

2022 Annual Repport

A breath of fresh air
for the SPA de l'Estrie!



Société
protectrice
des animaux
DE L'ESTRIE

2022 Board of Directors



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Our Mission

Protect animals and harmonize their relationship with humans. We work together with the public to develop respect for animals and sensitivity to their suffering in order to improve their quality of life.

We are Members of:

- Association qu eb ecoise des SPA et SPCA (AQSS)
- Centre d'action b en evole de Sherbrooke
- Humane Canada
- Chambre de commerce et industrie de Sherbrooke

Municipalities

- Ascot Corner
- Austin
- Ayer's Cliff
- Bolton-Est
- Bonsecours
- Bury
- Canton de Cleveland
- Canton de Hatley
- Canton de Melbourne
- Canton de Potton
- Canton de Stanstead
- Canton de Westbury
- Canton d'Orford
- Coaticook
- Cookshire-Eaton
- Dixville
- East Angus
- East Hereford
- Eastman
- Hatley
- Kingsbury
- Magog
- North Hatley
- Ogden
- Richmond
- Saint-Claude
- Saint-Denis-de-Brompton
- Sainte-Catherine-de-Hatley
- Sainte-Edwidge-de-Clifton
- Saint- tienne-de-Bolton
- Saint-Fran ois-Xavier-de-Brompton
- Saint-Herm n gilde
- Saint-Isidore-de-Clifton
- Saint-Venant-de-Paquette
- Sherbrooke
- Stanstead
- Stanstead-Est
- Stoke
- Val-Joli
- Waterville
- Windsor

A word from our President



"Properly trained, a man can be dog's best friend» - Corey Ford

"In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this." - Terry Pratchett

Families come in all shapes and sizes, and each one is unique.

Who is the family that lives at 145 Sauv  in Sherbrooke? There are many members of this big collection of people who call this place home.

We first have the animals, our children, who join the family for what we hope will be a short time and then go off on their own to new forever families.

We then have "parents" or guardians. Otherwise known as staff, they work hard to prepare the children to carry on their journey after leaving home. Let's call the head of household "Dominique".

And who can forget the board of directors, otherwise known as the grandparents? Our job is to gently guide the parents in their role as caretakers.

In addition, we have the aunts and uncles at 145 Sauv . Foster families, donors, and shelter volunteers. Each brings something important and special to our home.

We all play an important role in helping animals in need. Like a family, we may be a little crazy, may be a little loud. And sometimes we do not always agree. But one thing that we will always agree on is how much we love our animals.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this wonderful family. And thank you each and every one for being you. This crazy family would not be complete without you in it!

Respectfully,

Evelina Smith

A word from our Executive Director



"Change is a door that can only be opened from within". - Sandrine Filassier

COVID19 turned our definition and perception of normality upside down. At the height of the pandemic, the demand for adoptions was so high that few, if any, animals spent extended stays in the shelter. By 2022, the waves of infection had subsided and we gradually experienced a return to 'normality', a new normality. Thus, the number of abandonments increased throughout the year and the animals taken in, poorly socialised or sick, required a lot of care and love. This tested the capacities and resources of the organisation.

Fortunately, the SPAE team, the volunteers, the foster families and the Clinique v t rinaire des petits animaux de l'Estrie were there, giving their all for the well-being of our residents. The members of the Board of Directors provided crucial support to enable the SPAE to adapt and face the changing reality. Not to mention the general public would be a major oversight. Townshippers have demonstrated their generosity and love for animals throughout 2022 by exceeding our expectations. For example this fall when we were beyond our capacity to take in dogs, our appeals to adopt them exceeded our expectations.

Simultaneously with this change in the external context of the SPAE, the organisation has begun its modernisation work in accordance with the 2022-2027 strategic orientations adopted by the Board of Directors at the end of 2021. The SPAE wants to be, today and tomorrow, a positive vector of change and a full-fledged actor in the community. The organization has entered several collaborative partnerships with NPOs, has re-established a dialogue with animal welfare partners and has developed major new initiatives such as the farm cat adoption program. Internal management was improved with the adoption of a new organisational chart and the revision of occupational health and safety processes.

