

2022

# Annual Impact Report



*Wildlife Rescue*  
ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 1, 2021 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2022



**VISION**

To continually improve the welfare of urban wildlife.

**MISSION**

To provide leadership in rehabilitating wildlife and in promoting the welfare of wild animals in the urban environment.



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# Message of Appreciation

Dear friends,

In 2022, Wildlife Rescue donors, employees, and volunteers all once again showed us the incredible impact that compassion can make for wildlife. As we rang in our 43rd year of operation, Wildlife Rescue met every challenge and saw incredible growth in our ability to rehabilitate wildlife thanks to the generosity of our supporters.

Over the course of the last fiscal year, BC experienced weather extremes, continuing pandemic effects, and ever-rising human development. More than ever before, wildlife have needed help and we are proud to say that supporters like you have given it to them.

More than 5,000 animals were admitted to the Wildlife Hospital to be treated and rehabilitated by our expert staff and volunteers. Almost 1,000 more animals were rescued and released in the field without additional intervention. Our Wildlife Rescue Support Centre and Helpline were contacted over 32,000 times for support and guidance with wildlife.

Beyond our doors, the Wildlife Rescue education program created new resources for the public, sent hundreds of informative emails, and connected with the media to raise awareness of the best practices for co-existing with wildlife.

Wildlife Rescue remains a pillar of the community and an essential service for injured and orphaned animals thanks to your support. We are excited to share these highlights and stories of our year with you.

*Thank you for joining us in saving thousands of lives and creating a better future for countless more.*

With deep appreciation,



Linda Bakker,  
*Co-Executive Director*



Coleen Doucette,  
*Co-Executive Director*



Glenn Boyle,  
*Chair, Board of Directors*







# 2022 Highlights

OCTOBER 1, 2021 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

**5,064**  
patients admitted

**32,011**  
inquiries answered

**221**  
communities served

**134**  
new volunteers

**Unique species brought in for care  
or helped in the field**







## Building upgrades

A temporary Admission and Triage centre was established from January to October due to construction. This triage program was brought back to our main site, improving efficiency and patient care!



## Circle flight pen established

Birds that eat on the wing, such as swallows, need exceptional manoeuvring ability. Our new circle pre-release flight enclosure forces them to exercise around the obstacle in the middle, improving their readiness for release.



# Wildlife Hospital

The Wildlife Rescue Hospital is a leader in wildlife rehabilitation across Canada. This team of experts provides the highest-quality medical care possible 365 days of the year to injured, orphaned, and pollution-impacted wildlife. With a team of dedicated wildlife technicians and specially-trained volunteers, all patients receive consistent and thorough care to give them their best chance of returning to their natural environment.

Last year, thanks to generous support of Wildlife Rescue donors and partners, a temporary triage site was established to ensure immediate care from our Hospital team while construction was completed on the road leading to our site. We have implemented a dedicated triage space on-site to provide the most efficient patient care even on our busiest days of the year. Additionally, a circle flight track was established for our feathered patients to stretch their wings in recovery and build up essential flight muscles before release!

## Conservation in Action as Red-Listed Brandt's Cormorants Return to the Wild!

Wildlife Rescue is proud to play a part in the conservation of red-listed species by providing rehabilitation and expert care. In BC, red-listed species are endangered or threatened species at risk of being lost. As urban development and climate change increase the pressure on the diverse and beautiful species in BC, rehabilitation of every animal becomes essential to the health of the overall population.

As urban development increases, wildlife-friendly areas become more scarce and many birds are forced to take longer flights. These long flights often end in emergency landings and for seabirds like the red-listed Brandt's Cormorant, landing on the ground is especially dangerous. Even on short flights, slick surfaces like wet pavement can be mistaken for a safe body of water but leave them stranded.

Brandt's Cormorants are seabirds that typically land on high perches like pilings or piers. Without elevation, they hop across the surface of the water, flapping until they gather enough life to take off. Being stuck on the flat, hard ground leaves them vulnerable to predators, cars, and starvation.

This year, two Brandt's Cormorants were admitted to the Wildlife Rescue Hospital back-to-back. Both of these cormorants were found stuck on the road, exhausted and bruised from landing on the ground. With expert care and monitoring, both patients recovered quickly and were ready to return to the ocean.

The Wildlife Rescue team worked closely with local biologists and conservation experts to find a safe and suitable spot in Tsawwassen where both Brandt's Cormorants rejoined the wild population!

**5,064**  
patients received care

129 unique species of birds

17 mammal species

1 reptile species



BRANDT'S CORMORANT



# Support Centre

Whether a member of the public has found an injured animal in need of help, or someone is looking for tips to keep their backyard wildlife-friendly—the Wildlife Rescue Support Centre is just a phone call or email away.

Beyond supporting the public, the Support Centre coordinates patient transportation, new patient admission, release of rehabilitated wildlife to species-appropriate environments, and wildlife fostering. The efforts of this program play an essential role in the rescue and conservation of wildlife across BC.

