



**AARCS**  
ALBERTA ANIMAL  
RESCUE CREW SOCIETY

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT







Raina

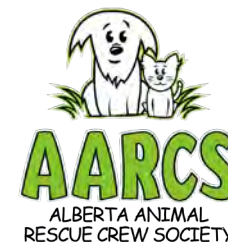
AARCS and the people who make up this amazing organization are making a difference every day in the lives of homeless animals, and there really is no greater feeling in the world than to save a life.

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## CONTRIBUTORS

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Dog With a Bow Photography  
First Howl Photography



# EXECUTIVE

Deanna Thompson, Executive Director

Niki Vlooswyk, Controller

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Brian Churchman, Vice President

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Randy Vanee, Secretary

Brieanna Bridgeman, Director at Large

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Vanessa Salopek, Director at Large

Amanda Manasterski, Director at Large



Pippa



Dynamo



Aurora



Aldara



# MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Deanna & Ila

2020 was quite the year and one to be remembered. I will remember it as a year that proved our ability to think outside the box, to be agile and to evolve quickly with changing circumstances which would lead to **thousands of animal lives saved amidst a global pandemic**. I have never been more proud of the staff and volunteers as we worked hard to persevere through this crisis. Our worlds were turned upside down, yet we jumped every hurdle, ducked at every obstacle thrown our way and managed to maintain the course to help as many animals as we could.

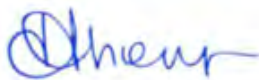
Our animal care and veterinary staff came to work at the shelter every day to ensure the animals were cared for, provided medical care and prepared animals for adoption. The foster homes opened their homes and their hearts. Our adoption team worked endless hours managing volumes of inquiries we've never experienced before. Our events and communications team worked from home with every fundraising event cancelled, but they didn't let it get them down. They worked on new, innovative ideas to reach you, our amazing supporters, who answered the call and supported us during the most difficult year in our history. And in the background, our Edmonton team pushed to get North Haven built and up and running. That's a lot for one year, yet there is more!

There are so many accomplishments from 2020, here are a few of the highlights:

- Our doors remained opened to homeless animals in need;
- Animal Intake numbers exceeded 4,000 animals;
- Demand for adoptable animals increased 4x over what we have seen in the past;
- Completed nearly 700 spay/neuter surgeries through our TNR and SNAP programs;
- Launched our first-ever Cash Lottery;
- The first rescued animals arrived at North Haven in December 2020 and our doors officially opened in January 2021.

We look forward to when things around the globe return to normal. For us here at AARCS, we are grateful to have been deemed essential and that because of you, our supporters and donors, we were able to continue this important work. On behalf of the animals, THANK YOU!

Sincerely,



Deanna Thompson  
Executive Director



## OUR MISSION

Changing Lives  
Through Kindness

## OUR VISION

A Compassionate World  
For All Animals



## OUR VALUES

COMPASSION • COLLABORATION  
INTEGRITY • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP

- 🐾 A SAFE HAVEN FOR HOMELESS ANIMALS
- 🐾 PREVENTION IS KEY (SNAP & TNR)
- 🐾 SPAY AND NEUTER
- 🐾 STRONG NETWORKS TO SUPPORT ANIMAL CARE
- 🐾 BEST PRACTICES IN ANIMAL WELFARE

Chaplan





# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS



## COVID AND ANIMAL WELFARE

As the world started to shut down in March of 2020, AARCS was working hard to find a way to ensure we were deemed essential, could remain operational and continue to help animals in need. We had over 500 animals in care when COVID hit Canada and the calls for help didn't end when the human crisis began. Thanks to a newly developed business continuity plan, we already had played different scenarios out and had a plan in place to avoid and mitigate risks associated with a disruption in operations. We just needed to modify it for a pandemic.

It started with sending all administrative staff and volunteers home and splitting our animal care and veterinary team into closed teams who wouldn't have any contact with each other. That meant if someone got sick and required the team to isolate, we had another team available to keep operations going. Our administrative team would be a backup if needed. We had to cancel the already planned

Dueling Pianos event and eventually all of our signature fundraising events had to be canceled for the remainder of the year. This however gave us the opportunity to think outside the box for fundraising and we hosted our first Spring Flower Fundraiser in April 2020, which was a huge success and later that year our first ever Cash Lottery, also a huge success.

Our programs staff and volunteers found ways to move adoption meet and greets outdoors for dogs and virtually for cats. We figured out how to put volunteer and foster training online and added new processes that kept our volunteers and staff safe while also ensuring we could help as many animals as possible. As the year progressed we ebbed and flowed with the restrictions and challenges they presented.



Cauatro, Cittern, Castanet & Cornett

We look forward to the end of the COVID crisis and are grateful for what it taught us about perseverance and for giving us new ways to operate to better serve animals in need. We are also eternally grateful that our supporters stayed with us, purchased tickets, donated and continued to volunteer and foster throughout these tough times as we could not have done it without each and every one of them.

## UNPRECEDENTED COVID ADOPTIONS

2020 was a year like no other for animal adoptions. We received over 15,000 applications for both dogs and cats compared to 7,158 in 2019. We worked hard to rescue animals in need, but each still needed time to be provided with medical and behavioural care before finding a new adoptive home. As a result, we saw 2,800 animals into new loving adoptive homes.

