



September Newsletter

Message From The Executive Director

Welcome to September!

Is it just me, or did the summer seem to rush by in a blur? That could be because we've been very busy this summer with numerous projects on site, enhancing and expanding our current facilities.

Our first exciting expansion project that will be finished before the end of September is our new isolation and intake trailer. This addition to our site will not only help us manage and treat Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) but also allow us to better manage the transmission of diseases, as we'll be able to keep new patient intakes in quarantine before moving them to the main clinic.

Our second exciting addition is a retrofit of our corvid house into our new bobcat house. This summer we were given a special permit to treat and rehabilitate a tiny bobcat kitten. While she was still tiny, we were able to create a new space for her when she got a bit bigger, away from other animals and the clinic.

Finally, we are very excited to announce we have been awarded a grant from The Calgary Foundation to fortify our Birds of Prey flight pen! This renovation will be huge for Calgary Wildlife, as it means we will have the largest birds of prey flight pen in Alberta. We hope to have all these projects done before the end of the year and we'll keep you updated on our progress. Thanks to everyone who has helped with these projects.



Beki Hunt
Executive Director

News

Baby Shower Success

Our 2022 Baby Shower was a success! Not only were we able to spotlight some amazing babies and provide our viewers with educational facts, but we were also able to raise just over \$8000!



Most of the babies featured this year have already been released back to the wild, most recently our raven siblings, and they've been spotted a few times near the release site, which fills our hearts with joy. Thanks again to everyone who watched, shared, donated, and bought 50/50 tickets. If you missed the lives, you can watch them on our [YouTube channel](#). We can't wait to do it all over again next summer!

New Website!

We have some very exciting news on the horizon. Over the past six months, we've been working busily behind the scenes on building a brand new website and it's going to be going live soon! You'll be the first to know when it does, so please keep an eye on your inbox.



New Merch

As with the new website on the horizon, we also have a whole new line of merch coming just in time for Christmas. We won't ruin the surprise of what we'll have, but we're sure there will be



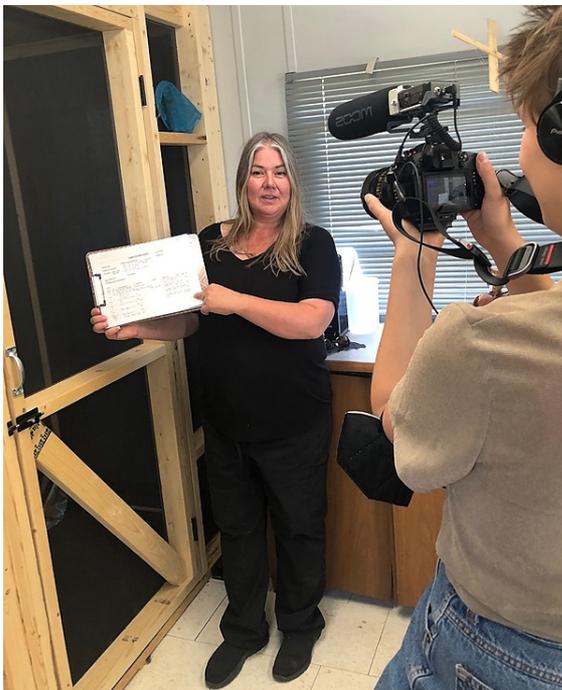
something for everyone, and wearing your support for Calgary Wildlife will never have looked cooler!

Education Programs

We are happy to announce our education programs are in full operation again and our bookings for Ophelia the Owl and Lito the Hawk are through the roof. We also have some exciting new programs that we'll be debuting soon...stay tuned for details!



Education Programs >



For The Love Of Bats!