**32,011**  
emails and phone calls answered

**88**  
babies fostered and reunited with their families

**1,061**  
waterfowl rescued and relocated

## Dark-Eyed Junco Family Reunited

Through Spring and Summer, Wildlife Rescue admits and raises hundreds of injured and orphaned baby animals who aren't able to survive on their own. It is our goal to keep wildlife wild and thriving, sometimes requiring quick action to ensure the best outcomes for these vulnerable babies.

This baby bird season, concerned community members brought a baby Dark-Eyed Junco into Wildlife Rescue care after seeing it hopping out of its nest repeatedly. After a quick but thorough health check from the Wildlife Rescue team, it was determined that the baby had no injuries and was happy and strong! This young Junco was simply ready to leave the nest and excited to begin exploring its surroundings.

The Wildlife Rescue Support Centre team confirmed the parents were still around and dispatched a team member to bring the healthy baby back to its nest, successfully reuniting the family.

This hardworking team provides educational materials and one-on-one guidance to thousands of Wildlife Rescue supporters every year. These efforts mean countless young animals can grow up in their natural environment without any unnecessary intervention.



**DARK-EYED JUNCO**

# Education

As factors against wildlife survival continue to grow, our best tool to support long-term health is a robust education program. Wildlife Rescue's mission of improving the welfare of urban wildlife is achieved year-round through diverse sources of high quality public education.

Last year, we provided educational content to hundreds of thousands of people through Wildlife Rescue channels with even higher exposure through televised and print media. Whether receiving our Wildlife Alerts via email, seasonal newsletters, reading the Wildlife Rescue blog, visiting Wildlife Rescue's social media channels, or taking home educational materials from our Support Centre—the public is more informed and better equipped to support urban wildlife than ever before.

**32,657**

members of the public learning about wildlife through social media

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**7,809**

members of the public receiving educational wildlife content right to their inbox

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**184,781**

visits to the wildlife rescue website

## Oh, the Places Wildlife Rescuers Go!

Wildlife Rescue volunteers are some of the most passionate and dedicated individuals in the animal rehabilitation world. There are truly no heights our incredible team won't reach to ensure wildlife receive the care they need! This year, we were blown away by their efforts on the frontline of animal rescue.

Our team faced every element, including hopping in a kayak to reach an injured bird that was tangled under the Burnaby Rowing Club Pavilion dock and donning hip waders to pick up another! They responded to calls on beaches, in parks, rooftops, and more. They rode in taxis and cars and made pick-ups at the airport for long-traveling patients—always making sure animals made it to Wildlife Rescue as quickly and safely as possible.

These incredible rescuers are equipped with specialized equipment and can be spotted all across the lower mainland, ensuring wild animals are rescued and supported in the field or brought into our hospital for care. Through cold winter months and in the hot summer days, Wildlife Rescue volunteers are out there exerting every effort to provide lifesaving care.

**277**

compassionate volunteers generously gave their time to support wildlife

**64,240**

kilometers travelled to rescue and release wildlife in need

**24,716**

hours given to rescue wildlife, provide care, support the public, & more



# Financial Overview

2022 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION



**38%**  
Medical &  
Rehabilitation

**29%**  
Community  
Engagement

**16%**  
Administration &  
Program Support

**14%**  
Community  
Wildlife Support  
Services

**3%**  
Volunteer  
Development

## REVENUES

Donations	\$800,156
Corporate	\$388,142
Planned Giving	\$501,821
Foundation Donations	\$223,150
Grant Income	\$332,261
Memberships	\$924
Endowment Income	\$11,297
Interest	\$214
Sales & Other	\$11,298

**Total Income** **\$2,269,262**

## EXPENDITURES

Medical	\$348,263
Rehabilitation	\$415,250
Rescue & Transport	\$173,548
Helpline	\$133,251
Education & Outreach	\$35,518
Volunteer Development	\$88,115
Administration & Program Support	\$359,814
Fundraising & Development	\$426,661

**Total Expenditures** **\$1,980,420**

## WILDLIFE STORY

# Belted Kingfisher Stunned by Window Strike

This past July, a Wildlife Rescue supporter in Whistler headed out to their balcony to enjoy the peaceful mountain views when they noticed a beautiful blue-gray bird lying by the window. The bird was a Belted Kingfisher, a distinctive large-headed bird usually found patrolling the shorelines of oceans, freshwater lakes, ponds, and rivers, diving for crustaceans to eat.

After some observation, this Whistler resident quickly realized that the Kingfisher was unable to fly and needed expert help. They wisely called Wildlife Rescue's helpline and even drove the injured Kingfisher all the way to our Burnaby Lake location to ensure its quick admission to the Wildlife Rescue Hospital.

Window strikes are one of the leading causes of injury, with hundreds of patients requiring care to recover from these serious collisions. We expect the number of window collisions to continue to grow as urban development in BC increases with every year. Thanks to our supporters, Wildlife Rescue can provide anti-inflammatory medication, nutrient and vitamin supplements, physiotherapy, and more to these patients.