Both the physical and mental health benefits of having a companion animal have been proven and more now than ever people needed that companionship. For many individuals and families having a companion animal to help cope with the isolation caused by government

restrictions was invaluable, aiding with depression and anxiety, lower blood pressure, and increasing physical activity. People flocked to adopt a pet through 2020 and into 2021. We had to get creative with how to do meet and greets to keep foster homes/staff and interested adopters safe, including mandatory outdoor meet and greets for dogs and zoom meetings for cats. We are also so thankful to all the foster families who assisted in caring for our animals prior to adoption. For many it brought family members together, bringing joy and excitement for kids to care for animals during these times and companionship for singles, without having the long-term commitment of adoption.





# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS



## YEG EXPANSION

Although the construction/renovation project at our new North Haven facility was put on hold at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic we started up the work again in the summer of 2020 and completed construction and permitting in early 2021. We transformed a 10,000 square foot retail and warehouse space into a warm and welcoming animal shelter and adoption centre.

Thanks to our amazing supporters who helped us raise 68% of the construction and equipment costs during a global pandemic. Although we had hoped to raise the full amount, we are grateful for the support during such uncertain times. Our new facility in Edmonton boasts five spacious and bright cat adoption rooms with 40 kennels and a welcoming reception area for our visitors. In the back, there are three cat quarantine rooms, 12 dog runs, a dog isolation bay and storage area for food and donations. We have welcomed 91 new volunteers and 73 new foster homes for a total of 394 volunteers and foster homes in the Edmonton area. The facility has already proven to be life-saving allowing our rescue teams to head to remote northern communities to rescue animals in need when we receive a call and ensure they have a safe and warm place to arrive.

We look forward to welcoming so many more animals to North Haven for years to come.



## TNR: TRAP-NEUTER (OR SPAY)-RETURN PARTNERSHIP

Over the summer of 2020 our TNR team worked alongside the Canadian Animal Task Force (CATF) to help numerous colonies of feral cats across Alberta. This was not an easy feat and took weeks of planning, and several trips to each colony to ensure no cats were left behind. Any sick or injured cats and any kittens were admitted to our adoption program and the remainder would be vetted and returned back to their home area.

With the help of AARCS' and CATF's amazing volunteers including vets, techs and general helping hands, we examined, vaccinated, dewormed and altered 352 cats at AARCS Veterinary Hospital. The cats remained at Safe Haven throughout their stay and then were returned home. There they were welcomed by their wonderful community caregivers with fresh food, water and new shelters for the winter.

The cats returned through our TNR programs are cared for by local caregivers. This program provides humane solutions to cat overpopulation issues. These cats are not your typical house cat and are not considered to be adoptable, except in rare cases. They are wild cats who are used to roaming freely. By spaying or neutering these cats we can stabilize the population, improve quality of life for the cats, while reducing the overall number of feral cats. Projects like this take a lot of work and planning from all aspects and we are so grateful we could make a difference for these cats and their communities.

In total 352 cats were returned to the communities they call home and 186 cats and kittens remained in AARCS adoption programs.





# DOG PROGRAM



STATS	2018	2019	2020	2021 TARGET
TOTAL INTAKE*	1,529	2,076	1,499	1,440
ADOPTIONS	1,380	1,238	1,114	1,000
RETURN TO OWNER**	123	505*	173	180
TRANSFER	34	35	44	N/A

\*Increase is due to assistance during wildfires in Northern Alberta.

\*\*Return to owner includes strays found and returned and client animals cared for through our SNAP and disaster response programs.



Turk



Blizzard



Peeler

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed new online training seminars for volunteers and foster homes. Because of COVID we were able to begin moving some of our additional training sessions online, including disinfecting workshops, medical and whelping.
- Saw over 10,000 applications for dog adoptions come in during 2020, compared to 4,900 in 2019.
- Onboarded 467 new foster homes in 2020. Many of these ended up adopting their foster dog and moving on. Similar to adoption inquiries, COVID saw a huge increase in interest in helping through fostering.
- Our length of stay for dogs remained consistent around 43 days. We have seen an increase in adult dogs and medical cases that often must stay in care for weeks and often months before going for adoption.
- We will always accept our animals back if an adoption doesn't work out. We proudly boast a very minimal 3.3% return rate.
- Assisted 175 dogs through our SNAP program. Down from our goal of 300. That said, it's an impressive number as the majority of the communities we work in were closed during the first and second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## LITTLE PEA

### HOW AN ORPHANED PUPPY, WITH A CLEFT NOSE AND MISSING EYE, FROM ALBERTA FOUND A HOME WITH A CLEFT AND CRANIOFACIAL SURGEON AT SICK KIDS IN TORONTO

**Little Pea** was born with Microphthalmia (an eye abnormality), a cleft nose, and she was teenier than teeny. Her chances of survival were very low. Her mother rejected her, leaving her in the woods all alone to allow nature to take its course. AARCS was called when she was found in hopes that we could save her. Though her future may have seemed bleak, we were determined to give this little orphan pup the fighting chance she needed and deserved.

