



Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals Annual Report 2023

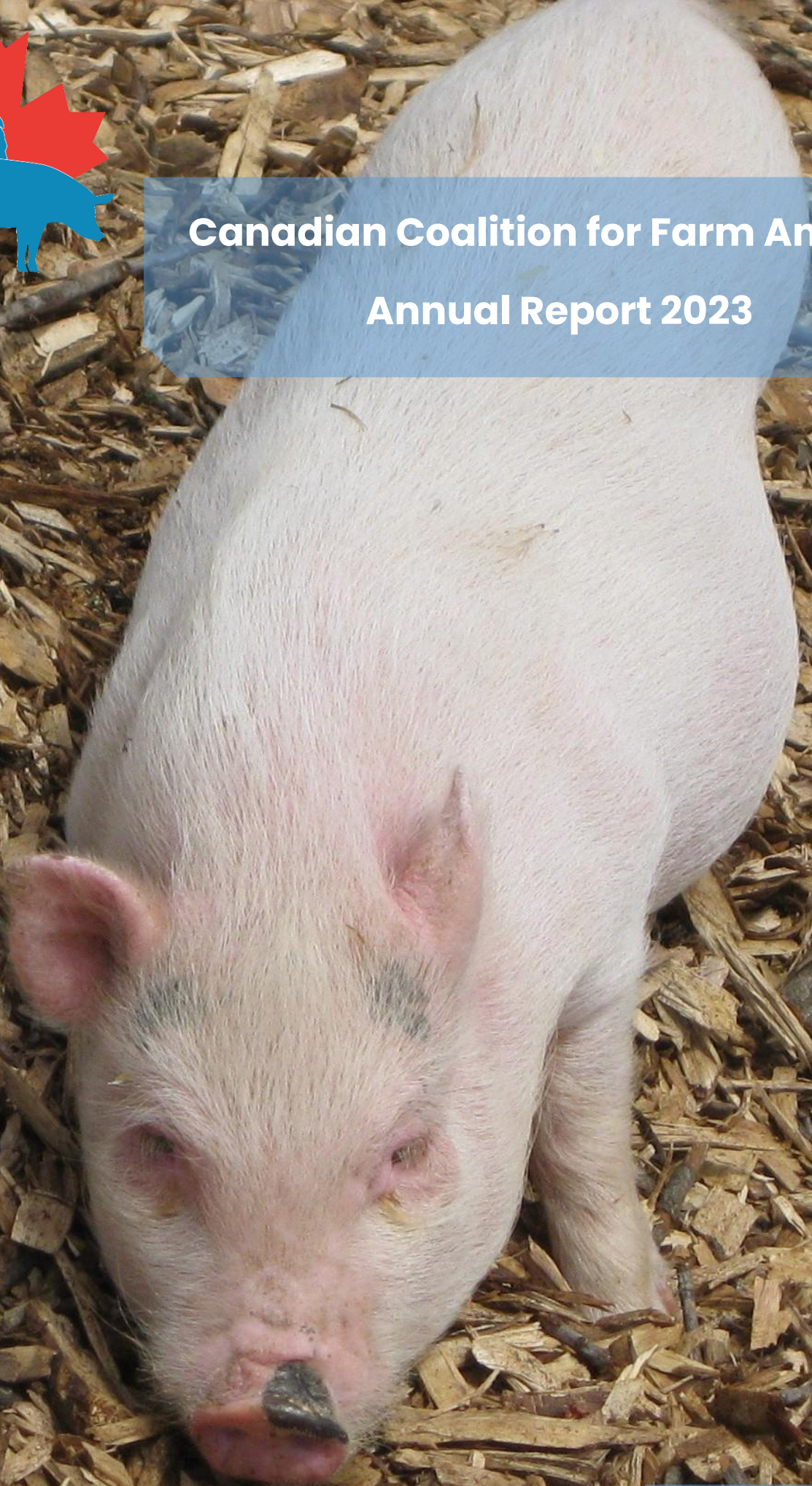


Photo: Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary



Message from the President

The year 2023 was all about birds –the chickens and ducks that is!

Early in the year we ran a campaign for raising meat chickens more humanely. With the help of our wonderful volunteers, we raised awareness not only with the stores marketing chicken, but with the public, many of whom know nothing about the brutal lives of chickens.

