane Society more heavily and we become something people count on with confidence. We will remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting the animals in our community and supporting those that love them to create a more humane world – one where all lives are treated with respect and compassion.

While we are immensely proud of the accomplishments achieved in the past year, we understand there is much work to do. We launched an ambitious strategic plan in 2024 and we have a solid action plan for 2025 designed to lead us closer to the achievement of our goals:

**To engage our community to create meaningful change in animal welfare**

**To provide the highest standard of care for our animals through new and improved programming that promotes the human-animal bond**

**To empower our team of staff, volunteers, and foster families to build a strong foundation of support for our animals and organization**

**To provide opportunities for all individuals to engage with Calgary Humane Society in the way that is most meaningful to them**

While we may need to adapt our plan for the current environment, we will continue to advance through thoughtful collaboration, ongoing conversation, and the support of our donors, volunteers, staff, and community who share our desire to shape a more humane future.

Thank you to all those who continue to be a part of the Calgary Humane Society family. Every success we have, is only because we achieved it together.











**Calgary  
Humane  
Society**

**Protect Animals.**

**Support People.**

**Create a More Humane World.**

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