Little Pea's condition was critical. She spent some time at the AARCS Veterinary Hospital at Safe Haven as she fought off dehydration and an extreme parasite load. Little Pea continued to beat the odds in her foster home and it was wonderful to see her thriving! She was chosen to go on a hiking adventure with talented photographer and storyteller, Rachael Rodgers of Rachael Rodgers Photo Works, and what happened next was nothing short of "meant to be".

Rachael shared Little Pea's adventure on her Instagram page, and while we all collectively fell in love with her, a very special person saw potential for a greater purpose. We were contacted immediately by Dr. Johanna Riesel, a paediatric cleft and craniofacial surgeon at Sick Kids in Toronto, who was moved by Little Pea's story and hoped this special pup could help her own small patients with similar facial differences.

"It would be a great joy of mine to train a dog like Little Pea to help children realize that their differences are, in part, what make them so wonderful." Dr. Riesel said.

We always knew Little Pea was special, and after speaking with Dr. Riesel, it was clear that our Little Pea was destined for even greater things! After an hour-long interview and a Zoom meet-and-greet, her new mom flew to Calgary and returned to Toronto with her the same day.

Little Pea now lives in Toronto with her new mom and her new name is Ruthie Bader Ginsberg, Notorious DOG ("Ruthie" for short)! You can follow her adventures at @ruthie\_ruth\_bader\_ginsberg on Instagram.





# CAT PROGRAM



STATS	2018	2019*	2020	2021 TARGET
TOTAL INTAKE*	1,512	2,082	2,307	2,400
ADOPTIONS	1,376	1,632	1,706	2,100
RETURN TO OWNER**	52	386	499	350
TRANSFER	9	0	1	N/A

*\*Increase is due to assistance during wildfires in Northern Alberta.*

*\*\*Return to owner includes strays found and returned and client animals cared for through our SNAP, TNR and disaster response programs.*



Vianna



Q-Tip



Carpenter

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed a new cat adoption program at North Haven in Edmonton.
- We had a very successful TNR season completing 352 surgeries.
- Developed new online training seminars for volunteers and foster homes.
- Onboarded 174 new cat foster homes in 2020. Similar to dog foster homes, we saw a large influx of foster homes, but most adopted their first foster and stopped fostering.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we could not place cats with the majority of our pet store partners and only were able to operate with limited space. Despite this, we maintained a rate of 14% of adoptions from pet stores.
- Maintained a return-rate below 5% in 2020, which is great!

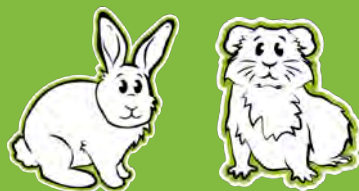
## MINNIE

**Minnie** came into AARCS care in August 2020. He was taken into an emergency clinic after being found severely injured following an attack by a dog. After being stabilized it was determined that his leg and hip joint required orthopedic surgery. We booked him in with board certified surgeon, Dr. Audrey Remedios, who performed FHO surgery. Minnie was then sent to one of our loving foster homes for rehabilitation. Once he was healed he was quickly adopted out to a loving adoptive family.





# SMALL ANIMAL PROGRAM



STATS	2018	2019	2020	2021 TARGET
TOTAL INTAKE*	28	74	47	50
ADOPTIONS	12	15	51	50
RETURN TO OWNER**	0	53	0	N/A
TRANSFER	15	0	1	N/A

\*Small animals include all animals who are not dogs or cats, including rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, birds, reptiles.  
\*\*Return to owner includes strays found and returned and client animals cared for through our assistance and disaster response programs.



Carrot



Petunia



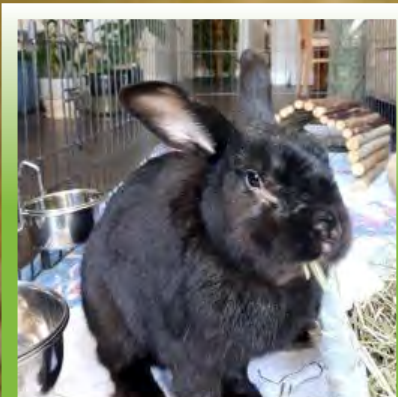
Poptart

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed a network of foster homes to care for small animals.
- Doubled number of small animal adoptions in 2020.
- Set up a small animal adoption space at North Haven in Edmonton.
- Our medical team has worked to expand our skills and understanding of small animal medical care.

## ASPARAGUS

**Asparagus** is just one of the thousands of domestic bunnies living at large in cities across Alberta. According to locals in the area, Asparagus started with a raw spot around his eye which had progressively gotten worse over time. He desperately needed medical attention. Fortunately he was rescued, brought to AARCS and we went to work to fix him up. After weeks of delicate wound care, little Gus-Gus really started to come around. The damaged tissue was carefully removed to allow healthy tissue to form and eventually scar over. He might not have as fluffy of a face as most other bunnies, but he's got a gentle soul and a heart of gold and was soon adopted by a loving family. Although we cannot help all the feral and stray rabbits, we are trying hard to do our part to help as many as we can.