Our Director of Animal Care and bat specialist Melanie Whalen was interviewed about the fascinating world of bats by [Rotterdam-based artist Gabi Dao](#). Gabi is currently working on an experimental documentary called 'Lucifer falls from Heaven at Dawn', which examines how chiroptophobia, a fear or dislike of bats, can be understood in parallel amongst our own human social relations. [The documentary will be shown during Gabi's Gushul Residency next year in partnership with the Southern Alberta Art Gallery.](#)

Kamala & Kyle Photography

These amazing photographers are also wildlife conservation advocates and are actively giving back to wildlife conservation in Alberta. They conduct their work in an ethical way to ensure they minimize their impact. 7% of their profits

will be donated to wildlife conservation in Alberta. [Learn more here.](#)



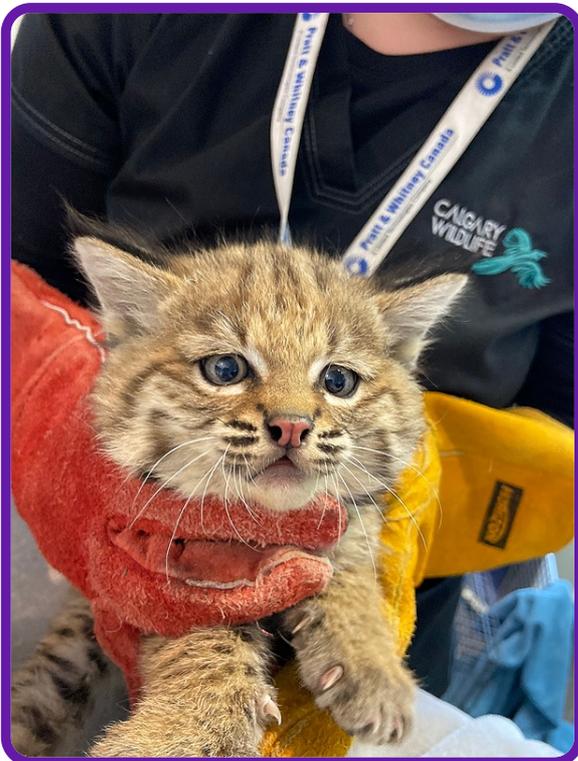
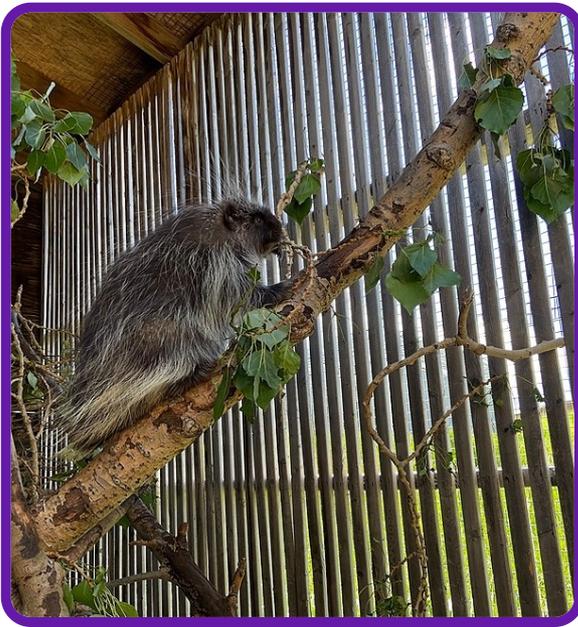
Patient News Times Two

In this newsletter, we have a few interesting stories to share with you.

We think you'll love this first success story! In May of 2021, we were brought a teeny tiny porcupine. He was only a week old and was found on a bike path in Medicine Hat. After several attempts to reunite him with his mother failed, he was brought up to Calgary Wildlife. In the wild, porcupines stay with their mothers for between 5 and 12 months and because of when we received him, it was clear he'd have to overwinter with us. Most people don't know this, but porcupines are climbers, and a lot of their injuries occur due to falls from trees.



During the 445 days this porcupine was in our care, our wildlife rehabbers spent a lot of time teaching him how to climb up and down trees. In the beginning, he wasn't very confident with his climbing abilities, but with practice, he eventually became a skilled climber. We released him in the middle of August in an area of Alberta that has suitable habitat for porcupines. Our trail cams are still set up and we'll keep an eye on him, even from afar.