There has been some progress made such as reducing stocking density, enriched cages, and phasing out live-shackle slaughter over the years. However, there is still work to be done. According to Mercy for Animals' Canada Animal Welfare Scorecard 2023 Report, no major grocery retailers have adopted the global Better Chicken Commitment standards. Canada continues to lag behind the standards that have been implemented in other countries. With your help, we will continue to advocate for better conditions for farmed chickens.

Our major campaign for the year was to get foie gras off the menus and store shelves in Canada. Although we generally campaign for better conditions for farm animals, in this case, we are taking an "abolitionist" approach – i.e., to end the production of this cruel "delicacy" altogether.

We encountered some unexpected obstacles in the province of Quebec where virtually all the foie gras is produced. Among them was the refusal of the advertising agency to run posters in the Montreal Metro stations. The same agency also refused to run them in Toronto. Their reason – the picture might scare children! They did run in Ottawa and Vancouver and the good news is that we garnered thousands of signatures, in English and French on our petition to restaurants and stores to stop serving and selling foie gras.

Of course, the other farm animals have not been forgotten. Most animals raised for food in Canada live in deplorable conditions. With a new campaign on the horizon, we promise to continue working hard to improve the lives of all types of farm animals.

A highlight of 2023 was becoming a registered charity on February 6th. Although CCFA was incorporated as a non-profit in 2005, charities were very limited in how much government lobbying they could do until late 2018. At that time the rules were changed to allow government lobbying, the only exception being that a charity could not appear to endorse a party or candidate. With this change, the timing was right to register as a charity, and as such we were able to issue receipts for income tax purposes to everyone who donated after February 6th, benefiting you, our wonderful donors.

We are also excited to have explored some new fundraising avenues this past year. We launched ccfastore.ca where you can purchase CCFA merchandise and held our very first Canada wide Holiday Auction which raised critical funds for the animals. Thank you to everyone who participated in the auction and those out representing CCFA with our branded merchandise!

And of course, thank you so much to our donors and volunteers! You're at the heart of our organization, and we wouldn't be able to do what we do without the amazing support that you - our CCFA family - show us daily. Thank you for stepping up to give a voice to the voiceless.

Best regards,



Vicki Fecteau, President



Board Members:

Maureen Boag
Edana Brown
Vicki Fecteau
Anne Griffin
Geraldine Lindley

Supporter Testimonials

I support CCFA because farmed animals in Canada have among the worst animal welfare protections in the developed world. There are few organizations that campaign to educate the public about the cruelty inherent to factory farming, and also lobby for systemic change to protect these animals and provide them more humane existence. Supporting CCFA gives me hope for change for farmed animals and an agricultural system that doesn't turn a blind eye to living beings.

- Shivani C. – Toronto, ON

I became interested in animal welfare as a child. I support CCFA because their mission is to reduce suffering and improve the lives of domestic farm animals. They have no voice of their own and CCFA works hard to advocate for farm animals at provincial and national levels. I am grateful for the hard work CCFA is doing.

- Anne C. – Berwick, NS

From a young age, I enjoyed reading about animals, and interacting with my grandmother's chickens. I gave them names and was impressed by how quickly they learned.

As time went by it became apparent to me that society does not treat all animals equally. Animals raised for food are hidden behind closed doors, enduring cruel standard practices and unconscionable abuses, exposed only by undercover investigators.

Canadians recognize that farm animals are emotional beings and deserving of rights and protections. CCFA is a powerful voice in advancing their interests through education, awareness, and the political and legislative process. We are also reminded that as consumers we can choose plant-based eating, thereby benefiting animals, ourselves, and the environment.

- Carmina Gooch – Delta, BC

I started supporting CCFA several years ago when a friend made me aware of the work that they do to make the lives of farm animals better. At the time, there were terrible stories in the news (and video footage) of cattle being maltreated and it was, frankly, quite sickening to watch. Supporting CCFA also aligns with my desire to eat a more vegetarian diet and make conscious choices of what I put on my plate. I figure that my monthly donation to the cause is a very small way to help an organization that is working to better the lives of other beings that don't have a voice.

