



Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*). A glistening cobalt blue lines the head and back of this bird, most often seen around summer fields and wetlands.

Beyond One's Self: A Mother's Love

A beautiful phenomenon in nature — parental instinct can push through the pain of an otherwise fatal injury in care

What would you do for your children if you knew there was no one else to take care of them, but you got injured? Would you give up, let the elements take over and give yourself over to fate? Or would you push through the pain and make sure you are there for them, to see them through the rough life that nature can bring?

This is the story of a mother who wouldn't give up, despite the pain and struggle she would have to go through to make sure her babies had a fighting chance at life. It's a phenomenon of nature and shows just how much of an impact being a parent can have on instinct itself.

This mother duck had given life to her five little ducklings. Freshly

hatched, these babies were at the stage where they followed mom everywhere. If she walked, they were right on her tail. If she swam, they were paddling.

Unfortunately, wildlife are not as adept at understanding the urban environment as we would like to think. The concept of a "vehicle" is not an easy idea to comprehend for a wild animal, so when this mother duck attempted to cross the road during what she thought was a safe time to do so, she was struck by oncoming traffic.

The damage was bad – a fracture in two places, both on the beak.

"We see this time and time again at Wildlife Rescue," said Janelle Stephenson, Wildlife Hospital Manager. "A duck tries to cross a road, gets hit, and

suffers a fracture. If it's anywhere on the body we can treat it with a high rate of success, but the beak is a different story."

If there is a fracture to the beak, the pain is almost always too much for a

cont'd pg. 3

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TO THE RESCUE

VOL. 39 NO. 1 • SUMMER 2018

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WRA Wildlife Rescue Association of BC was established in 1979 to rehabilitate wildlife affected by human activity and provide education to the public for co-existing with urban wildlife.

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BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Message from the Executive Director



Summer is here, and for humans this means enjoying beautiful sunny days, eating ice cream, vacationing at new or familiar destinations, and getting together with our friends.

For wildlife, this means facing the heat, protecting their offspring from predators, and dealing with possible fires.

Did you know that wildfires scorched more land last year than any other year on record?

The devastation was clear by the fall, when Wildlife Rescue took in hundreds more songbirds — including a rare arrival of a white-winged crossbill — than we normally anticipate that time of year. The scorched land in the Interior, normally preserved for the migrating birds to feed and rest on, was torched away.

The result was thousands more birds flying towards water and food along the coast. Unfortunately, at the same time we increase our urban footprint and continue building more towers, so many of these birds ended up striking these windows on their route south.

That is why I am so grateful to all of you who are so generous to wildlife,

ensuring they receive the expert medical care required to give them a second chance at a natural life.

You choose to take action and care for those who cannot care for themselves.

We see the impact of your generosity every day, and above all, the animals do too.

Unfortunately the 2018 wildfires have begun. As we move through the rest of summer we appreciate your dedicated commitment.

Please enjoy our summer newsletter, and consider becoming a monthly supporter of Wildlife Rescue's non-profit efforts. A specialized donation form is on page 11 and can be sent to us by mail, or you can donate at www.wildliferescue.ca

Your gifts go towards a noble cause, and ensures the injured, orphaned, and pollution-damaged wildlife receive the care they deserve.

Warm regards,

Coleen Doucette

Executive Director

GET INVOLVED

Interested in getting more involved? Our organization is currently on the lookout for wildlife technicians, interns, volunteers, and board members! Learn more at www.wildliferescue.ca.

Follow Us!



Fighting Through Pain for Love

How a mother duck suffered through the pain of two fractures on her beak to make sure she was there for her baby ducklings



This female mallard lived through the pain of feeding herself every single day despite two fractures along her beak. This injury often proves fatal for other ducks, but when a mother needs to care for her babies, they will do whatever it takes.

from pg. 1

duck to recover from. While we can and do provide nutrients and medication, if a duck gives up on eating, there is nothing more that can be done. They need to be able to care for themselves on this basic level to safely return to nature.

“But mother ducks are different,” Stephenson said. “It’s a beautiful phenomenon. If there is a mom who has babies she needs to care for, they literally fight through the pain to ensure they can eat and recover.”

