

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	Dec 10: Peter & Ineke Boekhorst

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Dec 8: Annual General Meeting	Dec 15: Virtual Christmas Party 6:00 PM	
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OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING:

President **Clint Callison** presided.

Guests:

Mark Stewart, of the Salvation Army, plus our speaker.

Program:

The Maple Ridge branch of the SPCA – speaker - **Krista Shaw**

About our speaker:



Krista Shaw is the manager of the Maple Ridge SPCA. She has been with the SPCA for nine years and commenced her position with the Maple Ridge branch in April 2017. She started with the SPCA in Montréal working in the emergency animal shelter. She has two cats and one dog of her own, and in addition is fostering one dog.

The SPCA and the BC SPCA:

Our Mission and Vision

MISSION: To Protect and Enhance the Quality of Life for Domestic, Farm and Wild Animals in BC

VISION: To inspire and mobilize society to create a world in which all animals enjoy as a minimum, **five essential freedoms:**

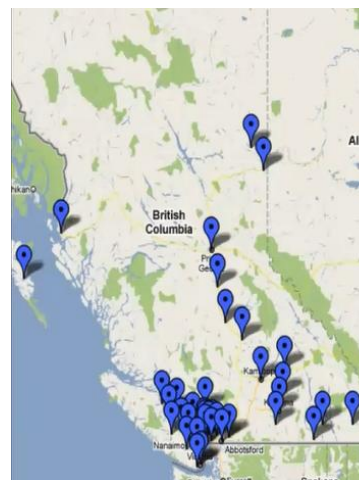
1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from pain, injury, and disease
3. Freedom from distress
4. Freedom from discomfort
5. Freedom to express behaviours that promote well-being



The BC SPCA was established in 1895, and is therefore celebrating its 125th anniversary. The SPCA in British Columbia has about 572 staff, 5500 volunteers, and about 80,000 donors. Throughout the province they care for approximately 4,200 animals.

They are a registered charity and get no ongoing government grant. They did get a provincial grant in 2015 for the establishment of their premises in Maple Ridge. The BC SPCA is now among the elite group of Canadian organizations to be accredited by **Imagine Canada**, the national umbrella for charities and nonprofits. Only 45 charitable organizations hold Imagine Canada accreditation status, and the BC SPCA is the first Canadian humane organization to become accredited (accreditation demonstrates their compliance in five fundamental areas: financial accountability and transparency; board governance; fundraising; staff management; and volunteer involvement).

The following slide tells about the organization of the SPCA in British Columbia:



Our Organization Today

FACILITIES:

- 29 community animal care centres
- 4 education & adoption centres
- 2 large animal seizure barns
- 2 volunteer-run branches
- 1 provincial call centre
- 10 satellite adoption locations
- 3 veterinary hospitals
- 2 spay/neuter clinics
- 1 wildlife rehab centre

PROGRAMS:

- Cruelty investigations
- Behaviour & welfare
- Scientific programs: farm & wildlife welfare
- Advocacy & humane education



They are now in their second year of their 2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan, which has the following priorities:

- protecting animals from cruelty and neglect,
- caring for animals in the community and in our shelters,
- inspiring the public to take action for animals, and
- growing our organization so we can do the best we can.

The Maple Ridge Community Animal shelter is located at 10235 Jackson Rd, Maple Ridge, BC, V2W 0A9.



The SPCA offers emergency boarding. This means that if there are emergency situations, such as a house burning down or domestic violence, then the SPCA will board animals for a limited period of time. In 2019, for example, there were 13 cases of emergency boarding. They do not do a lot of wildlife rescue (only 10 in 2019) but they will help if necessary.

The following slide shows the community services which our local branch supplies:

Community Services Offered

- Rehoming and providing care for stray and surrendered domesticated animals
- Housing animals affected by animal cruelty/abuse
- Emergency boarding of animals for victims of domestic abuse and disasters
- Spay/neuter education and assistance
- Humane education for youth and adults
- Community food bank
- Provide ongoing support to the community to help keep animals in their homes



If stray animals are brought in, they will be kept for a period of 72 hours before they are adopted out. If a person cannot afford to spay or neuter a pet, they will provide a certificate to enable the owner to get the animal spayed or neutered at a reduced cost.