Our second patient update is about a bobcat kitten we were given a special permit to rehab. She was found next to the LRT tracks near Signal Hill and was brought to us by a City of Calgary worker. We always try to reunite babies with their mothers if they aren't injured, but after days of trying, mother bobcat didn't take her kitten back and we were given a special permit from the province to rehab her. She is growing very quickly and has a healthy appetite and will be released as soon as she's ready to look after herself in the wild.



Her new enclosure

Education

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

The first 2021/2022 detection of the Eurasian strain (EA) of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 in North America occurred in December 2021 on the East Coast of Canada. It made its way to Alberta in April of 2022. Waterfowl and raptors were initially hit hard and then it started presenting in corvids. The virus was fatal for many birds that came in contact with this strain. Due to the virus being highly contagious and fatal in raptors and Canada Geese, we had to make the difficult not to accept any waterfowl this season as they can be asymptomatic and could potentially spread the virus to our permanent residents; Ophelia, Lito, Angel and Franklin and Oliver our skunk. The virus started showing up in mammals like skunks and foxes that were feeding on the carcasses of the infected birds and fatalities started to occur in these species as well. As per instructions from The Canadian Wildlife Service, we quarantined a few raptors that we had space for. We were fortunate to secure two donations in late spring that allowed us to build an isolation area to complete exams and quarantine animals. The trailer will be completed just in time for the fall migration and we will be able to accept waterfowl again going forward.

The signs of HPAI are

- Diarrhea
- Hemorrhages on the hock
- Seizures
- Lethargy, not able to lift head.
- Swimming in circles
- High and sudden mortality rate
- Swelling of the skin around the eyes

How to help?

Clean your bird feeders at least weekly with very hot water in the dishwasher or with a 10% bleach solution. Don't move waterfowl around from different ponds. If you find orphaned waterfowl contact Calgary Wildlife. Be mindful of your footwear if you are hiking or birding. If you have been walking

in an area with a high population of waterfowl, please make sure you are using completely different footwear when going to a new area or disinfect the shoes with a 10% bleach solution. Keep your dogs on a leash and cats indoors. HPAI cases were confirmed in roaming cats and dogs that picked up infected birds.

If you find a dead bird contact 310-0000.



The Mayor's Environment Expo

In June we attended The Mayor's Environment Expo at City Hall to teach students all about living in harmony with urban wildlife. We were very impressed by the children's knowledge about the dangers certain types of garbage pose to urban wildlife and the steps they should take to help prevent wildlife from becoming injured.

Volunteer Spotlight- Tim Bell



How long have you been volunteering with Calgary Wildlife? And what roles have you had?

I have been volunteering at Calgary Wildlife for about 3 years, as a facility maintenance helper. We help fix everything from flooring to roofing, and anything in between. The enclosures at Calgary Wildlife are spread over a sizeable site and have been accumulated over many years. Mother nature takes a significant toll on the facility, so the to-do list is never-ending (that is a hint that we would welcome other handy volunteers).

In your opinion, what is the most important work that Calgary Wildlife does?

Besides the obvious direct benefit to rehabilitating our wildlife patients, the benefit to Calgarians is the comfort of knowing that any orphaned or injured wildlife that they find will be properly cared for.

What do you hope the organization will achieve in the near future?

Near and long-term goals are to maintain, and hopefully expand, the quality care provided to the

patients and resident wildlife. In addition, to keep providing, and hopefully increase, meaningful employment and training for our staff.

Do you have an anecdote about a wild animal encounter that really moved you?

Very few patients at the facility are provided with nicknames, but one such was Beavis the beaver. I had weekly visits with Beavis, as he was housed in a partly wooden enclosure. He loved to chew through the fencing so that he could look out at the comings and goings of the staff, whom he adored. He was very curious and always helped inspect my repair work, before chewing through it again.

Favourite wild animal and why?

Our occasional bobcat intakes always fascinate me. They epitomize to me the look of a wild animal. Unfortunately for me and to the benefit of them, the less they see of me, the wilder they remain.

Interested in volunteering?