The testimonies of adopters and the happy and fulfilled animals in their new families are the reward for our daily efforts. A big thank you to the team and volunteers for their remarkable work, to the Board of Directors for their involvement and trust, and to the Clinique v t rinaire des petits animaux de l'Estrie for its expertise and unfailing support. We would also like to thank all of our partners and donors, who have shown their trust in our activities. Finally, thank you to the Eastern Townships residents who choose to adopt from the SPAE, thus giving a second chance to animals who so deserve it.

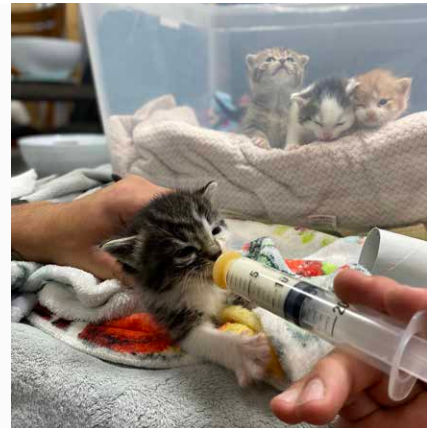
The door to change is now partly open and I hope that 2023 will allow us to completely open it so that we can contribute to positive changes in our community.

Dominique Ma tre

2022: A Breath of Fresh Air for the SPA de l'Estrie!

After two years of a pandemic and constantly adapting and reviewing our services, 2022 was a year in which we rolled up our sleeves and took stock of the future of the Eastern Townships SPA.

Although it has shaken us more than once, the pandemic has provided us the opportunity to review some of our practices needed to face a new reality. This reality is characterized by the increase of admissions to our shelter, and by the arrival of many animals with special needs.



2022 has tested us more than once. Our modern facilities have kept up, but some of our procedures needed updating. New programs have emerged, such as the Barn Cat Program. Other programs such as the Foster Program have expanded, as our families opened their doors to our many new arrivals.

Our philanthropy efforts and community involvement moved to the forefront. We launched new funding projects, such as our partnership with Moisson Estrie and a donation to the Saguenay SPCA, strengthening our roots in the community.

Internal procedures were updated. A new organizational chart was adopted in order to improve the day-to-day workload for everyone. New committees such as the Dog Evaluation Committee have been created, with the objective of communicating and collaborating with those involved in the well-being of our residents.

The Eastern Townships SPA has set its sights on a 45th year that promises to be marked by trust, a spirit of community and, of course, animal welfare, which remains forever at the heart of everything we do!



Welcoming animals in need

Because we care about helping animals in need, we ensure that we provide quality services that are compassionate and respectful.

New: Barn Cat Adoption Program

Thousands of cats are admitted to the Eastern Townships SPA every year, but unfortunately many cannot be placed for adoption in families. Some wild and fearful cats will never be able to adapt to life with humans in a home, or allow themselves to be cuddled by humans.

The Barn Cat Program provides these animals with an appropriate environment. It involves working with farms, warehouses, greenhouses or any other establishment that could accommodate these fierce, but healthy felines. They are sterilized, vaccinated, dewormed and microchipped at the expense of the SPA de l'Estrie and with the support of our partner 1st Choice.

This year, 22 cats from the SPA de l'Estrie were adopted through the Barn Cat Adoption Program!

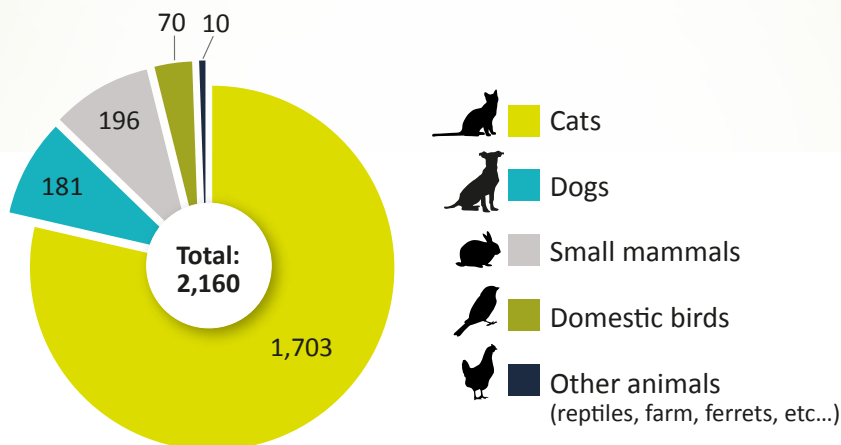


A New Family for More Than 2,208 Animals!



