



# Annual Impact Report





American White Pelican

In October of this year, an alert resident in Oliver, BC, noticed an American White Pelican left behind on Tuc-el-nuit Lake as his flock continued their migration journey south. Wildlife Rescue promptly dispatched a rescue team who drove on an 8-hour roundtrip to get to the injured bird. The pelican was found to have severe damage to its left wing, caused by what we suspect, was a fishing line hook.

Long-term treatment over the winter would be necessary to ensure a safe and successful return to the wild.

Countless hours were devoted by staff and volunteers to intensive wound management, a healthy diet, waterproofing of feathers, daily physiotherapy and pool time, and weekly veterinary examinations.

After seven months of rigorous care at the Wildlife Rescue facility, this pelican had inspired everyone with its recovery.

When biologists from Williams Lake spotted the migratory flock's return to their local breeding grounds on Puntzi Lake, they alerted Wildlife Rescue staff.

Once again, a trek was made to the Interior, this time with a strong, healthy pelican ready to re-join his flock.

Without intervention, this beautiful, long-billed bird would have perished. With your help, the outcome was so very different.

# **MESSAGE** of APPRECIATION



Co-Executive Director
Coleen Doucette & Linda Bakker



Chair of Board Jeannie Magis

"Because of you, Wildlife Rescue is able to care for the increasing number of wildlife brought through our doors each year. Your support makes it possible to ensure that every single animal receives the same high level of caring and veterinary care. We are grateful for the advocacy of our supporters and volunteers who care so deeply about wildlife. It is an absolute privilege and pleasure to share in this journey with you and together, help wildlife return to nature and thrive. Thank you."

"As I reflect on my time as chair of the Board of Directors, I am filled with pride for the incredible work being done at Wildlife Rescue by our staff and volunteers, made possible by you, our donors. We share a passion for wildlife that propels us forward in our quest not only to rehabilitate but to educate, always with the goal of helping wildlife remain wild. On behalf of the board, THANK YOU. We couldn't do this work without you."

Jeannie Magis

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# **IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Metro Vancouver population has doubled since Wildlife Rescue opened its doors in 1979.

This dramatic growth, along with the accompanying densification and expansion outwards into natural spaces, is putting ever-increasing pressures on animals living in the urban environment.

This has led to a steeply increasing demand for

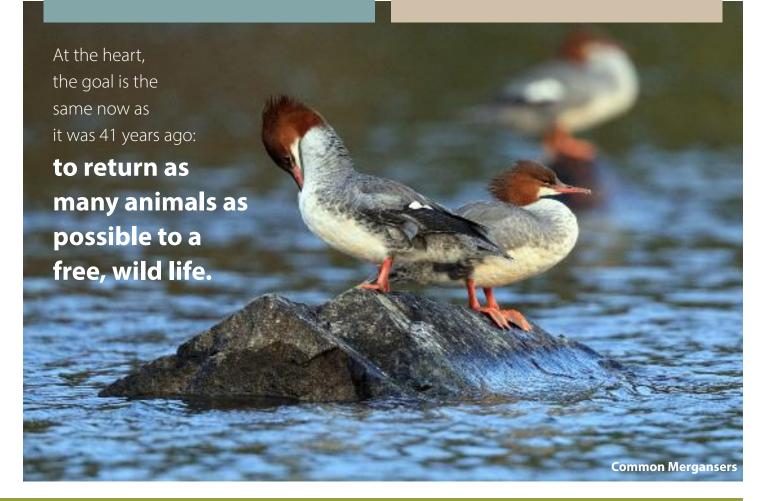
Wildlife Rescue's services by communities from across the Lower Mainland and British Columbia. We have risen to this challenge while seeking constantly to maximize the quality of care to wildlife and standing as leaders in the field of wildlife rehabilitation.

### **SINCE 1979**

43,750 animals have been successfully rehabilitated and returned to the wild.