This mother duck spent weeks at Wildlife Rescue inside of our shed brooder with her ducklings in tow, eating every meal, fighting through the

pain of a fracture to her beak. In addition, wild animals also do not understand the concept of healthcare.

“This means on top of dealing with her pain at every meal, and probably in between as well, this duck family also lived through the stress of being taken away from their home,” Stephenson said.

Taken from their home and brought into captivity, placed inside a brooder with a pool, a constant crew of new faces from volunteers and staff who take turns feeding and medicating the mom, and that still wasn’t enough to deter this mother from giving up.

Often, we apply concepts such as resilience and courage to human beings. Yet wildlife constantly shows us just

how much we are alike.

Stories like this remind us why we do what we do. And we can’t do it alone. It is our partnership with you that enables Wildlife Rescue to open its doors every day of the year to take in the injured, orphaned, and pollution-damaged wildlife of this province.

Please consider making a donation to Wildlife Rescue.

You can make it a one-time gift, or join our popular monthly giving program which lets you care for wildlife year-round.

You can find a donation form inside this newsletter, on pg. 11/12, or take your pick online at www.wildliferescue.ca/give.

Thank you so very much.

Helping Wildlife Through the Harsh Heat

Tips & tricks to help wildlife survive the summer months

The warmer the weather, the more water sources become critical to the survival of wildlife. Wildlife rely on water for drinking and bathing, and with puddles and streams drying up, they have to travel farther to reach water. This can be especially stressful in the extreme heat.

There are a few ways you can help wildlife! Leave fresh bowls of water out in shady areas so that wildlife can access them. Lids and planter trays or saucers work great for smaller birds. Placing rocks or sticks into the water can serve to keep them weighted and less tippy, and also assist smaller birds by providing perching areas. Remember to change the water daily as it is easily contaminated, and to disinfect them weekly with a 10% bleach solution to prevent disease transmission.

Animals that become heat stressed can show symptoms such as disorientation, staggering and excessive panting. If you see an animal displaying any of these symptoms, place it in a cardboard box in a shaded area and give us a call at 604-526-7275.

Nesting birds such as gulls, cormorants and songbirds can quickly overheat in the nest and may fledge earlier than normal in an attempt to cool down. If you can reach the nest, place the baby back into it.

Bats can also easily become dehydrated and grounded in this weather. If you see a bat on the ground, do **not** touch it as bats can transmit the rabies virus. Place a chair or box over the bat to shelter it from the sun and give us a call right away at 604-526-7275.

Together, we can keep wildlife safe.



Downy woodpeckers (*Picoides pubescens*). Fledglings like this may leave the nest early in an attempt to cool down from extreme heat.



During the summer Wildlife Rescue will take in thousands of animals, many of which are nestlings and fledglings in need of care, including rehydrating.



Each animal will receive one-on-one care with our staff and volunteers.

Rooftop Rescues! A First-Person POV

Volunteer extraordinaire Nel Aird shares a day's experience saving geese and goslings trapped on rooftops in Vancouver



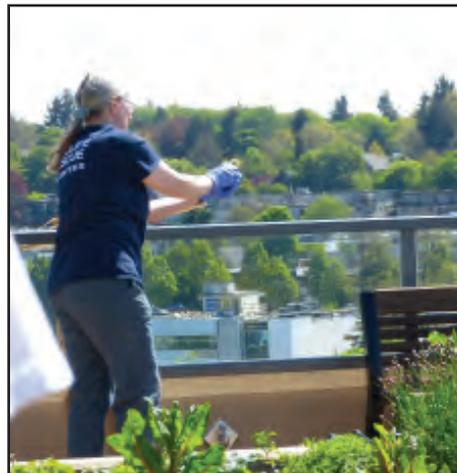
The day started at 11:00 AM with a phone call.

We had three sets of goslings. Nine in need of unions. Six on a 17-storey high rise (goslings can float down a maximum of six stories, so these will either fall and die, or remain behind to die of dehydration). Six on a 15-storey high rise. Can you join Liz (highly skilled leader) to catch and relocate to water?

I collected the nine goslings in need of adoption, grabbed a big net, towels, and went to Olympic Village. Liz, Frank and Alicia had captured the gander from the 15-storey building. The goslings had jumped and landed on Alicia's balcony, followed by the rest of the family, which was rounded up and crated.