Our caring team of veterinarians, animal health technicians and animal care staff works every day to feed, pamper and care for animals that find shelter under our roof. Once again, the team played a vital role in the well-being of our residents so that they could find a new family and start a new life. In 2022, 2,208 animals who stayed at our shelter were lucky enough to find a new loving family. Also, more than 450 lost animals were able to return home, thanks to our efforts and the wearing of a SPA medallion. In addition to all these adoptions, we have transferred 48 animals, including 15 wild birds, 6 wild animals and 27 exotic animals, to specialized facilities.

Adoptions in 2022



Adoptions that change lives

Domino: A New Beginning

Domino had a rough start at the SPAE. He was abandoned in one of our outdoor enclosures while we were closed, and found by our team members early in the morning. He was very frightened. We had no information about him, so it took a lot of work to determine what he liked, what scared him, his favorite treats. Finally, after several weeks, we were ready to find him a family.

Domino found his perfect match with Roxanne, his new guardian. He is now an **emotional support service dog**! He visits people in nursing homes to prevent their loneliness. For us, there is no better outcome: a new beginning that serves a purpose.



Minoune: A Survivor

The SPAE received a call concerning a 13-year-old cat that was found trapped in the rubble of a fire. When we arrived on the scene, a good Samaritan was caring for little Minoune, who was covered in ashes. Her chances of survival were extremely slim. It took several hours of resuscitation and treatment to see the first signs of life, but the efforts and perseverance of our partner veterinary clinic finally paid off. Once out of danger, she improved quickly.



Unfortunately, the fire left Minoune orphaned. Her owner was unable to keep her because he had lost his home. Happily for Minoune, the woman who had rescued her at the scene of the fire volunteered to adopt her and offer her a beautiful life in a loving family.



Appropriate care

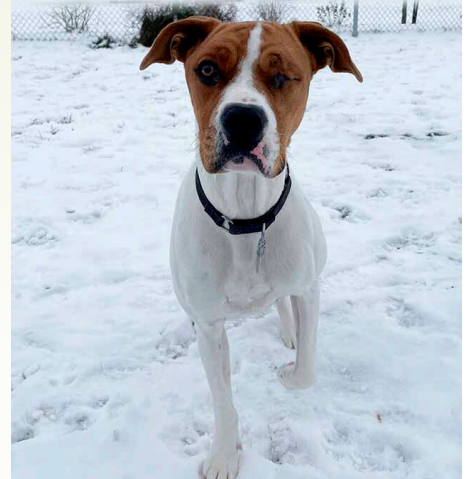


Among the many animals that pass through the doors of the shelter, some are unfortunately in poor condition. For several years now, we have been welcoming more and more animals to the shelter in need of veterinary care adapted to their condition, in order to get ready for adoption. In 2022, veterinarians performed more than 187 hours of surgery, such as eyelid surgeries, dental care, enucleation, mass removal, supernumerary claw surgery and various amputations.

Veterinary procedure	Number
 Surgeries	187 hours
 Sterilizations	1,648

Mimosa: Found in Poor Condition

Following a call from a citizen concerning a wounded and frightened dog who had found refuge on her outdoor patio, our team quickly mobilized to rescue the animal. Once she was safe, the dog was immediately seen by a veterinarian. The dog had severe trauma to her eyes, and the veterinary team concluded that for the welfare of the animal we had to proceed with the urgent removal of her left eye. Although all these changes created a lot of anxiety, she slowly adapted to her condition. Since no one claimed her, we named her Mimosa for her sparkling personality!



Zoe: 40 grams of Bladder Stones Removed from a Tiny Dog

Zoé is a small, four year old Maltese mix. When she arrived at the shelter, we were aware that she needed an urgent surgical intervention to remove stones from her bladder. The clinic's veterinary team removed 5 large stones for a total of 40 grams. In addition to this procedure, she underwent several dental extractions because she suffered from periodontal disease, which is quite common for this type of dog. Other extractions are to be expected, as the procedure had to be interrupted following hypothermia during surgery. She is in foster care while she recovers from her ordeal in the warmth of a loving home. And she offers love in abundance in return.