### **SINCE 2009**

increased 365% and ADMISSIONS have increased 200%





# **OUR 2019 WORK**

### **REHABILITATION**

### **KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF**

With significant differences between wild animals and domestic animals, Wildlife Rescue must have extensive knowledge about the species in care, including nutritional requirements, behavioral issues, and habitat considerations.

### **DIVERSE SPECIES**

Wildlife Rescue is the only rehabilitation facility in Metro Vancouver that treats the full range of vertebrates including small mammals, native bird species, native reptiles, amphibians, and bats.

### **COUNTLESS VOLUNTEER HOURS**

382 Wildlife Rescue volunteers contributed 27,993 hours of their personal time in 2019 cleaning cages, preparing meals for patients, feeding animal babies, staffing the Support Centre and other essential activities.

### **EDUCATION**

### **WILDLIFE HELPLINE**

Program staff and volunteers operating the Wildlife Support Centre call centre are trained to assess the circumstances and condition of an animal suspected to be in need of help. Working with the caller, data is gathered through phone descriptions, emailed photos and videos that are all reviewed in real time. When needed, a trained rescue volunteer is dispatched to provide an experienced field assessment. Many animals are not in need of help and through this approach, they are left in their natural habitat without interference.







### **CONSERVATION**

We know that even small numbers of displaced animals or disrupted habitats can undermine normal behaviours such as group interaction, migratory and reproductive success. Wildlife Rescue's conservation activities aim to minimize disruption and keep animals in the wild, return healthy animals to the wild to continue their natural lives and, through education, contribute to a better understanding of wildlife in the urban environment.

#### **FOSTER FAMILY PLACEMENTS**

Wildlife Rescue places orphaned animal babies with appropriate samespecies families to be raised in the wild, rather than at the wildlife hospital, to give them the best survival success. Wildlife Rescue volunteers identify and map wild families with similar-aged healthy babies.

#### **FLEDGLING HEALTH CHECKS**

In spring and summer, it is not uncommon for kind-hearted humans to unintentionally kidnap wild animal babies, thinking they have been abandoned. Wildlife Rescue implemented Health Checks in response. When healthy-looking animal babies are brought in by a member of the public, the individual is asked to wait while the hospital conducts an immediate health exam. If the babies are not injured, dehydrated, thin or suffering from parasites, the staff guide the finder to return the babies and help them successfully reunite with their parents in the wild.

### **ROOFTOP RESCUES**

With ever-increasing densification and expansion outwards into natural spaces, wild animals are being forced to nest and raise families on sites that are less than ideal for wildlife. Wildlife Rescue has teamed up with residential and commercial buildings to safely assist nesting waterfowl families from rooftop to water habitats after the babies have hatched. In some cases, further care and treatment was needed and so the whole family was transported to our wildlife hospital until ready to be released.





### **WILDLIFE STORY**

# **Anna's Hummingbird**

This past winter, Wildlife Rescue received hundreds of concerned calls and took in 39 of these iridescent birds. They were suffering from starvation and hypothermia caused by chilly temperatures and frozen or empty feeders. Staff and volunteers took turns providing nourishment as hummingbirds need to eat almost continuously to maintain their body temperature and metabolism. Thankfully, with dedicated care and warm conditions, most of these hummingbirds survived and were released back to the wild once temperatures warmed up.