We are in need of some volunteers that have events, marketing, and social media experience. If that sound like something you'd like to help out with, please email your CV to admin@calgarywildlife.org

Events

Holiday Auction

Although it still feels very much like summer, fall is just around the corner, which means our annual holiday auction is coming up. This year's auction will be slightly different, moved off of Facebook onto a live auction site, so it will be more accessible for everyone.



We are super excited about some of the auction items we'll have this year, and without giving away too much, this adorable little guy provided by [BunnyLoveByJudy](#) will surely be a hit, as will his other furry friends. Keep your eyes peeled in the next month or so for more details.



Holiday 50/50 Raffle

Our baby shower 50/50 was such a hit, that we've decided to hold a holiday raffle as well. Just in time for the Christmas season, who doesn't love some extra cash in their pockets to help with all those Christmas gifts? Who knows,

maybe the winner will be YOU!

Details to come soon.

Thank You



MNP Corporate Volunteers

Big thank you to MNP for doing their corporate volunteering with us this year. We were able to get a lot done in an afternoon, from work on the bobcat enclosure, to gardening, to painting the isolation trailer! An extra thanks to Jim, Maui, and Graham for being team leads.



▣ Donors ▣

Thank you to everyone who has chosen to donate to help injured and orphaned wildlife. Because of your continued support we've been able to help the nearly 1300+ patients that have come through our doors since the start of the year.

▣ Volunteers ▣

A giant thank you to all our fantastic volunteers! From our social media volunteers, to our pick up drivers, to our maintenance, wildlife clinic support, and education volunteers, because of you Calgary

Wildlife is able to help
more wildlife in need.

▣ Special Thanks To ▣

Alberta Infrastructure

ATCO

The Calgary Foundation

The City of Calgary
The Estate of Mr. Kenneth Caldwell
The Estate of Mr. William D. Tidball
Eric S Margolis Family Foundation
Graydon and Dorothy Morrison Flow Through Fund Fund at Calgary Foundation
HCG Contracting
Marilyn & Mark Brown Family Fund
Maui Construction
Perlette Fund at Calgary Foundation
The Whole Buffalo & the far-M
Benjamin Moore
Earth Distributors
Ewan Kennedy
Gary Sturch
Michelle Bossi
Rosie
Royal Canadian Legion
...and finally thank you to all our hard working staff
and board members!

Ways To Help

Interested in helping but unsure how?

Why not consider some of the following;

[Become A Monthly Donor](#)

Becoming a monthly donor is a win-win for both of us. For yourself, you can feel confident knowing you're helping wildlife every month, it's automatic so you don't need to worry about forgetting to donate, and of course, you get a tax receipt for all your donations. For us, it helps us be able to set more predictable budgets, forecast cash flow more effectively, and feel confident that our monthly donations will be enough to cover all our animal care costs.

[Donate Securities.](#)

Securities donations are an exciting way for you to increase your gift to charity while decreasing tax. The Canada Revenue Agency **does not** apply capital gains tax on donations of appreciated publicly traded securities. You can benefit tremendously from this added incentive to reduce the real cost of your charitable giving or increase the amount of your donation without increasing the cost.

[Learn more here.](#)

Did you know we are partnered with



SkipTheDepot? If you don't know about [Skip The Depot](#), it's a door-to-door bottle collection service that makes refundable recycling and fundraising easier than 1,2,3! Getting started is simple.

1. Download the app or visit the website and book a pickup
2. <https://app.skipthedepot.com/calgarywildlife>
3. Place your bags outside
4. Donate to us!

Calgary Wildlife Wishlist

If you'd like to donate a product to us, or hold a fundraising event to purchase a more expensive item, take a look at some items on our wishlist.



[Heating Pads WITHOUT Auto Shut Off](#)



[Square or Rectangular Tupperware with Locking Lids](#)



[Lab Coats \(S-XL\)](#)



[Storage Shed](#)

[Large Stainless Steel Garbage Can](#)

Please email admin@calgarywildlife.org
with any questions about our wishlist items.

For Your Viewing Pleasure



[P.S...Remember to vote for us weekly at My Giving Circle to help us win grants!](#)

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