Red Lightning: Victim of an Electric Shock

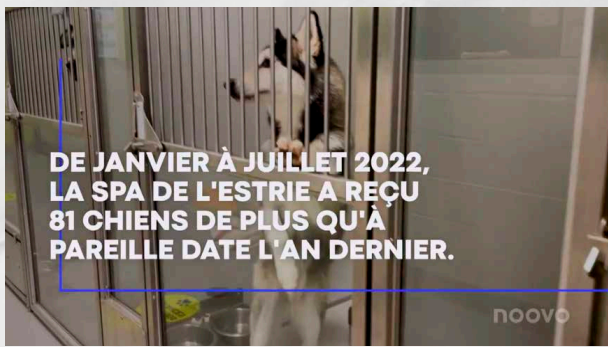
A local citizen found a cat in very bad condition at her cottage. Once at the SPAE's shelter, he was immediately taken to our veterinarians. The first examination revealed necrosis in the pad and fingers, as well as a hole and necrosis in the flap of the ear and early signs of infection. These initial observations led the veterinarian to conclude that the cat was the victim of an electric shock. The hole in the ear represented the entry point, and the atypical injury to the leg represented the exit point. The name Red Lightning was given to him, first for his red fur and then as a tribute to his accident. Under sedation, veterinarians removed the necrotic tissue from his leg and ear and then sterilized him. Red Lightning is still in the care of our team who changes his bandages daily. He will also have to undergo dental extractions in the future, but he is on the road to recovery and will soon be looking for a new family!



Raising awareness about the real issues at stake

This year, while the shelter was at maximum capacity both on site and in our many foster families, we made an appeal to the public. Reaching both our followers on social networks as well as the traditional media with press releases, our goal was to raise awareness of this critical situation. We wanted not only to generate adoptions for our residents, but also to be transparent about the situation we were experiencing.

End of August 2022: Overcrowded dog facilities



«The Société protectrice des animaux (SPA) de l'Estrie is overwhelmed with dogs. It invites the public to adopt a new companion or to become a foster family, while the number of people interested in adopting has dropped significantly since the end of the pandemic.» Emy Lafortune, Radio Canada Estrie.

Following this news in several local media, hundreds of citizens responded to the call by applying to adopt or foster our dogs.

Early December 2022: Many cats looking for a forever home



«According to the animal welfare organization, the current population is close to 200 cats, about half of which are up for adoption. Of this number, many are placed in foster homes since the capacity of the Sauvée Street facility has been exceeded.» Claude Plante, La Tribune

In addition to talking about adoption, we took the opportunity to make the public aware of the reality of the many admissions received in the previous weeks, particularly the direct impact on our services, which are affected by this situation.

Summer 2022: Demystifying admissions numbers as we approach the 1st of July

Many people ask about the situation at the SPAE as July 1st approaches. This year, we wanted to clarify that the admission of animals is constant throughout the year, not just around the moving season. We also took the opportunity to emphasize our participation in the «Keeping Families Together» campaign by supporting the petition launched by the Montreal SPCA and inviting citizens to sign it as well to offer their support.



Assisting the community at all times

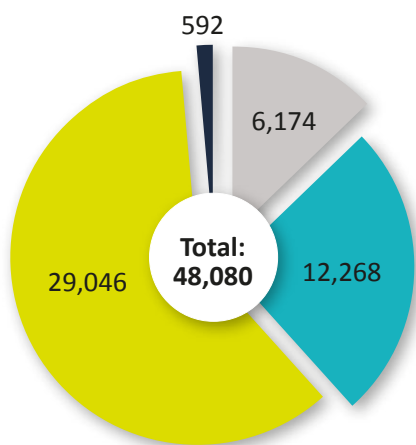
Citizens with animal-related problems also need help, day and night. Therefore, we diligently operate a regular and emergency road service. Our call centre responds to requests from the Eastern Townships population and beyond, while our patrol officers are on the road within our 41 municipalities to respond to complaints and ensure compliance with municipal regulations.

One-of-a-Kind Interventions – 24/7

Day and night, seven days a week, our patrol officers and inspectors respond to citizens' requests and intervene in several thousand different situations. In 2022, 5,460 interventions were carried out in the field, such as taking statements, animals left in cars in hot weather, bite complaints and notices to comply with municipal regulations.