# VOLUNTEER OPERATIONS

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed and implemented online training for volunteers and foster parents allowing us to onboard them into the organization without having to be onsite.
- Implemented new protocols to allow volunteers to continue to help with operations while ensuring we were following AHS guidelines.
- Onboarded 91 new volunteers in Edmonton for a total of 394 in the Edmonton area. We also developed a recruitment and training plan for the new North Haven facility in Edmonton.
- Developed an approved list of trusted partner rescue/humane societies based on a shared set of values and morals.
- Over 40,000 volunteer hours in 2020. This is below 2019 due to COVID social distancing requirements and event cancellations.



STATS	2018	2019	2020
# OF VOLUNTEERS	1,835	2,136	2,793
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS	51,152	58,873	41,079*
KM TRAVELLED	101,764	153,112**	68,618
CORPORATE WORKBEES	DATA NOT AVAILABLE	52	7

\*Volunteer hours were reduced due to COVID-19 pandemic and staff were reassigned to animal care duties during the peak waves of the pandemic to reduce the number of people in the building.  
All volunteer group sessions and any non-essential volunteer shifts were canceled.  
\*\*Includes over 50,000km driven to assist with the fires in Northern Alberta.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

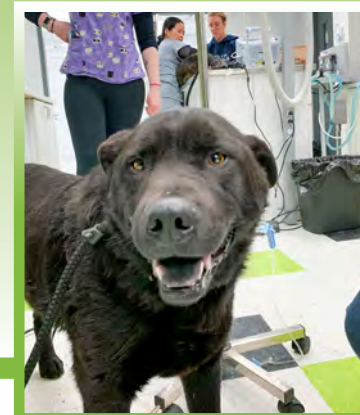
- Increased accessibility for Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) to additional communities.
- Even with the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing closures of many communities we were able to assist 173 Spay Neuter Assistance Program dogs and 147 TNR cats for a total of 320 animals.
- Worked alongside the provincial government on finalizing the province-wide disaster response plan to assist families with pets during disasters (still in progress).
- Implemented animal disaster response training plan and Incident Command System (ICS) training for staff/volunteers.
- Provided food and pet supply assistance to over 240 families.



STATS	2018	2019	2020	2021 TARGET
SPAY NEUTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)	175	535	320	340
TRAP NEUTER RETURN (TNR)	0*	99	352	210
FOOD ASSISTANCE	224	225	242	250
DOG HOUSE PROGRAM	60	23	0	0
ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE	0	505	N/A	N/A

\*Waiting for approval from ABVMA to be able to do TNR surgeries at AARCS Veterinary Hospital.

For more information on our assistance programs, check out our website at [AARCS.ca](http://AARCS.ca)!





# VETERINARY HOSPITAL

STATS	2018	2019	2020	2021 ESTIMATES
EXAMS	6,977	11,518	11,207	12,000
VACCINES	9,027	10,789	10,295	12,000
SPAY/NEUTER	2,533	2,848	2,603	2,750
DENTAL	294	302	288	300
OTHER SURGERIES	409	459	491	500

VET STUDENT EDUCATION	2018	2019	2020
PRACTICUM / ROTATIONS	47 STUDENTS	30 STUDENTS	39 STUDENTS
DVM (VET)	480 HOURS	721 HOURS	1,138 HOURS
RVT / VTA	2,528 HOURS	2,296 HOURS	2,296 HOURS

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Continued our positive working relationships with University of Calgary, Olds College, Robertson College, and VCA rotations to assist in having a consistent stream of volunteer/practicum students assisting and learning in the clinic. The number of students was reduced to ensure distancing for COVID, but we were able to provide some great learning opportunities.
- Managed a six-week veterinary rotation during COVID for four DVM students with University of Calgary Veterinary Medicine.
- Maintained full operations during COVID. The veterinary team was a single cohort and no other staff or volunteers were allowed in the clinic to protect the most vulnerable aspect of our operations.
- We are now fully staffed with four veterinarians, five RVTs, and two support staff, a clinic manager and a clinic administrator.



# SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Launched AARCS new custom website.
- Increased traffic to our website likely due to a massive increase in interest in adoptions due to COVID.
- Developed new merchandise including "Rescue is My Favorite Breed" t-shirt and hoodie and AARCS branded masks.
- Launched our first cash lottery, which sold out!
- Developed a professional promotional video which is available for viewing on AARCS YouTube.
- Launched a capital fundraising campaign for Edmonton expansion project and raised 68% of \$400,000 goal.

### AARCS SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Duelling Pianos: canceled, raised \$13,486 virtually.
- Spring Flower Fundraiser: raised \$54,237
- Jail and Bail: canceled.
- Online Auction (sponsored by Pet Planet): raised \$10,360
- End of Year Gala: canceled.
- Holiday Wreath Fundraiser: raised \$27,946.



STATS	2018	2019	2020	2021 TARGET
Facebook FANS	84,730	90,804	98,143	105,000
Twitter FOLLOWERS	5,265	5,831	8,209	10,000
Instagram FOLLOWERS	22,860	36,052	48,404	55,000
Email SUBSCRIBERS	21,619	19,445*	22,079	23,000
Website USERS PER MONTH	N/A	21,619	84,600	75,000





\* Reduction is due to a new procedure to clean up email lists quarterly to remove those who do not open.