We all walked three blocks to Hinge Park and clambered down to the beach and released the two parents, their six goslings and five needing adoption. It worked well. The geese bathed luxuriously to rid themselves of any people contaminants, and the goslings bobbed and mobbed about altogether. Success!

Next to luxury highrise number two, complete with rooftop garden surrounding a party room with a barbecue, wet bar, kitchen, seating and fabu-



lous views. The goose was brooding its goslings on the south side. Gander was eating dandelions on the north side. Both were outside the fencing, so the problem was how to safely capture the goslings without causing them to panic and jump. They were on the roof of the apartment balconies, an area about 20 feet by 3 feet filled with green weeds.

Liz setup a cardboard fence along the inside edge, and tempted mom with some food. She obliged by moving right into the catch area. We are **not** allowed outside the railing, so a long pole net was used to gently and slowly herd goose and goslings into a corner. Then the fast scoop was on! Two big nets and two butterfly nets, four people, six goslings, and a kennel! Bingo! Much peeping and panic, but no one fell or jumped. Mom flew around honking.

The goose went across the street to a slightly lower garden roof, where she called and honked. Liz held up a gosling which peeped and issued distress calls until the goose returned. We wanted her within the rooftop garden, but she declined to fly over the balcony rail and just wandered up and down the nest area, bleating. Gander nowhere

visible.

The goose then retreated back across the street. Liz took one crate down of the caught goslings down to street level to entice the goose, while the rest of us stayed with the five remaining orphans. We got them to peep by holding them up, until Liz told us to water and feed them. We had no luck enticing the goose and had to phone Liz to tell her both geese parents were now on a lower roof.

Indomitable Liz pushed buttons on the intercom to that building until she happened upon the penthouse owner who was taking his little dog out for a brief walk.

He returned, Liz called us over, with three crates, five goslings, four nets, and a food box. The nice owner and terrified dog took us up to the roof.

A different owner told us, "You *cannot* leave geese here! Its being painted this week!". She didn't wish to listen to us as we said, "We're trying to *remove* them!".

By then, the parents took off, and back we went to the street with all the paraphernalia.

The parents were now across 1st Avenue (four lanes, lots of traffic) on top of a commercial building. They were scanning the area, but I don't think the cheeping and peeping would be audible two floors up.

Many people greeted us and the goslings, they were helpful and hopeful, and well wishing. We even got a donation of linens!

So after four hours we had two more goslings than we began with, and two sets of six, plus nine, were still alive. Liz let us leave, but she and Frank set out and found families of the appropriate age to adopt the 11 goslings.

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Donor Spotlight: John Montalbano

Q&A — why John supports WRA, and how he got involved

Let's start easy. Just tell me a bit about yourself - job, hobbies, etc.

I grew up in Vancouver, east Vancouver specifically and am a UBC grad. I was CEO of Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management and RBC Global Asset Management. I am now retired and serve on a number of community boards such as St. Paul's Hospital Foundation, The Vancouver Police Foundation, Junior Achievement of B.C., The Asia Pacific Foundation and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board. I am also mentoring many young entrepreneurs. Married to my wife Dana and have two young boys Marco (11) and Luke (12).

What was it that led you to connect with WRA?

A number of months ago my wife Dana went downstairs in our home to find a Great Blue Heron nestled in our light well, which is about 15-feet high. The bird looked understandably distressed. We have a large koi pond attached to our home and we suspect that the heron was feasting on our Japanese gold fish, got spooked and in a panic hit our dining room window and ultimately fell into our light well.

Fortunately the light well has a lot of soft vegetation, so his fall would have been cushioned.

Upon finding him in our light well it was clear that we needed professional assistance to remove him to safety. We were concerned he may have been concussed and have incurred other injuries. We called the SPCA and they were unable to assist given the size of the bird and they referred us to WRA. We called WRA immediately and they said they could help the heron at 8 PM that evening. One problem: we were hosting over 30 guests for dinner and a lecture at our home on philanthropy by Social Venture Partners! We forewarned the guests of the pending visit by WRA and the guests were more than excited to see the bird saved from the constraints of the light well. A remarkable volunteer came to our home and skillfully removed the agitated bird from a very confined space. Not to lose an opportunity, I asked her to present the cause of the WRA to a room full of philanthropists! After hearing the wonderful and important work the WRA does for our wildlife, our family felt compelled to donate to the cause.