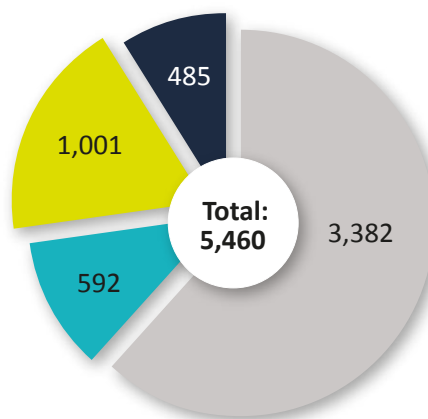


Total of calls Processed in 2022



- Road Services
- Licensing Services
- Shelter services
- Emergency Services

Interventions Carried out in 2022



- Daytime assistance
- Nighttime assistance
- Animals transported to the Shelter
- Park Patrols

The SPAE and its patrollers meet members of the community of all ages!

It is essential to take the time to meet our community. It is the ideal time to answer citizens' questions about animals, and also to simply exchange and discuss.

Pitous' Ensemble - July

East Bolton, one of our partner municipalities, held a day dedicated entirely to dogs and their guardians. The SPA de l'Estrie took advantage of this special day to raise awareness about our mission and to answer various questions about the regulations concerning dogs.



Saint-Claude Career Day - August

At the Municipality's invitation, our team met with the youth community who attend the day camp. The theme of the day was "careers". We took advantage of the opportunity to present the work of an animal patroller and to make our organization and our work with animals known.



Bellevue en couleurs - October

For the second year in a row, we set up our kiosk at the foot of Mount Bellevue for its fall festival. This is an opportunity to meet citizens, many of whom are accompanied by their canine companions as the trails are dog friendly.

FADOQ - November

We participated for the first time in the Salon 50+ organized by FADOQ. More than 5,000 visitors attended and our team was able to meet a large segment of the Eastern Townships population. Touching testimonies, photos of adorable animals, requests for information on our services and our furry boarders, numerous volunteer offers, the visitors were very happy to see us and to share their love for animals.



Assisting animals in distress

Sadly, because many animals still suffer at the hands of humans, our inspectors are there to respond to cries for help from citizens who witness acts of negligence and cruelty. In order to protect animals and ensure their welfare, inspectors are mandated to enforce federal and provincial animal protection and welfare laws. They intervene in the field by carrying out inspections, conducting investigations, carrying out seizures of animals and by laying formal complaints with the Ministry of Justice.

Every year, countless animals receive much needed help thanks to the vigilance and professionalism of our inspectors.

In 2022, the Investigations and Inspections Department of the Société protectrice des animaux de l'Estrie carried out 400 inspections of 1,267 animals, all species combined. As a result of these interventions, several criminal and penal proceedings were initiated by the Crown prosecutor.



Inspections and Investigations	Number
 Inspections and Investigations Performed	400
 Number of Animals Impacted	1,267

Consultation and recommendations for the revision of Regulation B3.1

Working with the AQSS, the SPA de l'Estrie participated in the consultation regarding the revision of the MAPAQ's regulation on the welfare and safety of domestic pets and equines. This upcoming regulation proposes, amongst other things, the prohibition of unacceptable practices, such as the use of spiked collars, as well as surgeries for convenience, and provides for the implementation of stricter breeding requirements and more detailed standards of care. The regulation is expected to come into force in 2024.

Our expertise is solicited during police interventions

Our involvement with animals in distress in all kinds of situations and our professionalism are reassuring during police intervention. This is why we are increasingly requested to intervene quickly in an emergency situation that directly or indirectly concerns the animals in our community.

Here are a few examples of our joint interventions with the various police authorities in our region:

27 Hedgehogs seized from a home

Following a police intervention by the Sherbrooke Police Department, our team intervened to seize 27 neglected hedgehogs. The hedgehogs were cared for at the SPAE and then transferred to partner resources better equipped to provide for this species. Meanwhile, the SPS and the SPAE worked together to present the case to the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions (DPCP) for prosecution.



Dog left for dead in Magog

The Memphremagog Police contacted us to look for an injured dog that had been left for dead in the parking lot of a building. Thanks to the witnesses of the event, the police officers quickly found the owner of the dog and were able to proceed with his arrest. The dog was quickly taken into the care of our team. Unfortunately, due to the seriousness of its injuries, we had to proceed with its euthanasia. The case was submitted by the police to the DPCP.

