

SPRING 2023

# THE HUMANITARIAN

SASKATCHEWAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS



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## SaskSPCA Turns 95: Looking Back to 1928

In 2023 the SaskSPCA celebrates 95 years of dedicated service towards improving the lives of animals in Saskatchewan. We thought we would take this opportunity to look back at what life was like in 1928, the year the Society was created by an Act of the provincial legislature.

In 1928, Saskatchewan celebrated 23 years as a province. The Liberal Party, led by the province's fourth premier, James Garfield Gardiner, formed the provincial government. The minister of agriculture was Charles McGill Hamilton. Henry William Newlands was in the middle of his 10-year term as lieutenant governor.

On the national scene, Freeman Freeman-Thomas was King George V's governor general and William Lyon Mackenzie King was in the prime minister's office.

The 1926 Census lists Saskatchewan with a population of 820,738 residents. Farmland occupied a total of 45,945,410 acres. That total is more acreage than the provinces of Alberta and Manitoba, combined!

Our province was home to 1.1 million horses, 1.16 million cattle, 438,245 dairy cows, 161,831 sheep, 597,660 hogs, and 2.85 million chickens.

Statistics Canada data from 1928 lists the price of staple foods. A quart of milk was 12 cents, one pound of butter was 41 cents, and a pound of old cheese was 32 cents. A pound of flour would set you back half a cent. A dozen eggs were 47 cents. A single pound of sirloin steak was 34 cents, and a pound of bacon was 37 cents.

A lot has changed over the last 95 years. We're excited to see what the future holds as we look forward to our 100th anniversary in 2028.

**Want to support the SaskSPCA while during this milestone year?**

Use the enclosed donation form to donate  
**\$19.28** in honour of our 95th anniversary!



PET RESCUE TOOLKIT

Thinking about adding a 4-legged member to your family?

[petrescuetoolkit.ca](http://petrescuetoolkit.ca)

There's so much to think about before adopting a new pet. [PetRescueToolkit.ca](http://PetRescueToolkit.ca) can help you make the right choice for you and your family.

- How do I choose the right food for dog?
- Why is my cat shredding my new leather couch?
- How do I crate train my new puppy?

If you've got questions, we've got answers. Check out [PetRescueToolkit.ca](http://PetRescueToolkit.ca) for great tips on nutrition, crate training, dental care, and more.



## Reporting Animal Cruelty

If you suspect an animal is being neglected or abused, report it to the proper authorities immediately.

### DOGS, CATS, AND OTHER PETS:

#### In Saskatoon:

Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan: 306.382.0002

#### In Regina:

Regina Humane Society: 306.543.6363

#### Elsewhere in Saskatchewan:

Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan: 1.844.382.0002

### LIVESTOCK IN ALL PARTS OF SASKATCHEWAN:

Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan: 1.844.382.0002



**Remember:**  
If you  
see something,  
say something!

## SaskSPCA Licence Plates

Did you know SaskSPCA specialty licence plates are available at all SGI motor licence issuers throughout the province? Options include plates for cars, trucks, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. You can customize your plate with a slogan of your choice (perhaps your pet's name) or go with a plate from the regular series of numbers.

Proceeds from the sale of SaskSPCA licence plates support the SaskSPCA Pet Food Bank.

Learn more about the SaskSPCA specialty licence plates by visiting [saskspca.ca](http://saskspca.ca)



Respect for Animals



# Spring is Coming... And So Are Ticks

As the seasons change from winter to spring, it's important to prepare for the arrival of an annoying pest... ticks.

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association has some great information for pet owners concerned about ticks and the impact the parasite can have on their pets. Read on to learn more.

## What do ticks look like?

This is one of the most common questions veterinarians get from clients when discussing ticks. Owners sometimes think a lump or bump they find on their pet is a tick. Owners also sometimes confuse ticks with other types of insects or spiders. It is important to understand what a tick looks like. An adult tick has eight legs and is more closely related to a spider than an insect. They have only two body parts, the basis capitulum (which is the head and thorax fused together) and the abdomen. Ticks are flat top-to-bottom as opposed to being flat side-to-side like a flea. They are also very difficult to squish or crush. Ticks are very small – clients are often surprised how small they really are even when they are fully engorged with blood.