# 2021 AND BEYOND

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS MET IN JANUARY 2021 TO UPDATE AARCS' STRATEGIC PLAN. THIS PLAN CONTINUES TO HELP GUIDE AND LEAD THE ORGANIZATION TOWARDS OUR VISION OF A COMPASSIONATE WORLD FOR ALL ANIMALS. WE WILL DO THIS THROUGH THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

-  1. Build strong networks to support animal care
-  2. Increase veterinary clinic capacity
-  3. Continuously improve programs
-  4. Expand our services where needed



PATHWAY TO REACHING OUR GOALS		2021-2022 PRIORITIES	
Continue to Expand TNR and SNAP		• Focus on prevention of animal homelessness through spay and neuter services. Expanded veterinary capacity is needed in order to increase capacity.	
Training Opportunities		• Expand upon training opportunities for staff / volunteers / foster parents / adopters.	
Continue to Provide the Highest Level of Medical Care		• Maintain outsources for specialized surgeries, increased training for veterinary staff, maintain formalized partnerships in the veterinary industry.	
Space Optimization		• Optimization of food storage and donation sorting processes. • Plan veterinary clinic expansion and renovation.	
North Haven Evaluation		• Evaluate programs and services in Edmonton and determine needs and space requirements for the future.	
Enhance Partnership Opportunities		• Continue to work towards identifying and executing collaborative partnerships to improve animal welfare (corporate, school/universities, retailers, peer animal welfare organizations, etc).	
Strengthen and Enhance Resource Base and Support		• Monitor market and assess new opportunities for resource development, diversify funding and enhance financial management and donor retention strategies.	
Human Resources		• Ensure we are attracting, retaining and supporting our staff, volunteers and foster families, including having a resource plan in place to match the growth of the organization.	



Chad





## RESCUE

AARCS main focus will always be to ensure homeless animals have a safe place to come to and to facilitate pet adoptions across Alberta. We have three focus areas in 2021, including:

- 1) expanding our reach further into Northern Alberta now that we have a shelter in Edmonton;
- 2) to grow our small animal adoption program to give these deserving animals a second chance; and
- 3) to continue to accept animals who's injuries or conditions may see them euthanized elsewhere and to provide these animals with lifesaving medical care at our in-house veterinary hospital.

## ENDING PET OVERPOPULATION

We believe it is the responsibility of animal welfare organizations rehoming pets to also have support programs in place to help end animal overpopulation and homelessness. Here at AARCS we will continue to expand our capabilities to do even more community support through focused efforts on Spay/Neuter Initiatives (SNAP) and Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) so that one day perhaps we won't be needed. In order to meet these targets an expansion of our veterinary capacity is needed.

## VETERINARY HOSPITAL EXPANSION

We have reached capacity for what our on-site veterinary hospital can manage on a daily basis, yet we have the man-power, drive and ambition to answer the calls for help. Through 2021 and beyond, we will look to expand our clinic in Calgary by adding an additional dental suite, a second exam room, third operating room and an expanded recovery space.

Veterinary care remains the biggest obstacle to getting adoptable animals up for adoption, and surgery space for our clients in our SNAP and TNR programs. With expanded physical space we can increase our capacity to help even more animals. In addition, we will begin work towards building a business case for opening a veterinary hospital in Edmonton in the future.

## EDMONTON NORTH HAVEN

With a focus on the cat overpopulation crisis in our country, the addition of the cat adoption centre at North Haven in Edmonton along with coordinated efforts to continue SNAP and TNR initiatives is imperative to our long-term mission. We spent the better part of 2020 doing renovations to transform a space into a beautiful animal shelter in Edmonton. The 10,000 square foot building includes an onsite cat and small animal adoption centre, dog and cat intake/quarantine kennels and a space for our volunteers and staff to gather. This huge leap in opening a second location will support AARCS operations as we expand our reach farther into Northern Alberta where animal rescue and veterinary services are limited. The new facility has proved invaluable in the few short months it has been open.

## ANIMAL WELFARE

- We seek to be a leader in animal welfare through daily practice of our five values: compassion, collaboration, integrity, learning and leadership.
- We seek to be open-minded, inclusive and respectful in all we do. We believe our communities are best served when organizations work together to make a difference.
- A foundation of ethical practices, fiscal responsibility and standards of care are key in these relationships.
- We focus on educating our board, staff and volunteers through a continuous improvement mindset.
- We are committed to strong stewardship of our resources and provide leadership and influence in animal welfare.
- We believe the world will be a better place for all when everyone is treated with kindness and compassion.