Three kittens thrown from a car window

In the summer of 2022, three identical kittens of the same age and colour were found 45 minutes apart on different streets in the city of Sherbrooke. The most plausible hypothesis was that the kittens had been thrown from a moving vehicle. SPAE inspectors requested the assistance of the SPS to try to find the person responsible or witnesses to this cruel act. The event was publicised in the media by the SPS, but unfortunately no suspect could be found. Two of the three kittens were cared for and adopted by new families through the SPAE. The third kitten unfortunately succumbed to its injuries.



Cat thrown down a building staircase

At the request of the Sherbrooke Police Department, we intervened with a seriously injured cat found in a rubbish container. The cat was quickly taken into our veterinary team's care as its condition was very critical. The investigation conducted by the police revealed that the cat had been the victim of a man who had thrown it down a flight of stairs and had inflicted several violent blows. The police were able to arrest the man and submit the case to the DPCP. On March 17, 2022, the man was found not criminally responsible and is scheduled to appear before the Mental Health Review Board. Thanks to the good care of our team, the cat survived and returned safely to its original home.

Essential investigations for the protection of animals

Several cases were opened or closed in 2022 as a result of complaints received from citizens. After investigating each complaint, the SPAE inspectors, in collaboration with the prosecutors, laid various charges under the Criminal Code.

Sherbrooke man convicted of animal cruelty and neglect receives his sentence

Benoit Laroche of Sherbrooke was sentenced this year after pleading guilty to two Criminal Code charges. Mr. Laroche admitted to not providing water, shelter and food and to having mistreated his dogs on several occasions, according to the results of our investigators. After numerous complaints, visits to his home, and several statements of offense to municipal by-laws concerning the keeping of animals, our investigators were able to charge Mr. Laroche under the Criminal Code. In addition,

video evidence and a key witness solidified the charges against the Sherbrooke resident.

The judge sentenced Mr. Laroche to four months of house arrest with curfew. Mr. Laroche is also prohibited from owning, keeping or controlling any animal or bird for a period of three years. Finally, 40 hours of community service must be performed to complete his sentence.

Four dogs rescued thanks to the vigilance of our investigators

It began when one of our investigators noticed a very sick dog being admitted to the SPAE as a "stray". Thanks to the vigilance of our investigator, four other dogs from the same litter were seized by our team. Unfortunately, one of the dogs had to be euthanised following the recommendations of our veterinary team. The other three have been adopted or are currently up for adoption. Charges of animal neglect have been filed. The trial is expected to take place in 2023.



A cat found dead in a waste container

Following a request for assistance from the Sherbrooke Police Department, our investigators were called to assist a cat that had been thrown into a rubbish container. Unfortunately, when we arrived, the cat was deceased. Thanks to the witnesses present at the scene, we quickly identified a suspect. The case file was turned over to the DPCP for analysis.

40 years of loyal service for Ruben Gutierrez

Barely arrived from Argentina, Ruben made his debut at the SPAE de l'Estrie on February 14, 1982. His first stop was the shelter located in an old stable, then the shelter at 1139 Queen-Victoria Boulevard and finally 145 Sauvé Street. He started as an animal caretaker and soon became an animal patrol officer and then an inspector. His diplomacy and his ability to adapt to all types of clientele make him an efficient and appreciated employee.

Throughout his career, Ruben conducted a number of investigations, some of which resulted in major seizures. To name a few, he conducted major seizures of dogs in Weedon, Bonsecours and Dudswell. He also seized horses in La Patrie and even parrots.

Ruben is not afraid to get dirty to rescue animals, to climb trees, to crawl through tunnels, to wade through mud! These are just a few examples of his heroic acts!

His ability to adapt and his great resourcefulness have led him to help people in critical situations, such as during the ice storm or the Lac-Mégantic train disaster.

The SPAE is fortunate to have such an experienced employee on its team.

**Everyone
knows
Ruben!**



Thank you, Ruben, for making a difference for the animals in our community for the past 40 years!

Implementation of best practices

We listen to our community, which is constantly evolving; and we stay on top of the field of animal welfare in order to improve our practices and infrastructures.

Infrastructure Improvements

A Roof Over Our Outdoor Pens

This fall, we added a roof over the outdoor dog pens. This new roof not only keeps this area cooler for the summer months, but also provides a snow-free area for our dogs in the winter.