## Should I check my pet for ticks?

Checking your pets for ticks is important because Lyme disease transmission tends to take some time (typically 36 to 48 hours) after the tick latches onto an animal or human. Therefore, checking your pet, and yourself, every day significantly decreases the risk of tick-borne illness.

Use the quality time you are already spending with your pet, including petting them, to take the opportunity to feel them all over to check for ticks—feel each of their legs right down to their feet (including between toes and paw pads), check around and under their collars,

and in and around their ears. It is important to check every part of their body that is accessible.

## What about “natural” tick control products?

These natural products come in various formulations and strengths, which make it very difficult to establish their efficacy and safety for your pet. Furthermore, none of these have been tested or regulated to guarantee your pets' safety. Please talk to your veterinarian about products that have been rigorously tested for both efficacy and safety for your pet.



## How do I find out what preventative is best for my pet?

Multiple products for both cats and dogs are available. However, many products are not safe for cats. You should discuss your prevention plan with your veterinarian. The different products available work in different ways and it's important that you pick a product with your veterinarian that you are comfortable using and will use exactly as directed. This will yield the best results.

## Where can my pet get ticks?

It's long been thought that ticks live exclusively in long grass. There's no doubt you will find ticks in long grass, but Ixodes ticks actually prefer to live in the leaf litter under the forest canopy where there is a high moisture environment.

Typically, Ixodes ticks are found in the leaf litter in the forest, and Dermacentor ticks are found more in the scrub or fringe areas, and potentially in long grass because they are hardier ticks that can live and thrive in drier environments.

Some owners are afraid to allow their dogs to run in long grass because they're worried about tick exposure. However, allowing them to run off-leash in wooded areas poses a greater risk for picking up a tick and contracting Lyme disease. Therefore, we encourage pet owners to be cautious around long grass, leaf litter in forest environments, and any fringe areas along the edge of the forest as well.



## Is my dog or cat at risk for ticks in my own backyard?

This really depends on your own backyard. Nicely cut lawns, with very short grass, pose much less risk. However, the risk is much higher in fringe areas on the edge that go into brush or a hardwood forest canopy.

## What is the best way to remove a tick?

This is one of the most popular questions asked in veterinary practice. The best way to remove a tick is to take a fine pair of tweezers, grasp the tick as closely to the skin as possible, and pull up gently and firmly until the tick releases itself.

Do not attempt to use a noxious substance in an effort to remove a tick. Ticks are more likely to regurgitate anything that it has taken as a blood meal when it is exposed to a noxious substance, which increases the chance of disease transmission. Additionally, a tick will have to be exposed to the noxious substance for a certain amount of time before it will want to release itself which can also increase the chance of disease transmission.

The best method is to remove the tick as soon as possible by grasping it gently, but firmly, and pulling up.

## Do cats get ticks?

Many veterinarians see ticks on cats in their practice almost daily. Thankfully, the risk of disease transmission from ticks to cats in Canada is very low at the moment. However, we recommend talking to your veterinarian about tick control strategies available for your cat—most importantly, ensure you use a product that is safe for your cat.



## What are the signs of Lyme disease in my dog?

The most common symptoms in a dog exposed to Lyme disease is sudden, acute lameness and lethargy. The dog may not have the energy it did, it may be reluctant to move, or doesn't want to move at all. Sometimes there will be shifting leg lameness—the dog will have a lame left, front leg one day, and the next day the right, front leg will be lame. There may also be mild joint swelling, reluctance to eat, and a low-grade fever, up to 40.5 degrees Celsius (anything higher than that tends to point to something other than Lyme disease). These signs usually show up two to five months after a tick has fed on a pet.

## When are ticks active?

The adult female blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*) becomes more active in the early fall all the way through to the late spring. They tend to be less active in the middle of the winter simply because it is too cold. This tick species becomes active when temperatures are 40°C and above, however, consider ticks active any time it is above freezing. In fact, it you are far more likely to encounter an adult female blacklegged tick on a mild day in winter than in the middle of summer. On the other hand, American dog ticks (*Dermacentor variabilis*) are active during longer days, and you are far more likely to find an adult American dog tick in the summer than a blacklegged tick.