How is the heron doing today, after it was released post-care?

As it turned out, the accident was somewhat fortuitous for the heron as he had a skin ailment that would have taken his life had it not been treated. The WRA cured him of that ailment, nursed back to health and he was released in our back yard about a week later. Today there are three herons terrorising our pond and we suspect he is the dad now training his children! We have now put preventative measures over our pond to protect both the birds and the fish from harm.

After the heron received care at Wildlife Rescue, you made a very generous contribution. What was it that made you decide to donate?

The WRA is a wonderful organisation, with unbelievably dedicated staff and volunteers in support of wild animals in distress and physical harm. These are animals that could not otherwise care for themselves, nor have caretakers as domesticated animals do. In most cases, like in ours, the animals are harmed because of urbanization. The WRA saved a beautiful animal that would otherwise have no alternative for rescue.

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SKUNKS, BIRDS AND BATS
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REMOVED**



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You will receive a minimum \$50 tax-deductible receipt for the assessed value of your car and net proceeds donated to **WRA**.

AA Wayn'es Towing will also donate their administrative fee so that 100% of the proceeds go to the **WRA**.

**Call the Donation Hotline at
604.321-2277**



www.charitycarprogram.ca

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Sign up for our e-newsletter at Wildlife Rescue by subscribing on our website. You'll receive regular updates direct to your inbox.

Learn more at www.wildliferescue.ca.

BUSINESS APPRECIATION

- | | |
|---|---|
| BWAY Corporation: Bird Buckets & Lids | Oxygen |
| Colour Time Printing & Digital Imaging: Discount | Norm Snihur: Helicopter Transport of Animals |
| Wild West Coast Seafoods: Seafood Donation | Otter Co-Op: Discount |
| Keeping It Green Donation | Wild Birds Unlimited: Discounts |
| Landscaping: Greenery Donation | K-Bro Linen Systems: Linen Donation |
| Save-On-Foods Market | West Coast Tropical Bird Studio: Discount |
| Crossing: Discount on Lettuce | Home Depot #7047: Lumber and Building Supplies |
| King Ed Pets: Discount | Pomme Natural Market: Gift Card |
| Hop-On Farms: Discount on Lettuce | Landscape Centre: Gravel |
| Pickering Safety: Discount on | |

IN MEMORY

To those we have lost, but never forgotten.

- Betty Ann Anderson
Billy Plett
Edna Palchinski
James
Jon Young
Kieran Bridge
Mike Lawrence
Stephen Lee Raskewicz
Ulf von Dehn
"Addie" Kuntz
"Bubs" Francis
Bailey, Max, and Nikko
Cousteau and Len
Your Highness Linus the Finest**

Thank you to all who gave in tribute.

Leaving a Legacy for the Future



B.C. wildlife is blessed by the caring humans who share this part of the world. Wildlife Rescue has been the benefactor of many heartfelt legacy gifts, allowing the organization to care for more than 100,000 animals in the last 39 years. These gifts are the reason this organization has become the busiest centre in Canada and continues to rescue, treat and return wildlife to their natural habitat every day of the year.

If leaving a **legacy for wildlife** resonates with your core values, here are some things to consider:

- Your gift is your opportunity to participate in the charitable work most meaningful to you.
 - Choosing to leave this gift from your heart brings meaning, dignity and purpose to a life well lived.
 - Your caring generosity allows this important work to be well supported now and long after you have gone.
 - A legacy gift can be a very practical addition to a financial or estate plan when tax issues are taken into consideration - even for those who think they may not have tax issues.
 - You might want to leave a gift in memory of a loved one for a specific use.
 - Have you been providing gifts and/or volunteer time to wildlife already? Your legacy gift empowers the dedication you have already committed.
- Beneficial Ways of Giving**
- Make Wildlife Rescue a beneficiary of your insurance policy
 - Donate stocks and bonds
 - Name Wildlife Rescue in your will

Common Questions

How do I leave a gift for wildlife? By leaving a gift to Wildlife Rescue in your will or estate plan, you ensure your assets continue to help injured animals into the future. Without a will, your property and finances are settled according to federal and provincial laws, which may not coincide with your wishes.