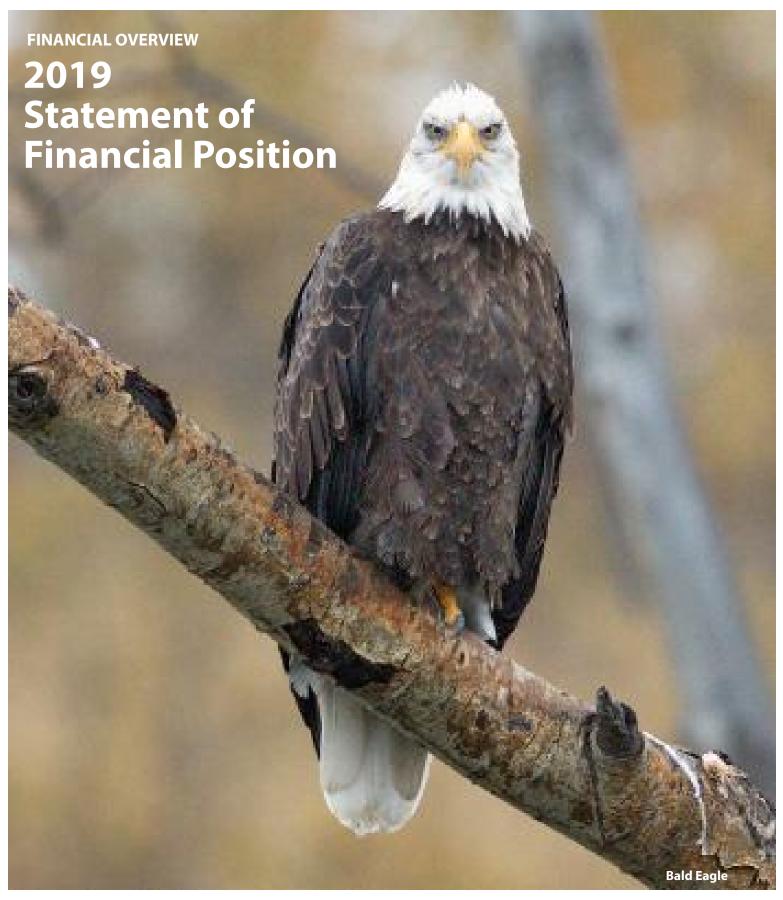


### **WILDLIFE STORY**

## **Black-headed Grosbeak**

In August 2019, a Black-headed Grosbeak was brought to us when it was caught in a mist net. Mist nets are used for bird banding or other research projects and normally, birds captured are uninjured and safely released to the wild. This bird suffered a bilateral clavicle fracture and was brought to us quickly. He recuperated at Wildlife Rescue for three weeks before being released and delightedly flying into the skies.







Statement of financial position
As at December 31,
(Unaudited)

	2019	2018
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	627,476	682,391
Accounts receivable	19,060	27,740
Investments	168,286	285,648
	814,822	995,779
	-	
Property and equipment	63,982	63,166
	878,804	1,058,945
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	37,145	48,733
Deferred capital contributions	339,860	339,860
·	377,005	388,593
Fund balances		
Invested in property and equipment	18,936	24,219
Internally restricted	441,182	618,585
Unrestricted	41,681	27,548
	501,799	670,352
	878,804	1,058,945
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## Statement of operations and changes in fund balances Year ended,

	2019	2018
Revenue		
Individual donations	462,493	484,582
Government grants	197,901	179,332
Planned giving	101,815	89,410
Corporate	43,401	37,092
Foundations	29,080	21,261
Investment income	27,859	17,035
Endowment income	9,403	11,204
Sales and other	3,367	4,831
Memberships	1,520	1,925
	876,839	846,672
Expenses		
Wages and benefits	736,668	695,980
Food and medical wildlife care	126,070	99,937
Fundraising	78,733	78,449
Office	54,634	88,407
Facilities	39,189	56,138
Amortization	5,283	5,541
Other	4,815	12,773
	1,045,392	1,037,225
Excess of revenue over expenses	(168,553)	(190,553)



# Thank you for supporting B.C.'s wildlife

Wildlife Rescue is grateful to more than 2,500 supporters across British Columbia who donated \$591,480 to help save wildlife in 2019. We would like to extend a special thanks to the following generous donors.



