



**Whistler Animals Galore
Annual Report 2018**

Notes from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of WAG

Wag is often the last resort for many animals, we are proud to be a rescue organization who takes in difficult behavioral and/or critical medical cases.

WAG services the entire sea to sky corridor, from Squamish to Lillooet. Focusing mostly in Whistler, Pemberton, Mount Currie and the SLRD, our goal is to never turn away an animal in desperate need. Our purpose is to help where we are needed most, to help the most vulnerable animals. At WAG there is no time limit, some animals, actually most animals, who have ended up at WAG have had something traumatic happen to them. We are dedicated to giving them the time, training, medical attention and love they need to heal and be ready to find their families. Until they get adopted they are part of the WAG family.

In 2018 we were hit hard with many difficult and long-term cases, we took in 29 critical care and 7 behavioral cases, some of these animals were turned away from other shelters adding extra stress on our staff and resources. Every year, there is more need for this service, as WAG continues to be recognized as a leader in animal rehabilitation. We are so fortunate to have the continued support of our community, donors, volunteers, local vet clinics, businesses and sponsors to be able to be a safe place for these animals to get a second chance.

On behalf of all the WAG animals, I would like to thank our WAG community; your support continues to change lives.

Lindsay Suckling

Executive Director



At WAG there is no time limit, we are their family until they are adopted.

Whistler Animals Galore



About WAG - 2018



Our Mission

Our mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment to homeless and lost dogs and cats in our community and to be advocates in finding their forever homes.

We place a strong emphasis on rehabilitation, critical, and compassionate care.

Our Vision

Through education and awareness, create a safe and loving community for dogs, cats and people to enjoy together.

Our Team

WAG is governed by an Executive Director, Lindsay Suckling along with a team of 7: Catherine Mazza, Mallory Jensen, Robyn Bosada, Emily Suckling, Kendal Benbow, Amanda Holmes, and Sarah Fitzpatrick. The women who work at WAG are passionate, strong, and caring, "we hold each other up during some very difficult times and celebrate our successes together and often". The WAG team also consists of 6 dedicated Board Members: Denise Wood, Jen Ford, Jonathan Cole, Graham Camm, and Sarah Stead, as well as an advisor dog trainer Renee Erdman, each one is willing to share their time, expertise and love for animals. WAG is also made up of a community of over 75 hardworking volunteers and foster homes, and countless caring and generous supporters. Together we are WAG and together we save lives

History

Whistler Animals Galore (WAG) was founded in 1982 when two friends identified the need for an animal rescue service in the Sea-to-Sky corridor. Since then, WAG has grown into a respected community asset, providing many services and unique programs such as our Matchmaker adoption process, lost and found animal services, volunteer programs, foster programs, animal rehabilitation programs, and more...

Financial Statements – Actuals 2018

REVENUE

Fee for Service	89,897.00
Grants	1,095.55
Donations Revenue	50,357.03
Donations-Other	
Charities/Foundat.	6,417.04
Donations in Kind	279.00
Adoption Fees	35,148.10
Emergency & Critical Care Revenue	20,370.58
Fundraiser Revenue	34,915.34
Coins Revenue	14,523.58
Product Sales & Rentals	1,533.00
Impound & Licence Fees	1,636.25
Pemberton Impound & License Fees	75.00
Boarding Fees	0.00
Surrender Fees	1,370.00
Membership Fees	35.00
Mt. Currie Outreach Revenue	195.00
Spay and Neuter Revenue	0.00
Volunteer Orientation Revenue	775.14
Fence Revenue	0.00
Interest Income	109.36
PST Commissions	142.93
Recovered Vet Costs	0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,491.75
TOTAL REVENUE	260,366.65

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EXPENSE DIRECT COSTS

Veterinary Costs	7,842.53
Food, Supplies, Kennel Expenses	3,506.45
Merchandise	942.62
Fundraising Expenses	1,908.23
Spay & Neuter Expenses	11,879.99

Emergency & Critical Care Expenses	20,339.35
Mt. Currie Outreach Expenses	673.17
Website Expense	0.00
Subcontract Labour	7,464.00
Wages	164,999.47
EI Expense	3,730.38
CPP Expense	6,895.71
WCB Expense	2,862.50
Medical Benefits	5,117.08
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	<u>238,161.48</u>