- Ron Tuckey – Montreal, QC

I have always respected and loved all creatures: mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians. After reading about factory farming, I started searching for an organization working on behalf of farm animals and found Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals. Animals deserve love, kindness, compassion and respect. CCFA works to bring this mission to fruition. I will always support this wonderful organization. They speak for those who have no voice.

- Karen – Ontario

I was made aware of the CCFA's work when I was being considered for an administrative position with them. I was then approached to become a board member. Because of my commitments at the time I was unable to accept. Yet I have since learned more about the Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals (CCFA) dedication to promoting the welfare of animals raised for food in Canada through public education, legislative change and consumer choice. These animals are sentient beings that are afforded the least legal protections and are subject to the most abuse. It is important that their profile is raised in the eyes of consumers so they can make informed decisions. I believe the CCFA is one of the organizations that is trying to do so in a positive way.

- Mimi B. – Montreal, QC



Photo credit: Farm Sanctuary

Foie Gras

In 2023 CCFA ran a campaign against the foie gras industry in Canada.

Foie gras (fatty liver) is a “luxury gourmet product” produced by grossly enlarging the livers of male ducks and geese through the inhumane practice of force-feeding. This force feeding causes the animals’ livers to swell up to 10X their normal size while causing extreme pain and suffering. Up to four pounds of food per day is pumped into their stomachs through long metal pipes forced down their throats. Some ducks die from this process. Liver failure and rupture is also common. At just over 3 months old, the ducks are sent to slaughter.

The primary location for foie gras production in Canada is the province of Quebec.

Montreal and Ottawa are the highest consumers of foie gras, followed by Toronto and Vancouver. Foie gras is served in numerous high-end restaurants and is sold through some grocery chains, gourmet stores and online suppliers.

As of February, 2024, foie gras production is banned in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Netherlands, Finland, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, most Austrian provinces, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, Poland, Turkey, the UK, Ireland, Israel, Argentina, India, Australia (allows imports), Flanders, Brussels, California, and New York City.

Our goal is a ban on foie gras in Canada. CCFA launched the website helphetheducks.ca which includes a petition urging restaurants and stores that serve or sell foie gras to take it off their menus and shelves.

Our campaign also included awareness ads on public transit and street signs in Ottawa and Vancouver. The ads directed viewers to sign a petition to stores and restaurants that carry and serve foie gras.

Some of our wonderful volunteers participated in a letter writing campaign to restaurants. We also used our social media platforms – Facebook, Instagram and X – to share information about the foie gras industry.

Humanely Raised Chickens

CCFA carried out a local supermarket action the week of Feb. 20, 2023 aimed at the major grocery chains in Canada – Loblaw, Metro, and Sobeys. We asked CCFA supporters to go to their local supermarket to give information leaflets to store managers asking the supermarket chain to abide by the Better Chicken Commitment in choosing only suppliers that meet this standard. CCFA has also communicated directly with top corporate executives in the major supermarket chains calling for public adoption of the Better Chicken Commitment, a standard developed by an international group of animal welfare organizations.

The local supermarket action information leaflet also called for certain date commitments to carry 100% cage-free eggs for all brands carried by the supermarket chain, not only private store brands. CCFA has communicated with top corporate executives at the major supermarkets calling for public commitment to a published specific timeline for conversion to 100% cage-free eggs across all brands. CCFA addressed the issue of the harm caused by enriched cages used by egg producers. Enriched cages for hens require a nesting area, perches, litter, and additional space for movement. Although better than battery cages, they still restrict the natural behaviour of hens. We have communicated with the NFACC on the code involving enriched cages which is under an interim review. CCFA also asked supporters to communicate their concerns about enriched cages to the NFACC.

CCFA is working with other Canadian animal welfare groups engaging with top corporate leaders in food production and retail companies to influence their animal welfare policies and demand changes.

Farm Animal Transportation

CCFA proposed a real-time monitoring system for farmed animal transportation to the Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-Food. The idea of the system was that the inspectors would know at any time the location of the trucks carrying animals. They could intercept to do road-side inspections or arrive at the destination at the expected time to assess the condition of the animals. The Minister replied that the idea was interesting and innovative, but that the system would have to be voluntary as there is no regulatory framework in place to capture that information.

However, it is now mandatory for trucks carrying live animals to have GPS tracking. The information is available to the trucking company. Also, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is proposing a change to the Health of Animals Regulations to trace the movement of all species. It will not be a real-time system, but the fact that the data is being tracked would encourage trucking companies to adhere to the current regulations.



