

## Workplace Giving Opportunities

### An overview of our work

The Vancouver Humane Society was founded in 1985, with a mission to expose animal abuse and assist individuals, businesses and governments to end animal suffering, cruelty and exploitation.

The areas we invest in include:

- Providing veterinary care assistance to keep pets with their loving guardians
- Helping animals exploited on factory farms
- Improving the well-being of wild and exotic animals
- Speaking up for animals who suffer for entertainment

VHS envisions a future in which humanity recognizes and respects the inherent rights and needs of all animals – a society in which all animal cruelty is unacceptable and animal protection is valued and acted upon by the public and its policy makers.

### Providing veterinary care assistance

#### McVitie Fund



The Vancouver Humane Society assists low-income pet owners with veterinary expenses, to end their suffering from debilitating injuries and illnesses. This program significantly benefits individuals who are elderly and disabled, whose lives are much improved by sharing it with a four-legged companion.

We spend approximately \$50,000 per year and help hundreds of animals through this program. We partner with veterinarians to get discounted rates and ensure quality animal care.

### Helping animals exploited on factory farms

Vancouver Humane Society advocates for a plant-based diet for the benefits to individual health, environment sustainability, and animal well-being. We educate and empower individuals, businesses, institutions, and decision-makers to make more informed food choices.

#### Plant-Based Plates program

Our new Plant-Based Plates program was launched last May and builds on the success of our Meatless Monday project, which has supported 15 schools and institutions in introducing plant-based specials to their menus on Mondays.



Photo: In May, 2019 we held a culinary workshop and guest chef pop up at the BC Women's and Children's Hospital.

Plant-Based Plates aims to expand the plant-based offerings on food service menus. This program offers resources such as recipes, sampling, presentations and culinary support to institutions such as schools, businesses and healthcare providers.

Our Plant-Based Plates microsite includes an online toolkit that is accessible to all.  
[www.plantbasedplates.ca](http://www.plantbasedplates.ca)

## Go Veg project

Our Go Veg outreach program encourages individuals to make compassionate personal choices to reduce their consumption of animal products through the distribution of our Live Well booklets, advertisements that promote plant-based eating, and tabling at outreach events across metro Vancouver.

This summer, we will be tabling at Veg Expo, Car Free Days at Commercial Drive and the West End, and the Khatsalano Festival.



## Improving the well-being of wild and exotic animals

### Animals in captivity



The keeping of wild animals for public display, entertainment or as pets deprives them of the ability to freely engage in instinctual behaviours in their natural environment.

Even when bred in captivity, exotic animals keep the behavioural and biological needs that they would have in the wild. They cannot be considered domesticated and they can suffer if they are confined in unnatural environments.

In 2019 we commissioned a new report on the Greater Vancouver Zoo (GVZ) in partnership with Zoocheck, which found there was little to no enrichment being made available. The report catalogued a continued lack of proper facilities for the animals in care, despite previous animal deaths. We are working to grow awareness of these issues through a campaign aimed at the GVZ, and we have shared the report with the provincial government and the zoo oversight body, CAZA.

## Speaking up for animals who suffer for entertainment

### Rodeos

Vancouver Humane Society campaigns to rodeo organization to remove events that cause suffering to animals. Most rodeo events involve the use of fear, stress or pain to make animals perform. We are focusing on rodeo events at the Calgary Stampede and the Chilliwack Fair rodeo.



We petition to increase public awareness about the use of animals in rodeos. Rodeo events are not covered by Canadian animal cruelty laws because historically they are considered 'generally accepted practices of animal management' for the treatment of livestock.

VHS has been successful in curtailing cruel rodeo events in B.C, with the Abbotsford Agrifair Rodeo and Luxton Rodeo being cancelled and the elimination of rodeo entirely in Vancouver.

### Horse Welfare



This year, the Vancouver Humane Society will be launching a new campaign around horse welfare, with a particular focus on the use of carriage horses.

As an organization, VHS advocates for ending the operation of horse-drawn carriages in traffic-congested areas, particularly in Stanley Park and at holiday events in the city.

Our primary concerns are for the welfare of the horses, who are subjected to pulling carriages and trollies in urban environments that pose serious safety risks to both the animals and the public. The regular exposure to traffic, noise and pollution; the long hours of standing and walking on hard surfaces; and the hard labour under sometimes extreme weather conditions are not consistent with a horse guardian's responsibility to provide high-quality, long-term care for horses.

### Our plans 2019 – 2023

Over the next few years, we will be working collectively toward our strategic plan goals: to inspire the community to take action for animals, to eliminate animal suffering, and to make cruelty-free the default option. To read our strategic plan visit:

<https://www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Vancouver-Humane-Society-Strategic-Plan-2019-2023.pdf>.

## How you can support our work for animals

As we receive no government funding, VHS operates entirely through the generosity of our supporters. There are several ways that you can support our important work for animals and you can choose to direct your donations to a specific campaign such as Go Veg, Rodeo or our McVitie Fund, or you can donate to our general fund and your gift will provide support where the need is greatest.

### Donate through your workplace

Workplace giving, including matching programs, boosts employee engagement in their workplace by empowering people to support causes that matter to them.

#### **Benevity**

[Benevity](#) is an online giving program with great benefits for your employees, your company and the charities that you choose to support. Donating to the Vancouver Humane Society through Benevity helps reduce our high cost of processing donations, as Benevity manages the distribution of your funds directly through their end-to-end disbursement system.

Employees can make one time or recurring donations to VHS through Benevity.

Several companies are already making a positive impact to our work for animals by through Benevity. If you are interested in finding out more about workplace giving through Benevity, you can [click here](#) to request a demo.

#### **CanadaHelps**

[CanadaHelps](#) is a registered charity dedicated to increasing charitable giving across Canada. They process donations made through their site, disburse the funds to VHS and provide instant or anytime access tax receipts directly to donors. You can make a one-time or monthly donation, donation of securities or fundraise for VHS through Canada Helps.

### Become a monthly donor

As well as donating online monthly through Canada Helps, you can also set up a recurring gift by credit or debit card.

Regular monthly gifts help us access stable, long-term funding for animals in need. Monthly donations are a simple, cost-effective way to make regular contributions in support of our work. You can contribute with a customizable monthly payment that suits you and payments are easy to change, cancel, or temporarily suspend if your situation changes.

### Help fundraise for VHS

There are many ways that you can fundraise for the Vancouver Humane Society. You can hold an event at your work place, or with friends and family, such as a vegan bake sale, dinner party, garage sale, or sponsored walk or run. You can also fundraise through an upcoming special occasion, such as a birthday or anniversary.



### What to expect from us?

We'll keep you as informed on our work as you'd like to be. You can [sign up](#) to our mailing list to receive regular updates on our work. We'll invite you to our latest events, and share special news and discounts for plant-based businesses with you.

If you have any questions about any of our work or ways of giving, please contact our Development Officer, Claire Yarnold.

**Email: [claire@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca](mailto:claire@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca) or Phone: 604 266 9744.**

Thank you for your support!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Morris".

Amy Morris

Executive Director