### **Individuals**

Julia BAUMAN David & Ann BURN

Alan BURNS Julie CHAN

Carlyne CLARK Barbara COPPING

Eve COST & JAMES RIMELL

Dana DEVINE Bonita EVANS Elizabeth GRANT Ann HARDING

Carol HEALY

Richard HAWKESWORTH

Agnes HORNAAS Andrew JOHNSTON Ivo KATNICH Dianne KOBEKA Gayle KOOISTRA

Gayle KOSH & Howard

REDEKOPP Marietta KOZAK Dorrit & Lars LARSEN Barbara LEMON Joanne LOMAS Joyce LUPTAK Mary MACINTOSH Marlene MACKENZIE G.B. John MANCINI Tara MANNALL Frances MCGRATH Michele MCLAUGHLIN John MCLENNAN Gordon MURDOCH

**Shannon PARKER** 

Paul & Rosemary PRETORIUS

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Adele RUNIKIS
R. Paul SAMSON
Linda SAUNDERS
Olga SAVCHUK
Rudiger SEYEN
Linda SHERWOOD
Cheryl SIEBERT
Roger STALSBERG
Mark STEVENS

Beverley TAMBOLINE Susan TAYLOR Gregory VENTURI

Ralph VOLKENS Michele & Sidney WAIN

**Phyllis WATSON** 

# Agency, Corporation & Foundations

- Burnaby Lougheed Lions Club
- Dr. Sunny Lai Podiatric Corporation
- Empowered Startups LTD
- Ewald Family Foundation
- GL Williams & Associates LTD
- Pacific Animal Foundation
- Provincial Employees Community Services Fund
- Rotary Club of Burnaby Foundation
- Symcor
- Trans Mountain Canada INC
- United Way of the Lower Mainland
- Vancouver Foundation
- Victoria Foundation

### Estate Gifts

Estate of Herbert H. BECK

Estate of Brian William DUNLOP

Estate of Gerald Leo HERNESMAA

Estate of Doris Hilda HUNTER

Estate of Evelyn Rosemary IRVING

Estate of Phyllis Margaret MCCOWAN

Estate of Ruth Ethel MORRISON

Estate of Shirley Mae O'KUSKY

Estate of David Nelson SPARKS





**Long-time Donor and Volunteer Nel** 

Nel Aird tapped into her love of wildlife to find an outlet for her energies when she retired in 2005. At the time, one of her colleagues mentioned volunteering at Wildlife Rescue. Despite her career as a senior project manager, she felt completely overwhelmed by the needs of all the animals during her first shift. She was grateful to be tasked with washing the animals' food dishes.

It wasn't long before she found her rhythm and every day since, she's been inspired by the incredible work of the staff and volunteers. "Wildlife Rescue attracts people who always want to give the best possible care and are truly passionate about helping wildlife".

In her 14 years as a volunteer,

Nel has helped the organization in countless ways. Some of her activities include feeding and cleaning up after patients, providing transport and releases, teaching duckling workshops, mentoring other volunteers, and conducting orientations.

She says that what keeps her coming back is "the joy of seeing

damaged, fragile things come in, recover, regain their ability to eat and thrive, and successfully return back to the wild".

Coupled with that is her respect for the organization itself. Wildlife rehabilitation is a constantly evolving science and Nel shared, "the leadership and staff make constant efforts to improve things, from how the animals are cared for to the training and mentoring of volunteers. It just seems that the organization learns constantly from its experiences".

Seeing this effectiveness from the moment she began at Wildlife Rescue gave her the confidence to support the organization as a donor as well.

Having immigrated to Canada alone as a young adult, she relied on her parents' values of hard work and planning to get through those early years. She sees those same values in both the people and operations at Wildlife Rescue. At this stage in her life, she likes being in an economic position to support an organization that she believes in.

Her biggest dream? Nel notes that there will always be a need for an organization like Wildlife Rescue. In the past several years, she's seen more and more wildlife in need of help.

Chuckling, she says, "I'd like to see a new hospital before I'm too old to volunteer".



## Board of Directors 2019

Wildlife Rescue's Board of Directors is a volunteer governance board. Responsibilities include organizational governance, executive director oversight, reviewing/approving budgets, approval of major organizational decisions, chairing board Committees, supporting fundraising activities, and ensuring that operations are consistent with organizational mission.