Photo credit: Toronto Cow Save

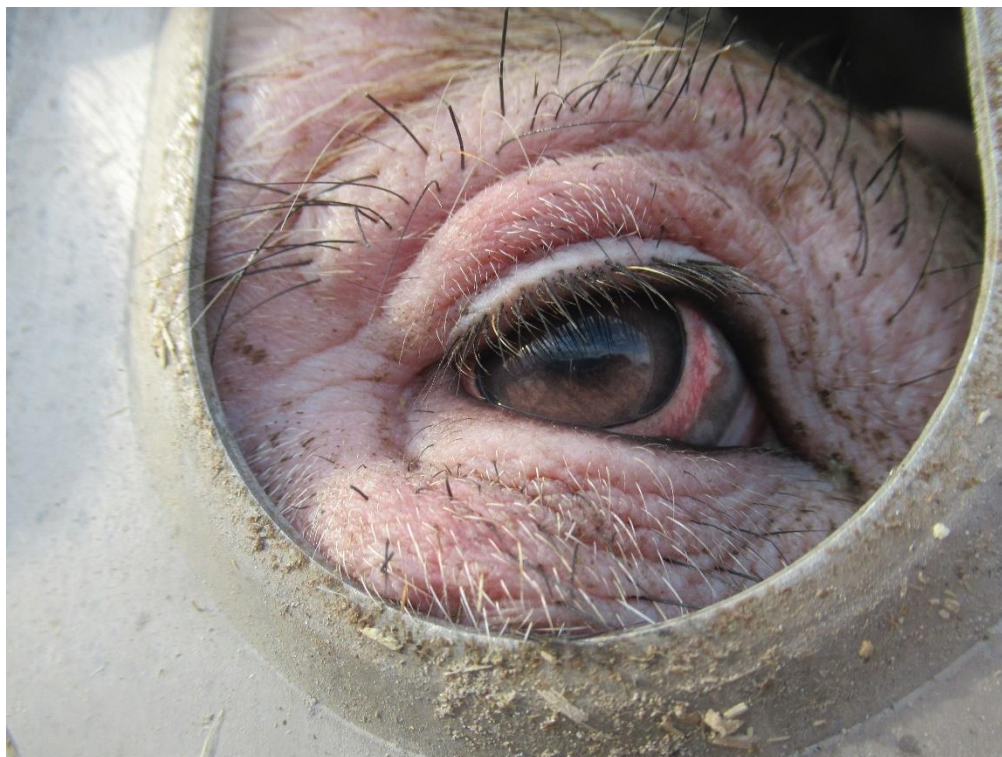


Photo credit: Toronto Pig Save

Video Surveillance in Federal Slaughter Facilities

In April 2022, CCFA initiated a federal e-petition asking the federal government to implement video surveillance in federally regulated slaughter facilities with a feed that could be viewed by both CFIA officials and a third party. This e-petition was initiated based on the government response to a similar e-petition in 2017, in which the government responded that "both the CFIA and the Ministry of Agriculture have agreed that they consider video surveillance to be complementary to the live, on-site monitoring that is currently required."

Vancouver Humane Society, Montreal SPCA, Humane Society International/Canada, Canadian Horse Defence Coalition and Mercy for Animals also signed on to our petition. The petition was open for 4 months and garnered 9755 signatures. It was presented in the house of commons on March 28, 2023 by MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith. On May 11, 2023, the government responded.

Part of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Marie-Claude Bibeau's response to the petition is as follows:

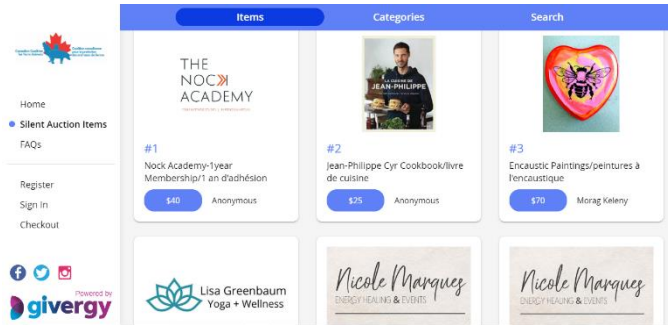
"Any changes CFIA makes to surveillance activities must conform to Canadian legal requirements and be based on the effectiveness of the new measure at improving compliance. CFIA continually assesses scientific research on best practices for animal welfare. Based on this information, CFIA regularly updates humane slaughter requirements and activities. At this time, it is not clear that video monitoring would strengthen the existing compliance verification system. As mentioned in the petition, some countries have already mandated the use of video surveillance in slaughter facilities. Canada, along with the rest of the international community, will be interested in any data that emerges from these countries."