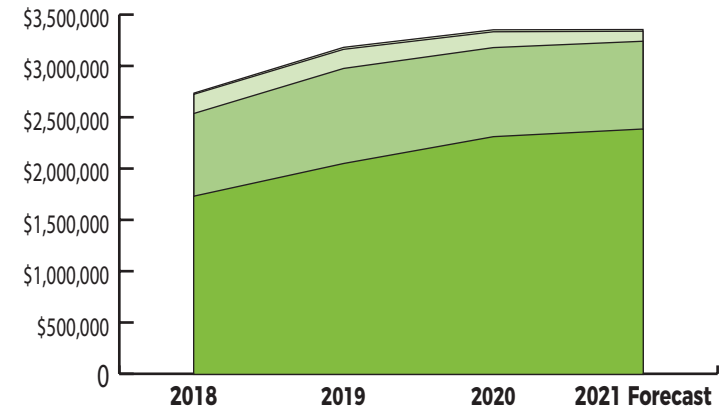


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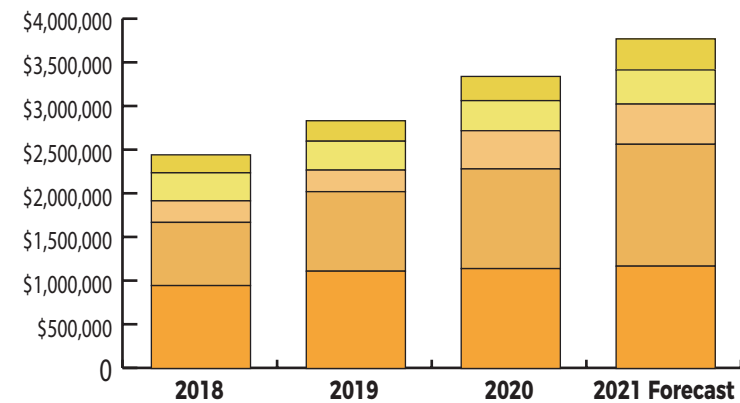


# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

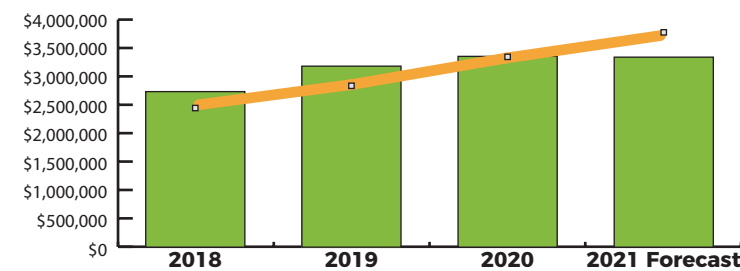


REVENUE	2018	2019	2020	2021 Forecast
Donations & Fundraising	\$1,730,734	\$2,048,255	\$2,308,894	\$2,383,580
Program Revenue*	\$805,270	\$925,746	\$867,823	\$855,000
Grants	\$186,577	\$185,778	\$153,748	\$97,550
Other	\$11,109	\$19,112	\$19,145	\$16,200
Total	\$2,733,690	\$3,178,891	\$3,349,610	\$3,352,330

\* Mostly Adoption Fees



EXPENSES	2018	2019	2020	2021 Forecast
Veterinary Expense	\$946,739	\$1,111,118	\$1,140,587	\$1,168,526
Sheltering & Programs	\$721,246	\$907,667	\$1,137,919	\$1,391,145
Resource Development	\$245,990	\$246,196	\$436,090	\$458,833
Administration	\$319,850	\$330,026	\$343,202	\$389,724
Amortization	\$205,523	\$233,380	\$276,466	\$354,636
TOTAL	\$2,439,348	\$2,828,387	\$3,334,264	\$3,762,865



ANNUAL	2018	2019	2020	2021 Forecast
Revenue	\$2,733,690	\$3,178,891	\$3,349,880	\$3,336,130
Expenses	\$2,439,348	\$2,828,387	\$3,334,264	\$3,762,865

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HAMILTON  
ROSENTHAL  
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS LLP

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society

### Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (the Society), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at December 31, 2020, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

### Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Society derives revenue from fundraising activities the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Society. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraising revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the year ended December 31, 2020, current assets and net assets as at December 31, 2020.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (continued)

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Calgary, Alberta  
June 3, 2021

*Hamilton & Rosenthal*  
Chartered Professional Accountants LLP

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# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2020			
	2020	2019	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current			
Cash (Note 5)	\$ 1,643,292	\$ 1,786,155	
Term deposits (Note 6)	50,000	50,000	
Accounts receivable	79,458	43,977	
Prepaid expenses	33,926	42,237	
	1,806,676	1,922,369	
Capital assets (Note 7)	912,196	456,038	
	<b>\$ 2,718,872</b>	<b>\$ 2,378,407</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current			
Accounts payable	\$ 105,686	\$ 138,904	
Employee deductions payable	39,894	32,953	
Deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 8)	162,290	103,076	
Deferred contributions related to operations (Note 8)	364,400	68,909	
Current portion of obligations under capital lease (Note 9)	3,579	3,576	
	675,849	347,418	
Obligations under capital lease (Note 9)	4,896	8,478	
	680,745	355,896	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Unrestricted	412,239	862,473	
Invested in capital assets	921,888	456,038	
Internally restricted	704,000	704,000	
	2,038,127	2,022,511	
	<b>\$ 2,718,872</b>	<b>\$ 2,378,407</b>	

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Year Ended December 31, 2020			
	2020	2019	
Revenues			
Donations and fundraising (Schedule 3)	\$ 2,308,894	\$ 2,048,255	
Program revenue	867,823	925,746	
Grant revenue	153,748	185,778	
Interest and other revenue	19,415	19,112	
	3,349,880	3,178,891	
Expenses			
Shelter and program delivery (Schedule 1)	2,278,506	2,018,785	
Donations and fundraising (Schedule 3)	436,090	246,196	
General and administrative (Schedule 2)	343,202	330,026	
Amortization	276,466	233,380	
	3,334,264	2,828,387	
Excess of revenues over expenses	<b>\$ 15,616</b>	<b>\$ 350,504</b>	