You can learn more about ticks by visiting [ticktalkcanada.com](http://ticktalkcanada.com)

*Information originally published on [ticktalkcanada.com](http://ticktalkcanada.com), an initiative of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.*



**SASK  
SPCA**

# PET FOOD BANK 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

**15,500+**

Pounds of pet food distributed in 2022.

*"The Pet Food Bank is important because it provides an essential service to our clients whose pets are much loved members of the household."*

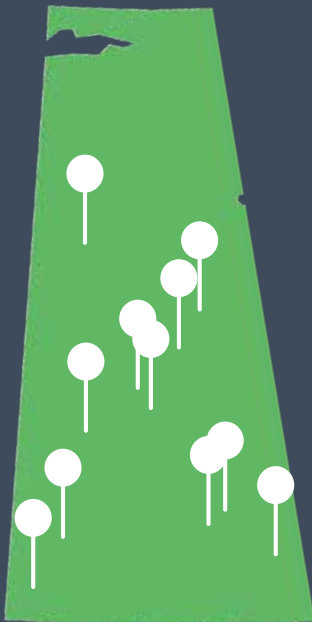
- Pet Food Bank Partner

In June, we hosted the 1st Pet Food Bank Week in Saskatchewan!

Pet Food Bank partners held events, organized pet food drives and collected donations. Throughout the week, over \$6,000 and 2,000lbs of food was raised.

**100%**

of Pet Food Bank partners have noticed an increase in pet food bank users in the last 12 months.



Pet Food Bank partners distribute pet food in 11 different communities. In 2022 we added Martensville Free Pantry as the newest Pet Food Bank partner!

*"The pet food bank has helped me tremendously in hard times. With the price of food rising, it is hard enough to buy food let alone food for my dog. With the help of our food bank, my family including my fur family have not gone hungry.*

*We cannot thank you enough."*



- Pet Food Bank Service User

Our 2nd annual Pet Food Bank Day of Awareness was held December 1st. We raised awareness on social media about the pet food bank and chatted with a few Pet Food Bank supporters, including Affinity Credit Union and 4-H Saskatchewan!

For more information on our Pet Food Bank, contact us:

[www.saskspca.ca](http://www.saskspca.ca)  
[info@saskspca.ca](mailto:info@saskspca.ca)  
306-382-7726



## WINNERS LIST

### NAME

### ADDRESS

### TICKET NUMBER

#### *Early Bird Draw | \$3,000 | December 1, 2022:*

Deborah Jackson	North Battleford	T15835
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#### *Stocking Stuffer Draws | \$500 each | December 22, 2022:*

Miriam E. Gabrysh	Star City	T25643
Virginia Pomedli	Saskatoon	T20502
Donald Snook	Saskatoon	T09688
Monique & Marcel Cousin	Birch Hills	T22161
Gloria Packman	Regina Beach	T24720
Lorraine Erlandson	Saskatoon	T01366
Lorne Courouble	Prince Albert	T03164
Mavis L. Moore	Mankota	T07306
Stephanie Keller	Unity	T26929
Marjorie Wilson	Springside	T05905
Elizabeth Zdrill	Prince Albert	T26506
Connie Olm	Churchbridge	T01544
Irene Badowich	Bredenbury	T20726
Angeline Pinel	Swift Current	T20563
Kevin Brabender	Swift Current	T00177

#### *Grand Prize Draw | \$25,000 | December 22, 2022:*

Don Stevenson	Regina	T22178
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#### *Huge Supporter Draw | \$5,000 | December, 2022:*

Lorylle Demyon	North Battleford	T24091
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#### *50/50 Kitty Pool Draw | \$35,230 | December 22, 2022:*

Cindy Hort	Preeceville	F05079
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# SASKSPCA ANNOUNCES FIRST WELLNESS GATHERING FOR ANIMAL WELFARE PROFESSIONALS

The SaskSPCA is inviting people working in animal welfare to the Cultivating Wellness Gathering on April 28th and 29th, 2023, at Dakota Dunes Resort on Whitecap Dakota First Nation.