You can read the petition and complete response from the government here:

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/petitions/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-3961>

Shopify Store

Now you can raise awareness and show your love for farm animals with CCFA merch! You can purchase hoodies, beanies, totes, and more with the CCFA logo by visiting ccfastore.ca

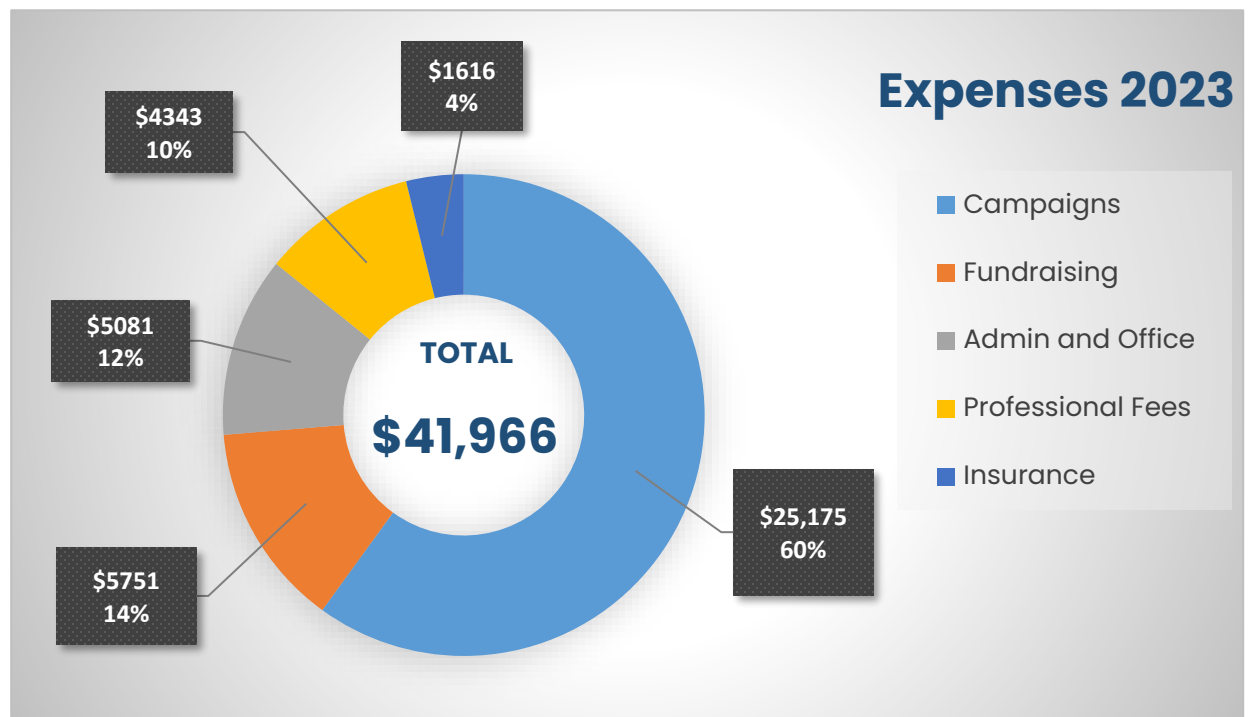
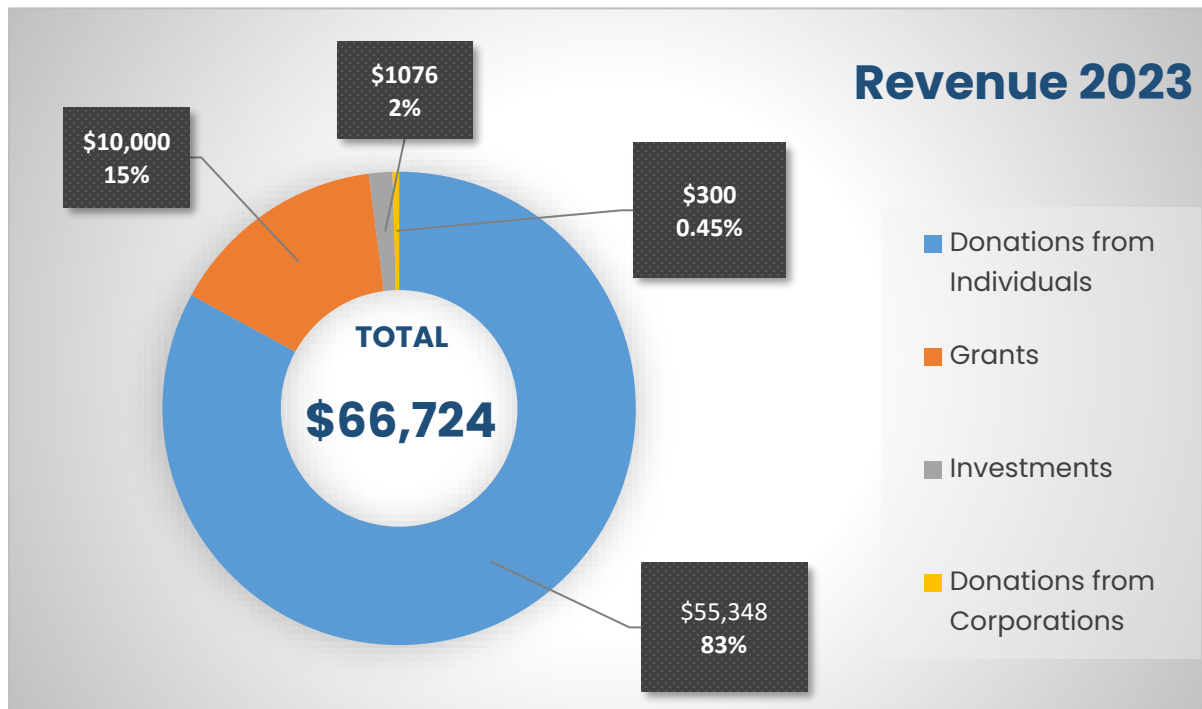