Addition of Guillotine Doors to Two Dog Pens

Again with the goal of improving the well-being of the animals in our care, we added two guillotine type doors to two enclosures that open onto a safe outdoor space. Whether the issue is an anxious dog or the safety of our employees, this feature allows access to the outdoors without direct handling. Also, some dogs need more stimulation on a daily basis, so being able to go outside at will is a good solution.

Designing the Adoption Catteries

Thanks to donations from *1st Choice*, we finalized the interiors of the five catteries in our adoption lounge. Shelves, hiding places and comfort are at the heart of the improvements. The catteries accommodate several cats at a time in a shared space, and the new custom-made furnishings offer an ideal environment for our cats while they await adoption.



Training

Municipal Regulations

In 2022, training on municipal regulations was given to patrol officers and inspectors in order to standardize the application of regulations, and to promote an approach that is geared towards awareness and prevention, while also prioritizing animal well-being. The training was provided by Dominique Maître, Guylaine Lessard and Émilie Gervais.

Wildlife Safety and Management



Last June, our patrol officers received training from Dr Stéphanie Boisclair on the topic of wildlife. The purpose of this training was to give officers the tools to recognize the signs of illness or suffering in these animals, and to handle them safely.

Workplace Safety Rules With Regard to Bite Prevention

The organization has been working for several months on documenting and standardizing its work procedures and instructions. At the end of this year, we rolled up our sleeves to produce a document that contains general safety rules and work instructions. With the assistance of a CNESST advisor, we developed documents that are practical and comprehensible by all SPA employees.

We based our work on the Provincial Animal Welfare Act, on best practices with regard to work safety and well-being, as well as on analysis of reported incidents. Finally, we developed a training course for the purpose of explaining to everyone the improvements that were made to our internal processes. This training took place at the end of the year, and reactions from staff were positive. This approach is part of a process of continuous improvement of the health and safety environment at work within the organization.

Informative Meeting With Veterinary Clinics

Faced with the worrying situation of dogs with severe behavior problems, and the risk this might pose to the population, the SPA de l'Estrie invited practitioners from different veterinary clinics in Estrie to a discussion evening held June 15, 2022.



More than fifteen participants from five separate clinics came to discuss the reality experienced in a veterinary clinic, and possible solutions to remedy this critical situation.

The guests were also treated to a presentation by our Canine Behavior Consultant, Philippe, and by our Coordinator for Services to Municipalities, Emilie, on the dangerousness assessment process, the euthanasia of dogs with aggressive behavior, the regulations in effect, and civil liability.

It was a wonderful initiative that brought together animal welfare stakeholders from across the Estrie region in order to help dogs with behavior problems and their owners.

Philanthropy & fundraising activities



Hiring of a Financial Development Manager

Ms. Catherine R-Provost joined our management team in late August 2022 as head of financial development. Her help was welcome as it greatly alleviated the team's workload. The tasks entrusted to Catherine were centered around the organizing of fundraising, donor and partner relations as well as the implementation of new funding programs.

This dog lover holds a graduate degree in Communications and has three years of experience as a coordinator of a dog shelter in the Aboriginal community of Chisasibi Qc. As part of her responsibilities, she was able to experience all facets of managing a shelter in terms of the financing as well as establishing relationships with local and external partners, such as the CHUV, the SPCA of Laurentides-Labelles and the organization "Chiots Nordiques".

Solidarity shop

The development of several approaches to financing the activities of the SPA de l'Estrie was an important matter in 2022.

Aiming at creating a feeling of pride among our donors as well as spreading our message in the Eastern Townships and the network of SPAs and SPCAs in the province of Quebec, we have started a new project named 'SPA Solidarity Shop'. For this, we will be selling products reflecting our mission and values in addition to allowing the collection of funds to be entirely used for the well-being of our residents.

This year, we have worked with three Quebec companies to manufacture personalized

products. First was with the "Savonnerie des Diligences" in Eastman, to make soap bars for dogs and humans. Second, we collaborated with the social business 'Robin des Bas' in Montreal to manufacture stockings in the colors and image of our SPA. A cute message stating "One adoption is enough to change lives" was added

under the stockings. Finally, a collaboration took place between "Pico Tadoo" and the SPAE for the creation of temporary tattoos, a product intended for children who love animals. The images specially drawn by the founder of this Sherbrooke company perfectly represent the identity of the SPAE in a playful and adorable way.