Their staff and volunteers work tirelessly to prevent animal cruelty, promote humane education, and ensure animals find loving homes. They have 5 full-time, 2 part-time, and 3 auxiliary staff, as well as 106 volunteers. They have two animal control officers who are “out and about”, and Krista says “be sure to say Hi to them if you see them. They usually have a dog treat with them, so be sure that you ask for one”. [They are apparently yummy, so get one for your dog, too.]

Included in what they do for the animals prior to them being given out for adoption, are spay/neutering of the animal, insertion of microchip, parasite treatment, medical care (vaccinations) and sheltering.

Question: how does the fostering program work? **Answer:** A person can apply to be a “fosterer”. Applicants are screened, and then interviewed to see if the animal and the fosterer are the “right fit” for the foster person and the SPCA and the animal. For example, some animals do not like to be with children [some humans, too!]. Fostering animals can be a dedicated and time-consuming job, so they need to make sure that the person understands the responsibilities. For example, for a newly born kitten, they have to be fed every two hours. The length of time that you have an animal under this program could last a month or it could be longer.

Question: does the SPCA they respond to barking dog complaints? If a dog is constantly barking, that could possibly be a sign of animal neglect [the dog may be trying to tell us something?]. **Answer:** It is the city that responds to barking dog complaints. If the by-law officer sees that the animal is neglected [that the dog’s complaints are justified?], then the SPCA can be contacted. However, the SPCA does not respond directly to these complaints or inquiries.

Krista invited the club to take a tour of the SPCA facility in Maple Ridge when the Covid virus permits.

Happy and Sad:

Eric donated five dollars, one for each of the five essential freedoms for animals which the SPCA strives for (see above). Eric said they were sad dollars because not all humans have these freedoms.

Ineke donated \$10 as she had five happy things to tell us about:

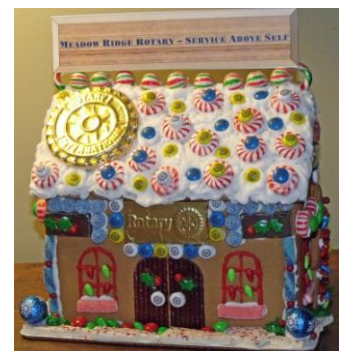
The El Salvador Project: Patricia Cruz picked up our Club’s cheque in the amount of \$1,500 from Ineke’s home and dropped off a certificate of appreciation for our club’s participation in supplying items for the container and money for the shipment. Patricia Cruz advised that the container was going to leave for El Salvador on Wednesday, December 3, 2020.

The Maple Ridge News came to the support of the Starfish Pack program by posting a story/ad in the online newspaper to get the word out about the plants which our Club are selling to support this project. The response has been great. Ineke again thanked the News for its great support of community matters.

Maple Ridge Community Foundation: Ineke was very pleased to receive a response from her application to the Maple Ridge Community Foundation to support the Starfish Pack program, stating that the foundation had given a grant of \$2,875, which is enough to support 5 backpacks for a whole year.

Alisa’s Wish Child & Youth Advocacy Centre, a program of Community Services, helps all children and youth in Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows and Katzie First Nation who have experienced or witnessed physical, emotional or sexual abuse. It connects children to the appropriate authorities so that children can talk to them about difficulties the children are experiencing. This organization is selling gingerbread houses to raise money to support their activities.

Ineke made a Rotary gingerbread house which she has donated to this project as she believes that Alisa’s Wish is doing great work.



Duck Race 2021: On December 3 at 6 PM there will be a Duck Race committee meeting of the Meadow Ridge and the Haney Club, via Zoom, to decide what is going to happen with the Duck Race in 2021.

Clint: the 50/50 draw is now closed. The amount of the jackpot is \$26,550, which means that each of the Meadow Ridge Rotary club and the Haney Rotary Club will receive over \$10,000. The winner of the draw will be determined on December 2, 2020.

It was also noted that the 50/50 draw put on by 4 Rotary Clubs in Langley had a jackpot of approximate \$125,000; and that our club should learn from that group how they did so well, and how we can have a more successful fundraiser next year.

Future programs:

Roger asked members to let him know of any suggestions for future programs, which may include "Who's Who" presentations by club members. Roger has agreed to continue scheduling programs for the club.

Reminders:

The AGM for our Club and for our Club's registered charity will be held next week December 8, 2020.

Ineke needs volunteers who can help deliver the plants which are being sold to support the Starfish Pack program.

Today's Quote:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson