



# THE NBSPCA CHRONICLE

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New Brunswick Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals  
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The NBSPCA is a registered charity - 888525268 RR 0001

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## 2015

### BY THE NUMBERS

4

New APO candidates in training.

261

Number of animals seized.

2,129

Cases investigated.

7,685

Number of hours worked by APOs.

25

Number of court days for Animal  
Protection Officers.

114

Number of seized animals requiring  
emergency vet care.

617

Cases where we educated the owner on  
Animal Protection laws.

5,445

Number of animals dealt with by APOs.

23

Charges laid.

355,000

Number of kilometers driven by APOs in carrying out their duties.

306

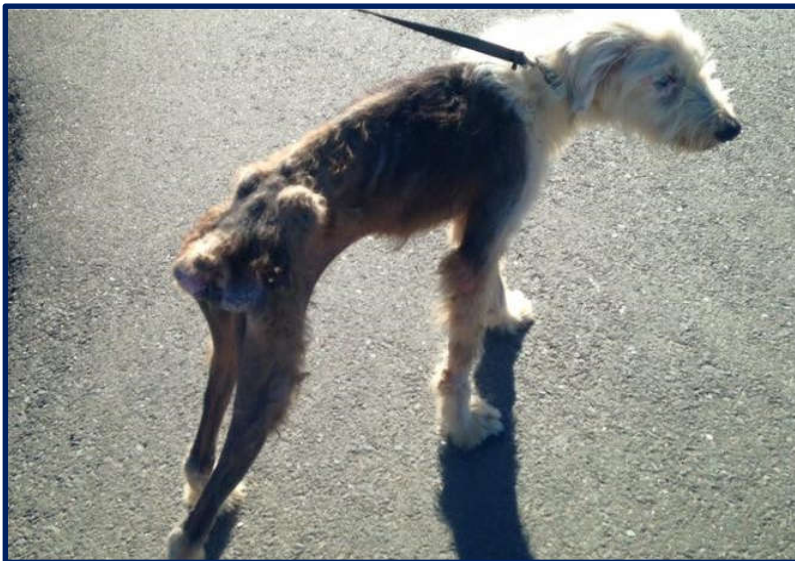
Number of animals turned over to shelters for adoption.

## CHARLIE'S STORY

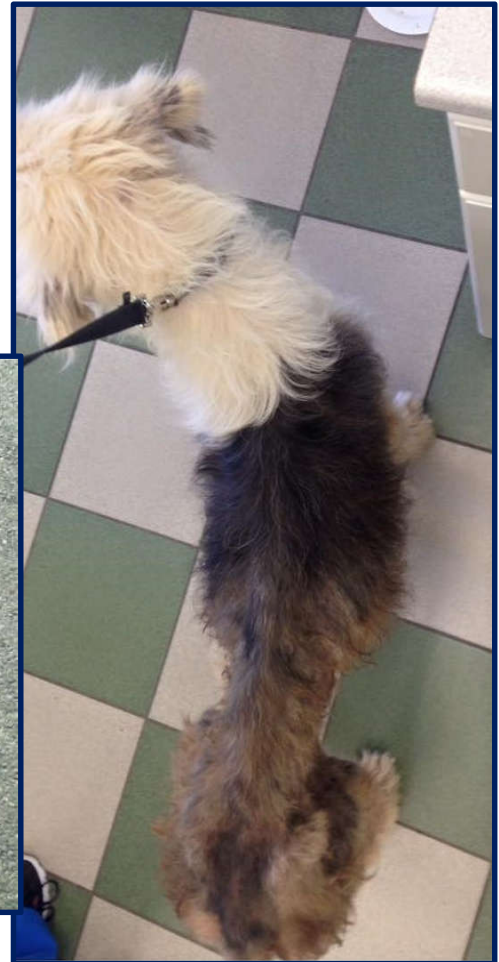
NBSPCA ANIMAL PROTECTION OFFICER OLIVIA JUSTASON, OROMOCTO SPCA SHELTER DIRECTOR TRACY MARCOTULLIL, AND CHARLIE'S NEW FAMILY

**OLIVIA:** In September 2015 I responded to a complaint of a thin dog living at a residence in Chipman. When the owner answered the door and produced the dog for inspection I was appalled at his condition. He was the thinnest dog I have ever seen, and though he was a large Old English Sheepdog that should weigh 80-100 lbs, he weighed only 45 lbs. He looked like a walking skeleton. He was missing most of his hair on his back end and fleas could be seen running along his body. The owner willingly surrendered him to me and he was taken directly to the vet.

Other than being anemic, severely underweight, and dehydrated, the vets could find nothing indicating an underlying health issue. It appeared that the dog got in that condition simply by not being fed and watered properly. He was treated for fleas and placed into foster care with the Oromocto SPCA.



*Charlie "before"*



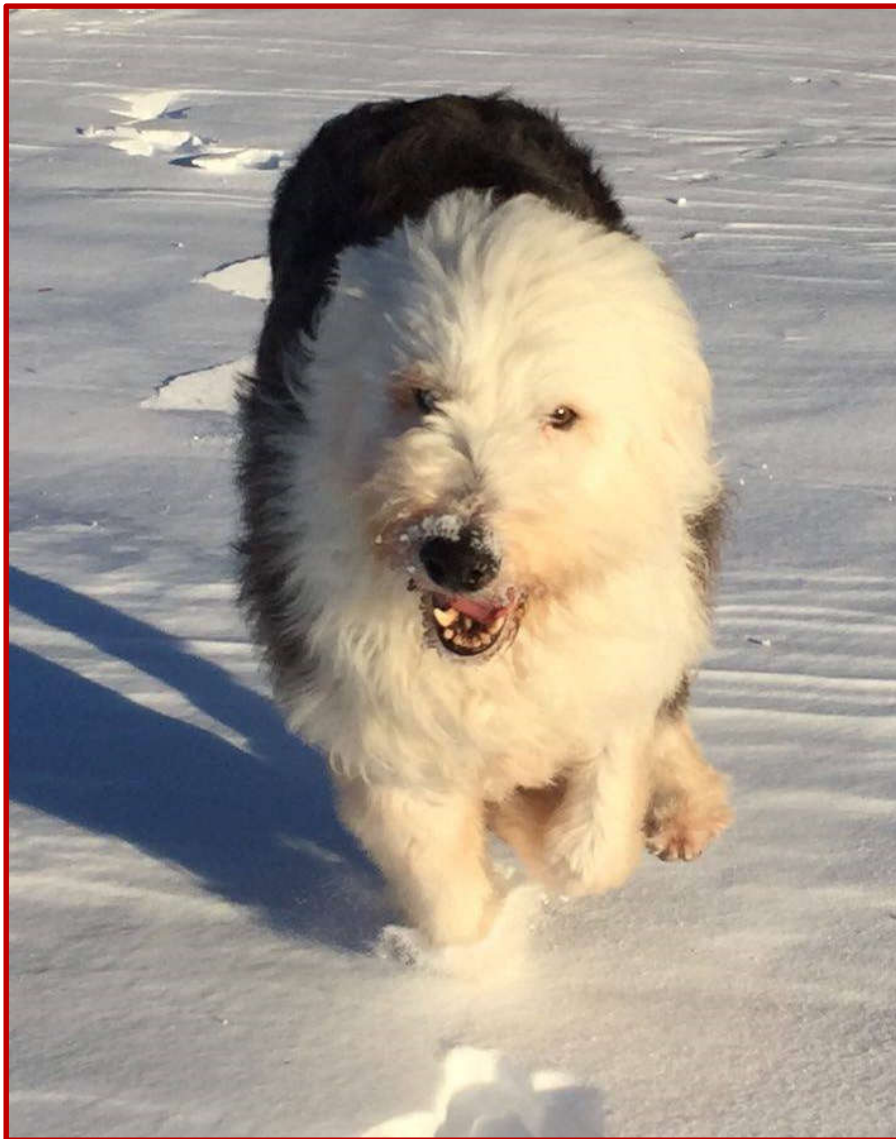
Over the next couple of months he gained over 30 lbs with no further vet treatment needed. He was simply fed.

The NBSPCA took the owner to court. The owner pled guilty to a charge of failing to provide adequate food, water and care to the dog and was fined a total of \$1,122.44, given 12 months probation and banned from owning animals for 5 years.

**TRACY:** When Charlie was brought to us at the Oromocto and Area SPCA, the day he was seized, we knew that he was a special boy. Despite his obvious neglect, he was outgoing and so happy to see us. We knew that he needed special care, so he was placed in one of our long time, experienced foster homes so that he could recuperate with the best of care. Jamie and her family quickly grew to love this skinny, partially hairless bundle of happiness. Over many, many months, with the proper food and care, Charlie blossomed. Almost five months passed before he was ready to continue his journey. In January, we found the perfect home for Charlie! He has settled in well with his new family and loves his

Mom and Dad and his feline “brothers”. Helping animals like Charlie is what we are driven to do each and every day. From the Animal Protection Officers at the NBSPCA, the staff at the shelter, the veterinarians, and the foster homes ... we all play a part in saving lives. Many hands save many lives.

**CHARLIE’S NEW FAMILY:** Charlie is the most loving, endearing and trusting dog ... so very smart ... learning so much every day and so quickly! ... loves his walks whether in the field, woods or up the road ... eager to go for drives in the car ... becoming a cuddle-buddy for three cats ... welcomes company and makes them feel very loved too ... loves his “Daddy” especially much! ... working on the separation anxiety (baby steps), but have a lot of help with that! Charlie has filled an empty spot in our hearts that we believed unfillable. He will have the life and the love he deserves so much. It is like he has always been here. Thank you so much to all those who brought him to this point ... his rescuers, the SPCA, vets and foster family ... and especially to the brave person who finally stepped forward ... the miracle is that Charlie would never have happened without that courageous first step!



*Charlie today, in good, happy health!*

## COMPANION ANIMALS ACROSS CANADA ... THE STATISTICS

STEVE TURNER

The New Brunswick SPCA doesn't operate animal shelters itself – our main role is to enforce the laws against animal abuse. But we applaud the gallant work of our branch societies across New Brunswick who shelter and re-home animals in need, as well as that of similar societies across Canada.

Their work, like ours, is challenging. The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies collects information annually on cats and dogs in shelters, rescue- and foster-group facilities, and municipal pounds. The numbers aren't complete, but show the work animal shelters are doing and the challenges they face. Some of the numbers are encouraging, and others are not.

The latest figures from 2014 show a fourth straight year of decline in the number of cats and dogs taken into shelters (85,000 cats and 38,000 dogs from 88 organizations reporting), and a fourth straight years of rising adoption percentages (53% for cats, 42% for dogs). Most animals are brought in as strays (53%, 45%) or surrenders by a guardian (27%, 29%). Animals seized in cases of abuse by enforcement groups like the NBSPCA make up 3.1% of cats received, and 5.3% of dogs. 30% of the dogs taken into shelters get returned to their owners, but sadly, only 5% of cats – perhaps many cats admitted as “strays” actually had no real guardian. Euthanasia rates have been falling rapidly for cats since 2008, but still stood at 27% in 2014; euthanasia rates for dogs have been steadier, and were 11% in 2014. Shelters report much lower euthanasia rates for “healthy” animals (6% cats and 2% dogs). But the CFHS figures don't record whether animals were received in an unhealthy state, or got that way as a result of the often-stressful conditions of shelter life. Nor do they report the number of animals in need of emergency care or new homes who were unable to find places due to overcrowding in Canada's animal shelters.

The CFHS calculates that humane societies and SPCAs invested more than \$10 million in spaying and neutering animals during 2015, and that progress is being made on that front. Shelters across Canada are networking more – moving animals from low-adoption areas to high adoption areas in the search of good homes. Whatever our organizations' specific task, we all need to pull together to provide better futures for our companion animals.

## IN THE COURTS

OLIVIA JUSTASON

### January Court Actions

- A Charlotte County woman pled guilty in Saint John court to a charge of failing to provide vet care to her dog. She was fined \$500 and banned from owning animals for 1 year.
- A Deer Island man pled guilty to charges of neglecting his dog. He was fined \$500 and prohibited from owning animals for 2 years.
- A Keswick Ridge man has pled guilty to a charge of failing to provide adequate food and water for his farm animals. He will appear in court for sentencing on May 2.
- A Chipman woman pled guilty in Burton court to a charge of failing to provide adequate food, water, and care to her dog. She was fined a total of \$1,122.44, given 12 months probation and banned from owning animals for 5 years.
- A man pled guilty in Edmundston court to a criminal charge of causing unnecessary pain and suffering to his dog that he stabbed to death in May of 2014. He returns for sentencing on February 8.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF ANIMAL PROTECTION OFFICER****CARL MACAULAY****New Brunswick SPCA Receives Funding to Help Enforce Tethering Regulations**

On December 4, Minister Brian Kenny of the Department of Environment and Local Government announced that the provincial government would provide more than \$40,000 to help the NBSPCA enforce the regulation that bans the 24-hour tethering of dogs. December 1st marked the one-year anniversary of the implementation of the ban. The NBSPCA is continuing to get significant public support in complying with the new tethering laws in the province, with two charges being laid in 2015. Education seems to have been the key towards getting dog owners familiar with the law and compliant with the new guidelines. Thanks go to the general public, the Ministry of Environment and Local Government and all our dedicated officers in assisting during this crucial implementation phase.

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**Chief Animal Protection Officer Carl MacAulay accepts Provincial government support for tethering law enforcement on behalf of the NBSPCA. In the photo, left to right, are New Brunswick SPCA Executive Director Hilary Howes, Chief Animal Protection Officer for the province Carl MacAulay, Environment and Local Government Minister Brian Kenny, and NBSPCA Board of Directors President Steven Turner.**

### New Animal Protection Officers Added to the Team

It is with great pleasure that the NBSPCA welcomes four new Animal Protection Officers to the enforcement team. These four officer training candidates braved nasty weather on Friday February 5 to complete their final testing. They had been doing on-the-job training for the prior six months. Testing day began early with the viewing of necropsy done by Dr. Jim Goltz of the provincial vet lab. In the afternoon they completed an extensive verbal test by a testing panel to ascertain their knowledge of the acts and regulations surrounding animal protection and dog control. All candidates were successful and will shortly be appointed as peace officers by Minister Brian Kenny of the Department of Environment and Local Government. Now, with the addition of these new officers, the NBSPCA has a full complement of officers covering the whole province, giving 24 hour/7day a week service.

### A Word of Caution from the Chief

This winter has been fairly mild so far, but nevertheless I'd like to pass along a reminder to all animal owners that this can change quickly. Always be mindful of outside temperatures turning cold quickly and of your pets' safety when exposed.

## HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGES MOVE TO THE CONFINES OF CENTRAL PARK

### THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES



The use of horse-drawn carriages on the streets of New York has been deemed too dangerous for the horses to let it continue. A compromise agreement with the mayor, the city and other stakeholders will see the use of horse-drawn carriages limited to Central Park says Brian Shapiro, New York state director for The Humane Society of the United States. In a release issued January 20, 2016 Shapiro says "The Humane Society of the United States supports the agreement to limit the use of horse-drawn carriages to the confines of

Central Park and remove them from busy city streets shared by motor vehicles . . . to ensure that conditions for these animals are improved and every horse has a safe, humane retirement."

## CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

OLIVIA JUSTASON

This past Christmas marked the NBSPCA's first annual Christmas ornament fundraiser. Glass ornaments were sold in a variety of colours at several locations in the Fredericton area with proceeds going to the NBSPCA. For \$15 you could purchase an "I Helped Fund an Animal Protection Investigation" ornament, and for \$20 an "I Helped Fund Emergency Vet Care For a Neglected Animal".

With the small supplies fee of \$175 and several hours of time from some wonderful volunteers, this fundraiser brought in \$1400. We are hoping to expand sales province-wide for Christmas 2016.



## VETERINARY HOSPITAL RAISES MONEY FOR NBSPCA

ANDREA DI RUSCIO, HOSPITAL MANAGER

Over the holidays, our Veterinary Assistant, Mandi, brought in some handmade pins for all of our staff members. Her aunt's friend, Morgan, made them especially for our staff members here at Oromocto Veterinary Hospital...and we absolutely loved them! There were all different animals – cats, dogs, and even a little frog. This gave us an idea that was inspired by the NBSPCA's Ornament fundraiser, where people could buy pretty ornaments and the money would go towards helping to fund an animal rescue or an investigation.

We asked Mandi if Morgan would be interested in making some pins for an NBSPCA fundraiser. The next thing we knew, Mandi brought in a box of 10 handmade pins, along with a donation – that's right - not only did Morgan make pins for the NBSPCA but she also sent along a generous donation!

Clients love them and although we asked for \$10 to help fund a rescue or \$15 to help fund an investigation, many people donated more! Our friend, NBSPCA Officer, Olivia, purchased a dog pin, which she proudly wears on her uniform. We've raised almost \$200!

We are truly inspired by the tremendous work the NBSPCA does and are so grateful to Morgan for lending her time and talent to helping us with this creative fundraiser! .



TRY YOUR HAND AT OUR CROSSWORD!

Instructions and Prizes

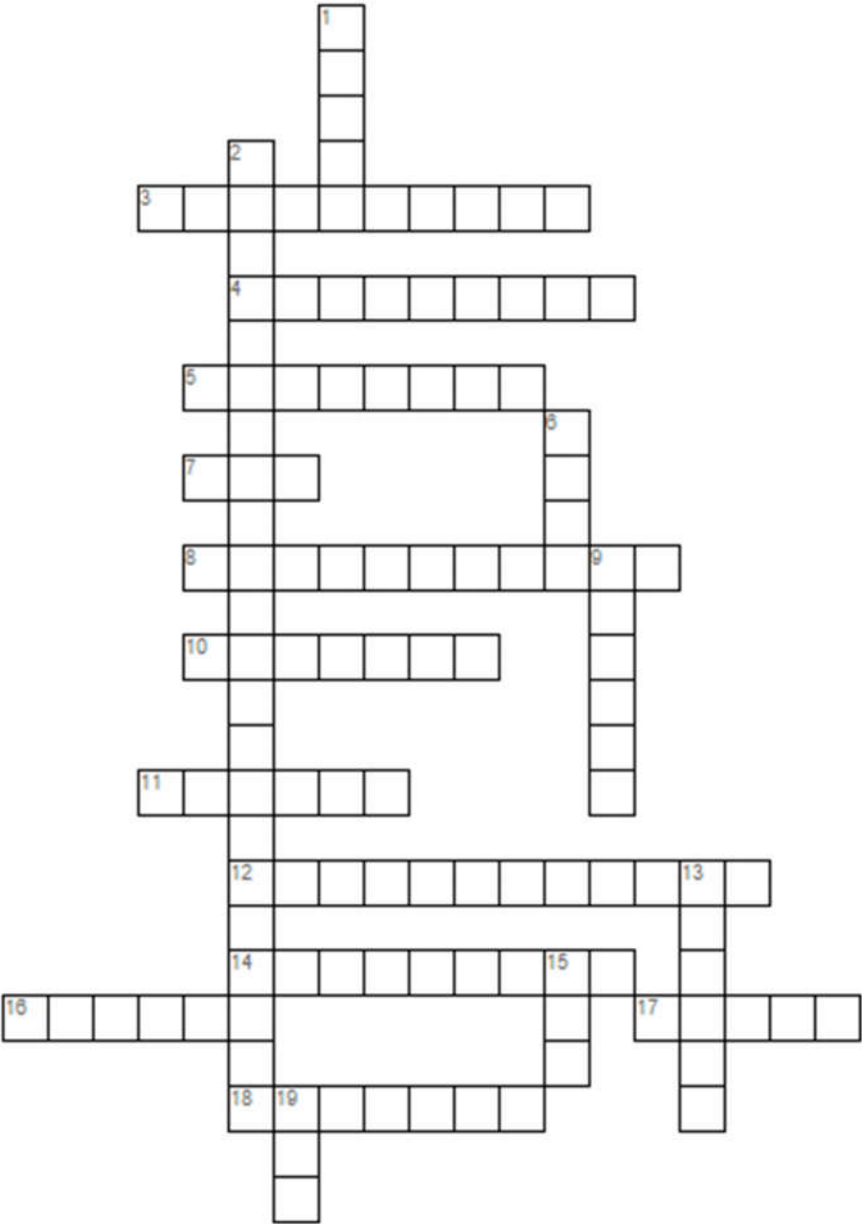
Fill it in. Get it to us by St. Patrick's Day. Correct crosswords go in a draw for fabulous prizes.

Send your answers to Leslie Cockburn, by regular mail, c/o the NBSPCA, P.O. Box 1412, Stn A, Fredericton, NB E3B 5E3 or by email to [leslie.nbspca@bellaliant.com](mailto:leslie.nbspca@bellaliant.com).

First Prize: A \$50 gift certificate for the Oromocto Veterinary Hospital

Second Prize: An 8kg bag of Royal Canin Veterinary Food (available for pickup from any veterinary clinic in NB)

Third Prize: Three-year rural dog tags, a \$35 value (available from the NBSPCA)



**Across**

- 3 Animal \_\_\_\_\_ Officer
- 4 The healthy vitamins and minerals animals get from good food
- 5 Fictional doctor who talked to animals
- 7 Place to pig out
- 8 Place to go if you want a carriage ride in New York City from now on (2 words)
- 10 Person whose job is to shoe horses
- 11 Goats' milk cheese
- 12 Healthcare provider for pets and farm animals
- 14 Farm animals
- 16 King Arthur's favourite hound
- 17 Female horses
- 18 Animal \_\_\_\_\_; (singular) a noun and a verb, describing what these organisations do

**Down**

- 1 Relating to sheep
- 2 Sherlock Holmes' animal nemesis (4 words)
- 6 Wendy Darling's dog in Peter Pan
- 9 Vaccine which protects dogs from a disease which causes foaming at the mouth
- 13 Animal which resembles a small llama, used for its fleece
- 15 A mouthful, to cows
- 19 A misspelled greeting, or food for horses

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**The Board of Directors has approved Sunday, May 1 as the date of the 2016 AGM.  
Please reserve the date.**

***Thank you!***

- The colour printing for this issue of The NBSPCA Chronicle was donated by 6 Colour Copy.
- The header photo for this issue was provided by Stephanie Gallant.
- A big thank-you to the membership for supporting the Christmas appeal and the Christmas card campaign, for which we are very grateful!

## WE NEED YOU!

We're looking for volunteer-leaders to serve in executive positions (president, vice-president), to stand for election to our board of directors, and to assist in our fundraising and educational activities. Would you like to get involved? Do you have useful qualifications that could include experience in volunteer organizations (especially at the executive level), familiarity with law enforcement procedures, good communications and organizational skills, and an interest in protecting animals from abuse and neglect? Then send your expression of interest and some information about yourself to [spca@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:spca@nbnet.nb.ca). Are you unfamiliar with the NBSPCA and its work? Don't worry, we'll train you. Help us make a difference for animals.

## LA NBSPCA EST À LA RECHERCHE DE BÉNÉVOLES!

Nous sommes à la recherche de leaders bénévoles pour occuper des postes de direction (président, vice-président), poser leur candidature au conseil d'administration et appuyer nos activités de financement et de sensibilisation. Est-ce que cela vous intéresse? Possédez-vous des qualifications pertinentes, par exemple de l'expérience du travail au sein d'un organisme bénévole (surtout au niveau de la direction), une connaissance des activités d'application de la loi, de bonnes aptitudes en matière de communication et d'organisation et le désir de protéger les animaux contre les mauvais traitements et la négligence? Si oui, veuillez envoyer votre déclaration d'intérêt ainsi que quelques renseignements concernant votre expérience et vos compétences à [spca@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:spca@nbnet.nb.ca). Même si vous n'êtes pas familiarisé avec la NBSPCA et son travail, ne vous inquiétez pas. Nous vous offrirons une formation. Aidez-nous à aider les animaux.

**New Brunswick**



**Nouveau Brunswick**