New Donor Partners

RE/MAX d'Abord Levasseur-Langlois

Initially foster families for our felines in need of a temporary home, Julie-Pier Langlois and Sophie Levasseur wanted to invest more in our organization. These real estate businesswomen decided to make a generous donation of \$1,000 and to improve it by means of an additional donation of \$100 which will be made with each property sale. This is what we call "having your heart on your sleeve".



Au Vent du Nord

A proud local company of 20 years, Bières depot Au Vent du Nord had the idea of making, with the precious collaboration of Noctem Artisans, an IPA beer bearing the image of Lily Trotteuse, the cat adopted at the SPA of the Estrie by co-owner Nicolas Ratthé. After selling a production of 32 cases of 24 beers in record time, \$1,020 was donated to our organization, equating to \$1.25 per beer. This spontaneous gesture towards our organization was very touching. In addition to giving us a portion of the profits from the sale of this beer, the company has promoted the adoption of animals in shelters. Funding can take many forms!



Mimi & August

A wonderful eco-responsible company based in Montreal and Quebec, Mimi & August has generously decided to offer 1% of the profit from their sales of "we're lazy we're happy" t-shirts depicting pretty drawings of kittens at the SPA of Estrie. In addition

to the funds raised through the sale of these shirts, the company's website offered great visibility to our organization with a hyperlink redirecting to the page of animals available for adoption. Our partnerships can be created even outside of our region.

The SPA de l'Estrie: Close to its community

We all share the dream of a better society. We are convinced that improving the living conditions of animals and respecting them requires information, education and awareness of the population. This is why we make every effort to share and exchange with the community in various ways.

SPA and SPCA supporting each other

In 2022, we reorganized several storage spaces and found surplus used equipment that was no longer suitable for our facilities. We reached out to find an organization that could make good use of this equipment. The SPCA Saguenay responded quickly to the call and with the help of the BEA Foundation the supplies were delivered directly to their premises.



Working together with Moisson Estrie

One of SPAE's goals in 2022 was to be more proactive in the community. We want to pay it forward, while continuing our mission to help animals. It became clear that *Moisson Estrie* was the perfect organization to work with to achieve this goal. Our collaboration is done in two stages. First, we donate surplus food and bedding to the organization for redistribution to people in need. Then, we are referred to people who have more specific needs regarding their pets.

Targeted Sterilization Clinic for Cats

The primary objective of setting up this project is to reduce feline overpopulation in the Eastern Townships by making sterilization more accessible to low-income families. Sterilization fees have been set at just \$60 per cat, tax included, regardless of gender.

Foster families more than essential in 2022

Every year our families stand out for their generosity, their patience, and the love they have for our animals. They treat our animals as their own. This year was particularly notable by the introduction of a new bottle-feeding program for kittens. In 2022, 18 little motherless offspring found loving and patient families willing to get up several times a night to feed them with a bottle. Without this essential gesture, the survival of these fragile kittens would be impossible. Despite the extra work involved, every kitten was able to thrive and find an adoptive home.



115 active foster families

have given us a huge helping hand. A total of **550 animals** benefited from their good care and exemplary hospitality.

Clinics and sterilizations	Number
 Clinics organized in 2022	38
 Cats sterilized	86



16 volunteers carried out **39 animal transports.**

The SPA de l'Estrie: Much More Than a Shelter

Your SPA is much more than just an animal shelter. We're a public charity that needs you! For almost 20 years now, the Eastern Townships SPA has relied on the generosity of its donors in order to continue innovating and fulfilling its mission of promoting harmony between humans and animals here in the Eastern Townships. Donors like you founded the SPA and have helped finance its activities and projects for close to four decades.

In addition to being an animal shelter, your SPA provides:

ANIMAL WELFARE ALLIES



Many committed staff, volunteers, foster families, partners and donors.

ADOPTIONS



of thousands of animals every year.

BOUTIQUE



where you will find everything you need for your pet and more!

A ROAD SERVICE



that includes a 24/7 emergency service.

INSPECTIONS



and investigations to ensure the enforcement of animal protection and welfare laws.

PET REGISTRATIONS



and reunions of thousands of pets with their families.

ONE SINGLE CALL CENTRE




that handles citizen requests.



Protecting animals and ensuring their well-being, even in times of crisis.



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