After a thorough examination, it was determined that this Belted Kingfisher required treatment for head trauma and recovery from disorientation. After two weeks in care, regaining strength and healing, this proud-crested bird was released to live a free and wild life!





## Staff Members

### Administration

**Coleen Doucette**  
CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Linda (Hendrika) Bakker**  
CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Kristen Trudeau**  
OPERATIONS MANAGER

**Carla Benn**  
IT & DATA SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

### Development

**Bonnie Walker**  
FUND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

**Sasha Rink**  
GRAPHIC DESIGN & MARKETING ASSISTANT

**Vindi Sekhon**  
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

**Sheila Dickinson**  
DEVELOPMENT DATA SPECIALIST

**Tayelor Martin**  
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

**Sierra Monastersky**  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR

### Volunteer Program

**Layla Gilhooly**  
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM MANAGER

**Fernanda Kalil Origuela**  
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

**Viktoryia Dzemidovich**  
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM ASSISTANT

### Grounds & Maintenance

**Don Anderson**  
MAINTENANCE WORKER

**Dean Cornelson**  
MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR

### Support Centre

**Jackie McQuillan**  
SUPPORT CENTRE TEAM LEAD

**Aiden Stephens**  
SUPPORT CENTRE COORDINATOR

**Eloisa Diaz Nieto**  
SUPPORT CENTRE COORDINATOR

**Neil Tracy**  
SUPPORT CENTRE MANAGER

**Maya Hamilton**  
PROGRAMS TECHNICIAN

### Hospital

**Janelle Stephenson**  
HOSPITAL MANAGER

**Tracy Anderson**  
ASSISTANT MANAGER

**Frankie Norton-Hall**  
HOSPITAL MANAGER

**Brandon Law**  
WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

**Raelee Barth**  
WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

**Mackenzie Pearsall**  
WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN/PROJECT LEAD

**Cassandra Lacusta**  
WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

**Ana Gheorghiu**  
PROGRAMS TECHNICIAN

**Megan Cruickshank**  
SEASONAL WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

**Amy O'Brien**  
WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN (RVT)

**Dayna Evans**  
WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN (RVT)

**Katie Widmeyer**  
JR. WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

**Sam Moore**  
JR. WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

### Admissions & Triage

**Gabriella Wohlgemuth**  
ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT

**Clare Stone**  
ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT

**Rachael Eedy**  
ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT

**Laura Bodel**  
TRIAGE ASSISTANT

**Jagrutti Lakhanpal**  
TRIAGE ASSISTANT

**Claudia Cruz**  
TRIAGE ASSISTANT

## Board of Directors

**Glenn Boyle**  
CHAIR

**Jenson Leung**  
VICE CHAIR

**Jodi Westbury**  
SECRETARY

**Anson Wong**  
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

**Tommy Kwok**  
TREASURER

## 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.



# Support Wildlife Rescue

SPOTTED SANDPIPER

## **VOLUNTEER**

Connect with like-minded people and make a difference for wildlife in BC. Learn more at [wildliferescue.ca/volunteering](https://wildliferescue.ca/volunteering)

## **BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR**

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

## **KEEP UP WITH WILDLIFE**

Visit our website to sign up for Wildlife Rescue updates and education right to your inbox, read the latest stories about animals in care, learn the best tips to help wildlife, and more.

## **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL**

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

**For more ways to get involved, email us at [giving@wildliferescue.ca](mailto:giving@wildliferescue.ca) or call us at (604) 526-2747**



# Leave a Legacy of Compassionate Care for Wildlife

Make a plan today to remain personally connected to wildlife and provide a legacy of sustainable impact and essential care for injured, orphaned, and pollution-impacted wildlife.

Whether you are naming Wildlife Rescue in your will or as beneficiary in a life insurance policy, maximizing the benefit of your retirement plan, or interested in a charitable gift annuity—the impact of a legacy gift will continue for many years to come.

If you are considering a legacy gift to Wildlife Rescue and are uncertain where to begin, we would be happy to have a conversation with you. We can provide basic guidance for your options, discuss the future needs of wildlife rehabilitation and how your gift will serve to ensure that the Wildlife Rescue Association of BC continues its vital programs.

If you are already planning on making a gift for the future to Wildlife Rescue, please reach out and let us know. We want to honour your generosity and ensure you are confident in how your legacy gift will support wildlife.

**Learn more about leaving a WILD legacy by emailing us at [giving@wildliferescue.ca](mailto:giving@wildliferescue.ca) or calling (604) 526-2747 ext 502**



## Wildlife Rescue Association of BC

5216 Glencarin Drive  
Burnaby, BC, V5B 3C1, Canada

Learn about the many ways you can support your local wildlife by visiting our website at [wildliferescue.ca](http://wildliferescue.ca) or by emailing [info@wildliferescue.ca](mailto:info@wildliferescue.ca)

 [WildlifeRescueBC](#)

 [WildlifeRescue](#)

 [Wildlife Rescue](#)

 [WRAofBC](#)

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Wildlife Rescue Association of British Columbia is a  
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## Found Wildlife in Distress?

Call our Support Centre at (604) 526-7275



SNOW GEESE