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY Statement of Changes in Net Assets Year Ended December 31, 2020						
	Unrestricted	Invested in capital assets	Internally restricted	2020	2019	
Net assets - beginning of year	\$ 862,473	\$ 456,038	\$ 704,000	\$ 2,022,511	\$ 1,672,007	
Excess of revenues over expenses	15,616	-	-	15,616	350,504	
Amortization reallocation	276,466	(276,466)	-	-	-	
Net purchase of capital assets	(742,316)	742,316	-	-	-	
Net assets - end of year	\$ 412,239	\$ 921,888	\$ 704,000	\$ 2,038,127	\$ 2,022,511	

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended December 31, 2020			
	2020	2019	
Operating activities			
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 15,616	\$ 350,504	
Items not affecting cash:			
Amortization of capital assets	276,466	233,380	
Gain on disposal of assets	(1,200)	(1,680)	
	290,882	582,204	
Changes in non-cash working capital:			
Accounts receivable	(35,481)	(13,134)	
Prepaid expenses	8,311	(22,237)	
Accounts payable	(33,223)	55,934	
Employee deductions payable	6,941	3,599	
Deferred contributions related to capital assets	59,214	15,706	
Deferred contributions related to operations	295,491	7,982	
	301,253	47,850	
Cash flow from operating activities	592,135	630,054	
Investing activities			
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	10,894	1,680	
Purchase of capital assets	(742,316)	(115,460)	
Cash flow used by investing activities	(731,422)	(113,780)	
Financing activity			
Repayment of obligations under capital lease	(3,576)	(3,576)	
Increase (decrease) in cash flow	(142,863)	512,698	
Cash - beginning of year	1,786,155	1,273,457	
Cash - end of year	<b>\$ 1,643,292</b>	<b>\$ 1,786,155</b>	

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY Notes to Financial Statements Year Ended December 31, 2020		
1. PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY	Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (the "Society") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Societies Act of Alberta. As a registered charity the Society is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.	
	The Society has a mission to improve the lives of animals by rescuing and providing sanctuary to abandoned, surrendered, or abused animals, assisting communities to achieve healthy and respectful relationships with animals, and promoting responsible and compassionate guardianship, and advocating on behalf of all animals.	
2. BASIS OF PRESENTATION	The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) consistently applied. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. While actual results could differ from such estimates, these financial statements have, in management's opinion, been properly prepared using careful judgement within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized as follows:	
3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES		
	<u>Cash and cash equivalents</u>	
	Cash includes cash and cash equivalents. Where applicable, cash equivalents are investments in treasury bills and are valued at cost plus accrued interest. The carrying amounts approximate fair value because they have maturities at the date of purchase of less than ninety days.	
	<u>Property, plant and equipment</u>	
	Property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or deemed cost less accumulated amortization and is amortized over its estimated useful life at the following rates and methods:	
	Veterinary equipment	5 years straight-line method
	Leasehold improvements	5 years straight-line method
	Shelter equipment and fixtures	3 years straight-line method
	Office equipment and furniture	3 years straight-line method
	Motor vehicles	2-3 years straight-line method
	<u>Revenue recognition</u>	
	Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.	
	Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets.	
	Service fees are recognized when the services are rendered, the amount of the revenue can be reasonably estimated, and collection is reasonably assured.	

(continues)



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY  
Notes to Financial Statements  
Year Ended December 31, 2020

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

Contributed services

The operations of the Society depend on both the contribution of time by volunteers and donated materials from various sources.

Contributed materials are recorded at their fair market value at the time of donation. The fair value of donated services cannot be reasonably determined and are therefore not reflected in these financial statements.

Goods and Services Tax

Contributed materials and services are recoverable at 50% as a rebate. The unrecoverable portion is recorded as an expense with the rebate treated as a receivable. In addition, GST is collected and remitted net of Input Tax Credits on sales of merchandise as part of fundraising activities.

Foreign currency translation

Accounts in foreign currencies have been translated into Canadian dollars using the temporal method. Under this method, monetary assets and liabilities have been translated at the year end exchange rate. Non-monetary assets have been translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the date of transaction. Revenues and expenses have been translated at the average rates of exchange during the year, except for amortization, which has been translated at the same rate as the related assets.

Foreign exchange gains and losses on monetary assets and liabilities are included in the determination of earnings.

Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, where applicable, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

4. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Society is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides information about the Society's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2020.

*(a) Credit risk*

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Society is not materially exposed to credit risk.

*(b) Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Society is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its donors.

*(c) Market risk*

*(continues)*

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY  
Notes to Financial Statements  
Year Ended December 31, 2020

4. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(continued)*

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency rate risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.

1. **Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk to the Society's earnings that arise from fluctuations of foreign exchange rates and the degree of volatility of these rates. The Society is not materially exposed to foreign currency exchange risk as there are no material foreign currency transactions.

2. **Interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. The Society is not materially exposed to interest rate risk.

3. **Other price risk**

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market. The Society is not exposed to other price risk.