ADMINISTRATION

Advertising & Promotion	1,374.87
Accounting & Legal	848.58
Amortization Expense	1,632.33
Automotive-Gas	809.91
Automotive - Repairs	0.00
Automotive-Insurance	2,639.75
Bank Charges & Interest	2,078.18
Bookkeeping	5,549.72
Credit Card Fees	2,589.87
Computer Expenses	1,140.00
Insurance	2,368.16
Meals & Ent. (Staff)	252.67
Licences/Fees/Dues	698.82
Office Expense	3,676.64
Telephone	799.94
Travel	37.63
Training	0.00
Uniforms	163.00
Volunteer Recognition	30.80
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	<u>26,690.87</u>

TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>264,852.35</u>
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NET INCOME	<u><u>-4,485.70</u></u>
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Rescuing and Rehoming Animals

Adoption Program 2018:

- 134 animals adopted into loving forever homes
- Includes pre and post adoption education and support for the lifespan of the animal
- Strong emphasis on creating responsible and educated pet owners in the community
- Strong emphasis on animal training for adoptability and integration into the community

Sheltering Program: WAG provided a temporary home for 188 unwanted, abandoned, abused and injured animals.

- 29 critical care cases
- 7 behavioral cases
- 10 seniors
- 13 litters of puppies and kittens
- 2 pregnant mothers who gave birth at WAG
- 119 animals surrendered into WAG's care through the Surrender Program

Top three reasons for surrender: high medical costs, behavioral issues, loss of home and unable or unwilling to relocate.

Medical Treatments:

- Routine Veterinarian expense \$19,722
- Critical Care expense \$20,339

**We were able to raise funds to cover critical care through fundraising campaigns*



Phoenix



When Phoenix was surrendered to WAG with his Mom and siblings it was clear he wasn't a normal kitten. He was unable to stand or walk and the only way he had survived for so long was because his Mother spent extra time trying to nurse him. Even with his mother's extra care he was skinny and malnourished, and needed more help. After a few vet visits and diagnostics Phoenix was diagnosed with Cerebellar Hypoplasia ("CH" for short), a condition where his Cerebellum cells did not develop properly also termed 'Wobbly Cats Syndrome'. Phoenix was a survivor and we decided despite his condition being labeled as "severe", he wanted to live and with our help he would have a good quality of life. We built him a large padded pen and taught him how to balance to feed himself and use the litter pan. We discovered he loved to be held and would purr loudly, even though he couldn't see very well he loved to play fight and batt at his stuffed toys. We helped him gain strength so he could stand and walk/crawl. There is no cure for CH, but with the right home we knew he would be a happy healthy boy. After months at WAG a lovely paramedic came to WAG and fell in love with him and his friend Gia. They were adopted together. We were able to help Phoenix because of the love and support from our community, volunteer and donors, we thank you.

Bylaw Impound and Lost and Found Service

WAG is often the first point of contact when community members have lost or found an animal. Our goal is to help reunite animals with their families as quickly as possible.

- 172 dog licenses sold
- 19 impounded animals
- 42 stray animals
- 24 reunited with families
- 18 were never reclaimed
- 2 RCMP seizures

We are a call center for lost and found animals 365 days per year.

At WAG, we contact owners, provide care to lost animals, sell licenses, take payment for fees, and keep an accurate database of pet and owner information.

We assist with found deceased animals: contact families, assist with transport to a cremation service.

WAG provides emergency shelter for animals who have been temporarily displaced due to emergency (fire, flood, owner illness).

When an animal is not claimed, WAG takes on the care and responsibility of that animal and will place them up for adoption.

Lola



When Lola's care givers were arrested and taken to jail, Lola was left chained up in their Van. She was brought to WAG in the middle of the night by officers. We discovered the next day she had ingested multiple drugs and garbage. She waited at WAG for her people to return to pick her up, however they never came back for Lola. We were happy they didn't come back for her, as it was clear Lola had suffered a lot of abuse prior to coming to WAG. It took her a while to adjust to life at WAG and learn to trust the staff. But now Lola is a part of our family. She has been looking for a home for over a year now, due to her horrible past she is very wary of strangers. WAG is 100 percent committed to Lola's training and rehabilitation and giving her the best life possible until she finds her forever family. Visit www.whistlerwag.com for more information on Lola.

Volunteer and Foster Programs

Our volunteers learn about animal behavior, animal welfare, sheltering, event planning, fundraising, animal training, disease prevention, and most importantly empathy and compassion.

- 66 active Volunteers
- 1500 hours
- 12 Volunteer Orientations
- 25 approved Foster Homes
 - Our foster program includes: landlord checks, interviews, training sessions, supervision, staff are available 24 hour on call for animal emergencies.

Community education and engagement

- Reducing pet overpopulation through education and access to spay/neuter vouchers.
- Social media communications: animal behavior, advocacy campaigns, adoptions, pet care and responsible pet guardianship (leash your pets, pick up after them, proper training, etc.)
- Animal visits and cattery socialization, shelter tours, DIY Dog Bath and special events held at WAG.
- Training Workshops: animal behavior, pet first aid, and compassion fatigue workshops.