CCFA Holiday Auction

In December of 2023, CCFA hosted our inaugural Holiday Silent Auction. The auction was open to all Canadians and was solely virtual. We had many generous donations from businesses who were interested in our cause. From travel packages to beauty packages to memorabilia, our auction had something for everyone! All the proceeds of the auction went directly to improving the lives of farm animals in Canada.



Financials



Much of the work done for our farm animal campaigns is generously completed by volunteers. This work is not reflected in the total expense amounts listed above.

**Make a difference in the lives of farm animals
by becoming a monthly donor.**

Become an advocate for those who can't advocate for themselves.

Join our monthly giving program today!

[Donate Here](#)



Our 2023 Donors

Serge Adourian
Nelly Altherr
Mary A. Anfossi
Judith Appleby
Pretti Arora
Richard Atlas
Marion Balacko
Anette Bald
Syd Baumel
Annette Bays
Barbara Bear
Josee Beausejour
Elizabeth Beecker
Nicole Beland
Lori Bellemare
Richard Bembridge
Chelsea Berg
France Bergeron
Christine Bernier
Jennifer Berry
Carolyn Bonhomme
Michelle Bouchard
Huguette Bourret
Nicole Bouthillier
Sherry K Bowman
Gail Brock
Frances M Broome
Claire Bruner-Prime
Janice Buchanan
Sandra J Campbell
Loraine Cassidy
Jeanne Caswell
Maureen Cater
Katharina Ceres
S Chandrakumar
Richard Chartier
Silvia Chiaramello
Anjali Choksi
Jan Clare
Catherine Clermont
Anna Coates
Irene Cook
Fred Cooper