I thought only people at a certain income level could leave a charitable bequest or gift through their estate. You don't have to be "wealthy" to plan a gift. Anyone can arrange to leave a charitable gift from their estate, regardless of its size. It can mean a great deal to injured and orphaned animals.

Who can help me arrange for a gift to an organization? Your financial planner, lawyer, accountant, or life insurance expert can help you leave a gift. These professionals can tell you about the tax benefits of planned gifts.

How do I leave a gift in memory of a person or for a specific purpose? A charitable gift is a meaningful way to recognize someone who has made a difference in your life. You may also want to give to a specific purpose like medical expertise and equipment or the hospital building and enclosures. These kinds of memorial gifts can be arranged in your will - you need to specify that the gift be given in memory of a particular person or for a specific use. Our fund development team would be happy to discuss special needs with you.

Do I have to include my wish to leave

a gift specifically to Wildlife Rescue in my will? A charitable bequest will not take effect unless you state your intention in your will. Without a will, you lose control over your property after death. Your property and finances are settled according to federal and provincial laws, whether or not they coincide with your wishes or those of your family.

Do I tell Wildlife Rescue that I'm leaving a gift? That's up to you. It is very helpful to Wildlife Rescues sustainability planning to know that you have made this choice in advance. Our team would also like to recognize your generosity by involving you in a wildlife release and other activities. If you wish your gift to remain anonymous, your request will be honoured.

How to Get Started

Think about the importance that Wildlife Rescue holds in your life. Maybe you or someone you know has brought animals who have benefited from this program. Maybe you are an active volunteer or believe in the mission and values of this organization. You might want to leave a gift in memory of a loved one who cherishes wildlife.

Do your homework. Talk to Sheila, Donor Relations Coordinator or Coleen, Executive Director. They can tell you more about what opportunities are available for giving, and how your gift can allow them to continue wildlife rehabilitation.

Consult the appropriate professional advisors. Get the right expertise and advice to ensure the type and timing of your gift maximizes the advantages to you and Wildlife Rescue.

Talk to your family members. Make them aware of your intentions so they can support the achievement of your charitable goals.

Once you have decided how you are going to proceed, let Wildlife Rescue know your intentions.

Please contact us with any questions you may have! giving@wildliferescue.ca or call 604-526-2747 ext. 502.

Wildlife Rescue — By the Numbers

Since 2013, Wildlife Rescue has increased its intake from 4,146 to approximately 5,000 animals per year. The release rate has steadily risen from 27% to 35%, and euthanasia during treatment rate has dropped from 13% to 7%, reflecting the improvements in standards of care.

One of our goals is to reduce the number of animals that pass away or have to be euthanized during care. This requires making sound decisions at intake to optimize our animal treatment program.

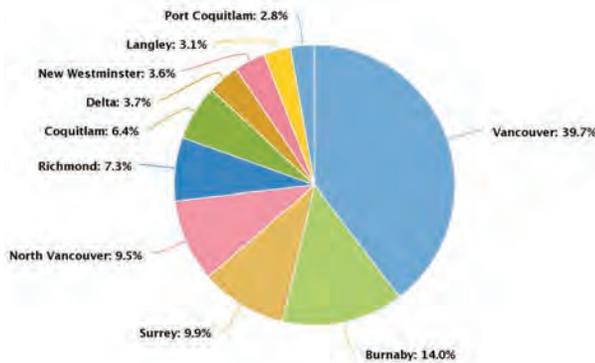
Overall, awareness of Wildlife Rescue as experts in wildlife care has increased, with our intake in 2017 comprising 89.4% birds, 10.3% mammals, and 0.3% others, such as reptiles and amphibians. The reduction in mammals is due to a restructuring of our intake during the transition from our old hospital to the new hospital.

