

New Brunswick



Spring 2010
Newsletter



PO Box 1412 Stn A, Fredericton, NB E3B 5E3 * www.spcanb.ca * spca@nbnet.nb.ca * 506-458-8208

~ ~ *The animal welfare people since 1881.* ~ ~

NBSPCA launching pet fire safety campaign

The NBSPCA, in partnership with the New Brunswick Fire Marshal's office, is launching a new pet fire safety campaign this spring.

The two-prong effort is designed to both educate pet and livestock owners on how to prevent animal emergencies and to equip New Brunswick emergency service providers with pet-sized oxygen masks.

Our joint goal is to show pet owners how simple steps can go a long way to keeping their furry friends safe.

We will also be fundraising to supply the \$100 pet oxygen mask kits to local fire departments to help pets suffering from smoke inhalation or for other emergency situations.

Little had big impact on SPCA

The New Brunswick SPCA notes with deep regret the recent passing of Nancy Louise Little. The wife of former President and Chief Inspector Jim Little, Nancy was not only a supporter of Jim's work, but also an important contributor to animal welfare in her own right. During Jim's years as Chief Inspector, she was often the Society's "voice on the phone": the key person who received cruelty calls from the public, made instant decisions about what needed to be done, and dispatched Inspectors to deal with situations. Firm, competent, and calm, Nancy provided reassurance and support to callers who were upset, angry, or frightened.



Jim recalls that his decisions as President of the NBSPCA were taken only after long discussions with Nancy. Their life-long partnership was one in which collaboration and consultation in both business and personal matters was the rule. Nancy participated regularly in the fund-raising activities of the Fredericton SPCA, and was a member and good friend of that branch as well as of the New Brunswick SPCA.

Nancy was born in Sharon, Pennsylvania. She and Jim moved to Fredericton in 1976, where for many years they jointly managed and owned the security company, Secureall Ltd., in the city. Both animal lovers, Nancy and Jim were drawn steadily toward SPCA work. For them, providing protection and security for animals around the province seemed a natural extension of the family security business. Nancy is survived by husband Jim, as well as by son Kevin Little of Saint John; two granddaughters Sheila and Serena in Saint John; half-brother Dennis Gaines in Texas, and various relatives on Jim's side of the family around the province. Dog-persons throughout most of their lives, in retirement Nancy and Jim had made cats their pets of choice, and Nancy is also survived by her much-loved cat Punkie. The New Brunswick SPCA will always be grateful for her contributions to the Society and to animal welfare.

President's Message

By Joy Bacon

As I sit and write this message, I am delighted to see signs of spring in the air...warmer temperatures and the beginnings of spring flowers in the sunny spaces. Spring always signals new beginnings and with that new beginning the chance to look at what has worked well and where there is still work to be done.

The newspaper today (Apr 5) printed news from the Minister of Local Government, Honourable Chris Collins. He announced that regulations governing pet establishments would be coming into place this spring. He spoke about the improvement this would make in the lives of animals and how it would impact puppy mills. At the NBSPCA we are anxiously awaiting the passage of these amendments and their proclamation. While we do not know the completed content, we remain optimistic that the consultative advice we have provided will guide the final product.

Later this spring the Society will be putting into place a province wide 1-800 telephone number that can be used to report cases of animal abuse and/or neglect. In addition, this number will be available for use in reporting dogs running at large in unincorporated areas of the province. Municipal and incorporated areas will continue to provide their own animal control.

Later in the spring we will also be testing a new model for delivering services. In two areas of the province we will be combining protection and rural dog control duties and assigning them to one person in each area. The greater Fredericton and greater Moncton areas will begin this over the next several weeks. It is our belief that this will provide for greater continuity and community visibility in those areas. Our current staff of part-time Animal Protection Officers will continue to provide their usual excellent service in all other areas of the province.

We are also continuing to build partnerships as we move forward. One such example of this, in the greater Fredericton area, is a coalition of organizations with a strong interest in the welfare of animals. This group of agencies all share a common interest in improving the status of those vulnerable animals without a voice. All of the above are examples of growth or "things working well". In the category of "things still needing work", I note the statistics below.

In 2009 the Animal Protection Officers opened 1439 files involving 10,636 animals. In February 2010 (the most recent month for which we have complete numbers) those same officers opened 125 files involving 547 animals. There is still work to be done!

I look forward to seeing you at the NBSPCA Annual General Meeting on Sunday, April 25, 2010, at the Maritime Forestry Complex in Fredericton (directions at the top of this page). This is an opportunity to meet people and hear what has been going on in our efforts to improve animal welfare in New Brunswick.

NBSPCA
Annual meeting
Sunday, April 25
1 p.m.



You are invited to the NBSPCA annual general meeting on Sunday, April 25. Please join us at 1 pm at the Hugh John Fleming Forestry Complex, Fredericton.

Spring 2010 edition

The NB Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NBSPCA) is a provincial organization whose mission is to promote responsible, caring and compassionate attitudes toward animals. Our primary objective is the prevention of cruelty, neglect, and abandonment of animals in our province.

President: Joy Bacon
Executive Director: Glen McGuire
Editor: Vanessa Packman
Contributors: Steve Turner

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Rapport de la Presidente

Par Joy Bacon

Pendant que je rédige ce message, je suis ravie de voir les signes du printemps - de belles températures et les fleurs du printemps qui commencent à pousser dans les coins ensoleillés. Le printemps est souvent synonyme de renaissance. On peut en profiter pour examiner ce qui a bien fonctionné par le passé et les choses qu'il faut améliorer.