Anne Cornwall
Mary Croft
Lynette E Cuming
Margaret Dale
Martine Dallaire
Andras Galambos
Maria DaSilva
Kate Davis
Francine Decuyper
Cynthia D'Errico
Syeeda D Din
Tanya Doyon
Lyn M Drake
Corinne Dulberg
Genevieve Dumais
Brian Dunphy
Lorraine S Ray
Eileen Easton
Christina Eggardhos
Elizabeth Egsgard
Sara Esam
Gilles Fecteau
Jérôme Fecteau
Vicki Fecteau
Audrey Forest
Maurice Forget
Marilyn Forsythe
Paul A Fortin
Cathy Frankow
Helga Fry
Norman Funnell
Caroline Gagne
S Gabrielle Gagné
Cécile Gagnon
Kim Gamble
Sheryle M Garant
Cory W Garlock
Guylaine Gaudet
Catherine Gautry
Joan Germain
Louis Giguere
Ann Giles
Jillian Gilliland

Sophie Girouard-Nobl
JoAnne Gobeil
Céline Godbout
Carmina Gooch
Sandy Gorrie
Marguerite Gratton
Norma Green
Robert Gregory
Sharon Gregson
Anne Griffin
Nancy Hamilton
Roni Hanig
Sandra Harris
Kristy Pennock
Sherrie Lee Hawley
Eleanor Herridge
Lise Horsthuis
Sandra Houillier
Melanie J Houston
Sean Hynes
Rachel Jacobson
Amanda Jarrett
Veronika Jolicoeur
Linda A Jones
M Jones Gotman
Monique Jutras
April S Kassirer
Joris Keeren
Joanne Kelly
David Kent
Marion E Kerr
Taras Klymyshyn
Debbie Knowland
Ione Kormendy
Christine Kowbuz
Gabrielle M Lacelle
Barbara Lang
Rina Langford-Kimmett
Barbara Lanthier
Andréanne Lapointe
Carole Laprade
Suzanne Larocque
Therese Lavieille

Karen Lawrence
Courtney Lawrence
Sara Lederman
Marie-France Legault
Josée L'Heureux
Susan Lindley
Geraldine A Lindley
Sheila Linker
Barbara Lougheed
Alison Lukianiuk
Barbara Macdonald
Patricia MacInnis
Jackie Maisonneuve
Tom Malloch
Jordanna Marchand
John Marcucci
Tammie Gale Mason
Wendy Matthews
Terry Mathews
Morgan McCaffrey
Kathy McDonald
Catherine McGregor
Diane McKelvey
Diane McNally
Rita McPherson
Peter&Jenny McQueen
Savannah Meslin
Danielle Michaud
Connie Michaud
John Micucci
Katharine Mikolasek
Jacqueline Mills
Rosemarie Morris
Cecelia Moses
Kimberly Mowrey
Janice Munn
Shawna Murphy

Laura Nashman
Dennis A Newton
James Nicol
Daniel N Nilsson
Gustav Norra
Carole Painter
Anne Papmehl
Mélanie Pascal
Katrina Patel
Nicole Pchajek
Johanne Pelletier
Andree Poirier
Olivia Poon
Valerie Powell
Eloise Pulos
Una P. Ramsey
Melanie Ransom
Lucie Renaud Di Lullo
Rosina Ritter
Stephanie Robert
Judith Robertson
Clinton Robertson
Dorothy Rogowski
Valerie Ross-Dressler
Thomas W Royle
Adele Maria Runikis
Nancy Ryan
Krista Saleh
Dianne Sandland
Andrew Scorer
Karen J Scott
Nadine Seepaul
Theo Selles
Carole Sheppard
Lori Shoaf
Carol Shorrock
Bonnie Shulman
Chris Siegrist

Susan L Simpson
Anne Skabarnicki
Nadia Skira
Sharon E Smailes
Ronald Smailes
Jan Smigielski
Monte Smith
Annette Stevens
Huguette St-Germain
Danielle St-Jean
Claudia Stodt
Anne Streeter
Carol Tarrant
Brenda Tempest
Pierre Tessier
Nathalie Theroux
Helen Topping
Carol Tracey
Danielle Tremblay
Ron Tuckey
Glenda Turner
Sharon Tina Valles
Tommy Varin-Marion
Joann Visaretis
Carolyn Walker
Debbie Wall
Tracey Weir
Carolyn Whiting
Tor Williams
Debbie Wiseman
Lorie-Anne Yallowega
Michael Yeates
Terri Yeske
Sok Chum Yi
Danielle C Young
Janice Zajac
Louise Zalusky

THANK YOU!