*(d) Fair value*

The Society's carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and accounts payable approximate their fair value due to the immediate or short term maturity of these instruments. The Society is not materially exposed to fair value risk

5. RESTRICTED CASH

Restricted cash consists of cash and cash equivalent amounts that are restricted internally for specific purposes as follows:

	2020	2019
Purchase and/or replace capital asset	\$ 444,000	\$ 444,000
Operating costs in the event of a shortage of funds	260,000	260,000
	<b>\$ 704,000</b>	<b>\$ 704,000</b>

Due to the uncertainty of the effect of COVID 19, the Board of Directors made a resolution that no additional funds were to be restricted for 2020.

6. TERM DEPOSIT

The term deposit is a 24 month, non redeemable guaranteed investment certificate bearing interest at 0.93% per annum, maturing August 26, 2022.

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY  
Notes to Financial Statements  
Year Ended December 31, 2020

7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2020 Net book value	2019 Net book value
Leasehold improvements	\$ 792,981	\$ 273,843	\$ 519,138	\$ 166,794
Shelter equipment and fixtures	476,261	296,196	180,065	80,034
Veterinary equipment	280,269	179,627	100,642	155,390
Motor vehicles	164,945	77,303	87,642	29,689
Office equipment and furniture	63,413	38,704	24,709	24,131
	<b>\$ 1,777,869</b>	<b>\$ 865,673</b>	<b>\$ 912,196</b>	<b>\$ 456,038</b>

8. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contributions consist of the following

	2020	2019
<u>Deferred contributions related to operations</u>		
Balance - beginning of the year	\$ 68,909	\$ 60,927
Additions	382,043	108,865
Utilizations	(86,552)	(100,883)
	<b>364,400</b>	<b>68,909</b>

Deferred contributions related to capital assets

Balance - beginning of the year	103,076	87,370
Additions	101,549	83,108
Utilizations	(42,335)	(67,402)
	<b>162,290</b>	<b>103,076</b>
Grand total	<b>\$ 526,690</b>	<b>\$ 171,985</b>

ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY  
Notes to Financial Statements  
Year Ended December 31, 2020

9. OBLIGATIONS UNDER CAPITAL LEASE

	2020	2019
National Leasing capital lease repayable in non-interest bearing monthly instalments of \$298 and secured by equipment with a carrying value of \$19,161.	\$ 8,475	\$ 12,054
Amounts payable within one year	(3,579)	(3,576)
	<b>\$ 4,896</b>	<b>\$ 8,478</b>

Future minimum capital lease payments are approximately:

2021	\$ 3,576
2022	3,576
2023	1,326

Total minimum lease payments

	<b>\$ 8,478</b>
--	-----------------

10. COMMITMENTS

The Society has entered an occupancy lease agreement with a base lease amount of \$9,923 per month, expiring February, 2022.

The Society has entered an occupancy lease agreement for its new Edmonton location with a base lease amount of \$7,265 per month, expiring April, 2025.

The Society entered an agreement to purchase a minimum amount of \$5,459 per month of veterinary products and services from a single vendor, expiring March, 2023. As part of this agreement the Society received a piece of equipment valued at \$118,000 in the 2017 fiscal year.

11. GIFTS IN KIND

During the year, the Society recognized \$126,870 (2019: \$54,355) of donated materials that were recorded at fair market value as donation revenue and consumed in the shelter and program delivery expense.

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Society had transactions with related parties as follows:

Purchases of \$56,924 (2019: \$19,830) of merchandise from a company owned by a family member of the Executive Director of the Society.

Purchases of \$41,457 (2019: \$39,729) were made by the employees of the Society. Purchases were for various pet services and supplies for personal use.

These transactions were recorded at the exchange value which was agreed on by both parties in the normal course of operations.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY**  
**Shelter and Program Delivery** (Schedule 1)  
**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
Expenses		
Direct animal and rescue outreach	\$ 1,140,587	\$ 1,111,118
Wages, salaries and benefits	735,058	637,118
Shelter operations	397,813	264,346
Memberships	5,048	6,203
	<u>\$ 2,278,506</u>	<u>\$ 2,018,785</u>

**ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY**  
**General and Administrative** (Schedule 2)  
**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
Expenses		
Wages, salaries and benefits	\$ 234,642	\$ 215,700
Goods and services tax	38,491	28,414
Office and other administrative	33,243	36,356
Professional fees	17,714	20,016
Staff and volunteer development	15,775	25,148
Interest and bank charges	3,337	4,392
	<u>\$ 343,202</u>	<u>\$ 330,026</u>

**ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY**  
**Donations and Fundraising** (Schedule 3)  
**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
Revenues		
Donations	\$ 1,903,123	\$ 1,813,548
Merchandise	206,667	135,255
AGLC and other fundraising	196,704	47,407
Events	2,400	52,045
	<u>2,308,894</u>	<u>2,048,255</u>
Expenses (recovery)		
Fundraising	433,201	149,024
Merchandise	3,841	78,913
Events	(952)	18,259
	<u>436,090</u>	<u>246,196</u>
Net donations and fundraising income	<u>\$ 1,872,804</u>	<u>\$ 1,802,059</u>

Billy Bob



Petsmart Charities of Canada  
Four Feet Companion Foundation  
Calgary Foundation – Sherling Animal  
Welfare Fund

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# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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