Le ministre des Gouvernements locaux, l'honorable Chris Collins, a annoncé aujourd'hui que de nouveaux règlements concernant les établissements hébergeant des animaux familiers seraient adoptés ce printemps. Il a souligné que ces nouveaux règlements amélioreraient la vie des animaux et aurait un impact sur les usines à chiots. La SPCANB attend avec impatience que ces règlements soient adoptés. Nous sommes optimistes que le produit final tiendra compte des conseils fournis au gouvernement.

Plus tard ce printemps, la Société mettra en place un numéro provincial sans frais que le public pourra utiliser pour signaler les cas d'abus et de négligence. De plus, on pourra s'en servir pour signaler les chiens errants dans les régions non incorporées de la province. Les régions municipales et incorporées continueront d'offrir leurs propres services de contrôle des animaux.

Nous prévoyons également mettre à l'essai deux nouveaux modèles de prestation de services. Dans les régions du Grand Fredericton et du Grand Moncton, nous regrouperons sous un seul poste les fonctions liées à la protection des animaux et au contrôle des chiens dans les territoires ruraux. Ce projet sera lancé au cours des prochaines semaines. Nous croyons que cela permettra d'augmenter la visibilité ainsi que la continuité dans ces régions. Comme par le passé, nos agents de protection des animaux à temps partiel continueront à assurer d'excellents services dans les autres régions de la province.

Nous continuons également à créer des partenariats. Par exemple, dans la région de Fredericton, il existe une coalition d'organismes intéressés par le bien-être des animaux. Ce groupe d'organismes a pour mission d'améliorer la condition des animaux vulnérables qui n'ont pas de voix.

Tous les projets ci-dessus sont des exemples de « choses qui fonctionnent bien ». Dans la catégorie de « choses qu'il faut améliorer », j'attire votre attention sur les statistiques ci-dessous.

En 2009, les agents de protection des animaux ont ouvert 1 439 dossiers concernant 10 636 animaux. En février 2010, (le mois le plus récent pour lequel nous avons des statistiques complètes), les mêmes agents ont ouvert 125 dossiers concernant 547 animaux.

Il reste encore du travail à faire.

Je me réjouis à la perspective de vous voir à l'Assemblée générale annuelle de la SPCANB, prévue pour le dimanche 25 avril 2010 au Complexe forestier des Maritimes. On pourra rencontrer des gens et apprendre davantage sur nos efforts visant à améliorer la situation des animaux au Nouveau-Brunswick.

Kibble Pet Food Bank Network helps 1,135 pets in 2009



The Kibble Pet Food Bank Network, a public outreach project of the NBSPCA, helped feed 1,135 at-risk pets in 2009.

Working with four community outlets, this Atlantic Canadian first helped pet and livestock owners provide for their animals. This keeps pets in their homes and out of SPCA shelters. It also helps stop animal suffering at its root.

With the start of 2010, it's a pleasure to welcome the Victoria County SPCA and the Woodstock Family Food Bank to the network. This makes six outlets helping an average 250 animals each month.

Our original community partners are the Sussex Sharing Club, Mobile 1 Community Kitchen in Moncton, Hampton Food Basket and the Oromocto SPCA.

The Kibble network provides education and emergency supplies for pet owners facing economic challenges.

You can help make this valuable service possible with donations of cat and dog food to any of the above venues. You can also donate through Canada Helps on the www.spcanb.ca web site.

For more great information and events on this project, visit the Kibble network web site at <http://kibblecanada.tripod.com>

SAFE4PETS2 – In transition with you

The NBSPCA is a founding partner in a new program to provide emergency boarding and care for animals belonging to individuals in search of shelter from family violence.

Sadly, some abusive partners will hurt or threaten to hurt an animal to punish others in the family. For the person being abused, the pet may be the only source of unconditional love and in many cases people delay getting help for fear of the welfare of the pet. Transition houses are not able to shelter animals because of health and safety concerns and there are few places that offer temporary safe haven for animals.

Last May, a committee was formed, co-chaired by Dr. Krista Foreman (NB Veterinary Medical Association) and Glen McGuire (NBSPCA). This group is a collaboration of several non-profit and policing agencies, transition houses, family violence outreach, RCMP and municipal police, Public Legal Education and Information, The Kindness Club and others.

The process will allow pets to be placed in a safe environment after being checked for health or injury, without fee for this examination to the owner. The animal will be placed with a safe, loving foster family for a period of time. This program will allow the pet owner to be certain their pet will be in a good situation and will give them the required time to recover their pet when conditions have stabilized.

We look forward to providing this important service which will protect both people and their beloved pets.

NB Government introduces new inspection rules for kennels, pet stores

The New Brunswick government has announced plans to adopt new regulations and inspections under the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, setting standards for pet stores, animal shelters and kennels, and other pet establishments. The new regulations go into effect June 1.

Licensing and regular inspections by the SPCA will help ensure the animals have the proper shelter, food and water. The new rules state owners of five dogs or more over six months old will be required to meet national standards of care.

"We welcome this new regulation that the Government of New Brunswick is putting in place," said NBSPCA president Joy Bacon. "It will give the society a broader mandate, permit us to have better oversight of pet stores and kennels, and enable us to prosecute those who willfully neglect their animals."

The annual licensing fees will be \$100 for animal shelters and \$250 for other facilities such as pet stores and kennels. This is up from the current \$5 licensing fee, giving the NBSPCA the resources to better enforce the SPCA Act.

The regulations include a series of exemptions. Establishments selling animals that are considered livestock will be exempt from pet licensing requirements, as will grooming facilities, training operations, research and educational facilities, veterinary clinics and boarding and riding stables for horses. In addition, licences will not be required for circuses and zoos.