We are very proud to be the busiest wildlife rehabilitation centre in Canada, and look forward to servicing B.C.'s injured, orphaned,

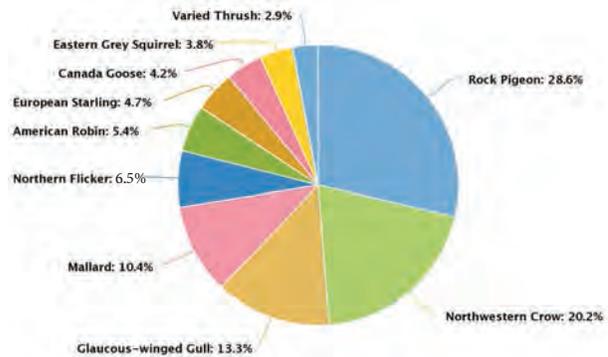
4,873
total intake

35%
release rate (industry avg. 30%)

Top 10 Cities



Top 10 Animal Species



- Total Intake** 4,873
- Birds** 89.4%
- Mammals** 10.3%
- Reptiles & Amphibians** 0.3%
- Northern Flicker** 208
- Hummingbird** 107
- Mallard** 334
- Northwestern Crow** 648
- Little Brown Bat** 27

Proud Partnership

A wayward Bullock's Oriole, found in Eastern Ontario by an avid birder, was saved from being frozen to death in a cold this bird is not capable of handling. Partnering with the Ottawa Valley Wild Bird Care Centre, Wildlife Rescue completed the transition from east to west, and set the oriole free again.

Wait, How Many Calls?

Wildlife Rescue takes in 5,000 animals in a given year, and the Wildlife Helpline is taking many more calls than that - with a total of 17,152 calls answered!

Supporting Wildlife All Year Round

Wildlife in B.C. is blessed to have so many supporters out there willing to make sure that when they need medical attention, they get it from the best.

Giving to Wildlife Rescue provides animals with the expertise they need to make it through broken bones, malnutrition, losing their parents at a young and vulnerable age, getting hit by cars, cutting down trees, loss of habitat, and much more.

While your single gifts are extremely welcome, supporting wildlife all year round is an easy and effective way to make sure injured and orphaned wildlife has everything it takes to make a healthy



Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*). Successfully raised and released from

recovery all year round.

This is why the monthly giving program is one of our most popular ways of giving, as it allows people to easily support wildlife and schedule it into their monthly budget, making it so you don't feel that sting when you give all at once.

It also lays a foundation for Wildlife Rescue to build a plan for the future knowing we have your support.

To become a monthly donor, you can cut out and mail in the form below, or simply go online to www.wildliferescue.ca/give and select the Monthly giving option.



Yes! I want to become a monthly supporter!

I wish to make a donation for:

\$25/mo:

\$40/mo:

\$50/mo:

\$75/mo:

Other:

Want to do this online?

If you want to make an online donation, please go to www.wildliferescue.ca/give and select the Monthly giving option to support wildlife!

We are incredibly grateful for your support! Thank you for helping!

NAME		
EMAIL		
ADDRESS	PROVINCE	POSTAL CODE
CITY		PHONE

If this is a gift:

NAME		
EMAIL		
ADDRESS	PROVINCE	POSTAL CODE
CITY		PHONE

Payment:

My cheque payable to **WRA** for \$ is enclosed, or please charge my:

<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	CARD #	EXP. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Express	\$ <input type="text"/>	SIGNATURE

Monthly Donation Agreement: I may revoke my authorization at any time, subject to providing notice of 30 days. To obtain a sample cancellation form, or for more information on my right to cancel a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Agreement, I may contact my financial institution or visit cdnpay.ca. I have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. To obtain more information on my recourse rights, I may contact my financial institution or visit cdnpay.ca. All donations will be used for Board-approved programs and projects. When any need or project goal has been met, extra funds will be used in areas of greatest need. We respect your privacy and do not rent or sell our mailing lists.



Wildlife Rescue Association of BC
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Yes! I want to support wildlife rescue and rehabilitation in BC

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I wish to make a donation:

One-Time \$

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Request for information:

- Volunteer opportunities
- Education programs
- Legacy gifts for wildlife

*If you would like to receive your tax receipt via email please tick the box.

WRA is grateful for your support. Thank you.

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