Hearing from colleagues and industry partners, the SaskSPCA knows mental health and well-being are a key priority for those who work within animal welfare. This educational two-day gathering will explore the mental health and well-being of animal welfare professionals, and why it is so important for both the humans and animals they work with.

"We at the SaskSPCA have listened to hard conversations between industry colleagues and have heard a desire for an event like this. As an organization with a focus on education, we are pleased to offer this gathering to people across Saskatchewan and the prairie provinces," explains Laura Zmud, SaskSPCA Family Ties Coordinator. "We hope that we can provide tangible learning opportunities that individuals and employers can implement to support positive

mental health and well-being, and to facilitate open, healthy conversations between peers."

Those involved in veterinary medicine, SPCAs, humane societies, animal rescues, livestock production, food animal production, animal protection, and employers within the animal welfare industry are encouraged to attend.

Dr. Savannah Howse will be a featured speaker at the Gathering. Dr. Howse's presentation will focus on understanding the current state of diversity and inclusion within veterinary medicine and why diversity is essential in a veterinary context. This presentation will be followed by a discussion about how to support and grow diversity within animal welfare professions and workplaces.

Registration information, schedule, and a full list of presenters can be found at [saskspca.ca](https://saskspca.ca) and on all SaskSPCA social media channels.



**REGISTER  
NOW!**

**APRIL 28-29, 2023  
DAKOTA DUNES RESORT  
WHITECAP DAKOTA FIRST NATION**

[saskspca.ca](https://saskspca.ca)



# CULTIVATING WELLNESS

A GATHERING FOR HUMANS IN ANIMAL WELFARE

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

### Friday, April 28

7:30-9:00	<i>Breakfast &amp; Registration</i>	
9:00-9:15	<i>Welcoming Remarks</i>	
9:15-10:45	<b>"If boundaries were easy, we'd all set them": Chronic stress, befriending the nervous system, and the myth of the easy boundary</b>	Erin Wasson, BSW, MSW, RSW
10:45-11:00	<i>Coffee Break, presented by Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association</i>	
11:00-12:00	<b>Mindfulness: Principles and Practices for Animal Care Professionals</b>	Trisha Dowling, DVM
12:00-1:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
1:00-2:30	<b>Conversations on Grief and Loss: Practices for living a human life</b>	Anna Maria Buhr, MSW, RSW, & Ruth Eliason, BMT
2:30-3:00	<i>Coffee Break, presented by Humane Canada</i>	
3:00-4:00	<b>Helping you find your financial gait</b>	Jillian Carr, BFA, CHS
4:00-5:00	<b>Bystander Workplace Training</b>	Nicole White, Enough Already
5:00-5:15	<i>Closing Remarks</i>	

### Saturday, April 29

7:30-9:00	<i>Breakfast &amp; Registration</i>	
9:00-9:15	<i>Welcoming Remarks</i>	
9:15-10:30	<b>Embracing our Differences: Diversity and Inclusion in a Veterinary Context</b>	Dr. Savannah Howse
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee Break, presented by Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association</i>	
10:45-12:00	<b>Effective Workplace Response to Intimate Partner Violence</b>	Jo-Anne Dusel & Crystal Giesbrecht, PATHS
12:00-1:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
1:00-2:30	<b>Becoming Trauma-Informed: Reducing Barriers to Connection and Promoting Resilience</b>	Erin Beckwell, MSW, RSW (SK)
2:30-3:00	<i>Coffee Break, presented by VIDO</i>	
3:00-4:00	<b>Queer in Vet Med: A Practitioner's Perspective</b>	Dr. Rebecca Mycock, DVM & Dr. Leo Perlinger, DVM
4:00-5:00	<b>The Process of Talking it Out: Defusing and Debriefing After Critical Incidents</b>	Ashley Westgard, BSW, RSW
5:00-5:15	<i>Closing Remarks</i>	