> **CHAIR Jeannie Magis** VICE-CHAIR AND TREASURER Nicole Belanger

**SECRETARY Laurie Murdoch** 



# Staff Members 2019

### **Business Operations**

**CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** Coleen Doucette

CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Linda Bakker

OPERATIONS & FINANCE DIRECTOR Rob Vandermey

**DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING** 

**COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR Shantal Cashman** 

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR Vindi Sekhon DONOR RELATIONS COORDINATOR Sheila Dickinson

#### **Janelle Stephenson OUTPATIENT CARE MANAGER**

HOSPITAL MANAGER SUPPORT CENTRE MANAGER HOSPITAL ASSISTANT MANAGER SUPPORT CENTRE TEAM LEAD SUPPORT CENTRE COORDINATOR **VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR RESOURCE COORDINATOR** 

**Wildlife Program** 

**Kristen Trudeau Andrea Morgan Gyl Anderson Jackie McQuillan Esther Lintern Stephanie Green Carla Benn Seth Bennett Meghan Coghlan Breanna Handley Kimberley Kennedy Brandon Law Suzanne Naaykens** Emma Zinck

WILDLIFE HELPLINE & RESCUE

ASSISTANT **GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT** 

**WILDLIFE TECHNICIANS** 

Sierra Monastersky

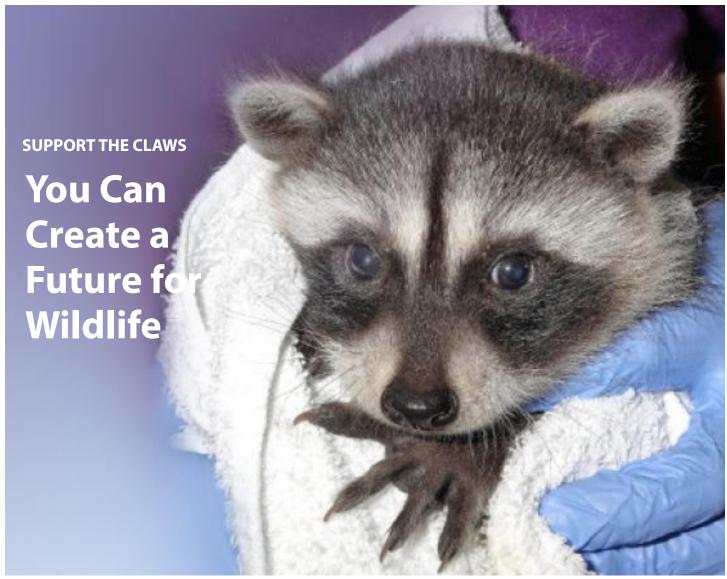
**Don Anderson** 



### **Professional Affiliations**

- National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association
   International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council
  - Wildlife Rehabilitators Network of BC
  - Annual permits by Canadian Wildlife Service and

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations



Raccoon Cub

#### **VOLUNTEER**

Our volunteers are key to helping give wildlife a second chance at a natural life. Email volunteer@ wildliferescue.ca.

### **BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR**

Providing a sustainable monthly gift better enables us to meet the needs of wildlife year-round.

### **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL**

We are on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @ wildliferescue. You'll be the first to see updates from the hospital and the field.

#### **KEEP UP WITH THE WILDLIFE BUZZ**

Bookmark our website wildliferescue.ca to read the Wildlife Buzz and learn about our latest patients, plus you'll catch tips to help wildlife and so much more.

#### **MAKE A PLANNED GIFT**

Consider leaving a lasting legacy to help ensure our lifesaving work continues.

For more ways to get involved, email us at giving@wildliferescue.ca or call us at 604-526-2747



### **Wildlife Rescue Association of BC**

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WILDLIFE HELPLINE **604-526-7275** 

ADMINISTRATION **604-526-2747** 

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YOUTUBE Wildlife Rescue

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REGISTRATION # 131373490RR0001

**PHOTOS Paul Steeves, Volunteer** 

**EDITOR Shantal Cashman** 

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Yellow-throated Warbler