WAG Programs and Services 2018

We pride ourselves on the programs we offer to the community and beyond.

Adoption Program

Encouraging responsible pet ownership is a primary part of our mandate. Every animal that comes into the shelter is medical treatment and undergoes a behavioral assessment. These assessments help us to understand the animal's temperament, suitability to live with other animals or types of people, long term medical needs, and future training goals. The information we gain allows us to find a suitable owner for the animal: one that understands all of the animal's needs and is committed to providing all care, training, and love that it may require. By going through our Adoption Program, we are producing more responsible, knowledgeable, and committed Whistler dog owners and better socialized, trained, and healthy animals. We provide ongoing support if needed along with recommendations for Vets, trainers and other Whistler pet professionals. We want all of our adopters and animals to succeed, which is why we offer *lifetime* support for the animal.

Volunteer Program

WAG volunteers play an integral part in WAG's daily operation and in our animal's lives. Once trained there are a variety of positions that a shelter volunteer can sign up for including opening and closing shifts, dog walking and enrichment shifts and cat socialization shifts – even helping with event planning and fundraising! Volunteers of WAG benefit from meeting new friends, two and four legged! They get to learn new skills, learn about animal behavior, gain confidence and feel part of our community while giving back to those in need.

Foster Program

The ultimate goal of our foster program is to make the animal happy, less stressed, more adoptable, and better members of our community, through enrichment, training, and confidence building with new experiences and people. Our foster program selects which animals will benefit from fostering and matches them with the appropriate foster home. We provide our foster homes with the training, support, and supplies necessary to help with the transition between shelter and foster home and during their entire stay. This program allows animal lovers, who may be unable to have a pet of their own, experience the companionship, love, and responsibility of pet ownership, without the long term commitment. Being a foster mom or dad is a truly rewarding experience for the humans and the animals!

Critical Care Program:

Providing funding for emergency medical care to animals in need throughout the Sea to Sky Corridor.

Surrender Program:

When an owner considers surrendering an animal, our first priority is to assess whether there is anything we can do to help them keep their animal by offering counselling sessions and training resources for both pet and owner. Community members sadly surrender their pets for many reasons including vet costs, lack of housing, and behavior issues. Many community members are currently struggling to find affordable and pet friendly accommodation so we offer support during this difficult time and will take in these animals as a last resort.

Compassionate Boarding:

WAG provides temporary boarding services to community members during emergency circumstances, such as loss of home due to disaster, family deaths, illness, and more. This greatly benefits community

members who are dealing with a temporary crisis who do not want to surrender and will have resources to care for their pet in the near future.

Partner Rescues:

WAG is open to partnering with rescues from around the world, such as the Soi Dog Foundation, rescuing survivors of Thailand's cruel & illegal dog meat trade and PAWS the Pemberton Animal Shelter.

We were honored to be voted Whistler's Favorite Non-Profit of 2018.



2018 Significant Fundraising Events and Amounts Raised

- K9 Wine and Dine : \$1600
- Pet Photos with Santa: \$1400
- Creekbread: \$2017
- Month Of Love: \$1328
- Dog Jog: \$1323
- Pan Pacific Donation: \$4800
- Pride Coat Check: \$2494
- Rescue Ale: \$5000
- Putting for Puppies: \$1975
- Zog's for Dogs: \$2500
- Coin Box Campaigns: \$1600



WAG Sponsors 2018

The Critical work that WAG does is only possible because of the extraordinary generosity and support of our community and corporate partners, we thank you.

- Resort Municipality of Whistler
- First Mate Pet Nutrition
- Village of Pemberton
- Nesters Market
- Scotia Bank
- Pet Secure Pet Insurance
- Eagleview Veterinary Hospital
- Pemberton Veterinary Hospital
- Garibaldi Veterinary Hospital
- Twin Tress Veterinary Clinic
- Canada West Veterinary Hospital
- Alpine Dogs
- Bravo Dog Training and Behavioral Consulting
- Hollow Tree
- Whistler Brewery
- Ruth's Pet Hotel
- Zog's Whistler
- Points East West Veterinary Service
- Mountain FM
- The Summit Lodge and Spa
- The Westin Resort & Spa Whistler
- Pan Pacific



WAG is incredibly grateful for the continued support from the Resort municipality of Whistler. With the fee for service funding that the RMOW generously provides to WAG we are able to offer animals welfare resources to the community, help homeless animals find their forever homes and help reunite lost and found animals in our community.

Company Information

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