

**Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals**  
**Annual Report 2024**



Photo: Pia Sarker



## Message from the president

There Ought to be a Law! This phrase gained popularity through the comic strip *There Oughta Be A Law*, created by Harry Shorten and Al Fagaly.

However, there is nothing comical about the fact that there are no laws that protect animals on the farm.

In 2024, we started a campaign called "There Ought to Be a Law" (TOBL). To that end, we launched [e-petition 5114](#) to the federal government asking that animals be declared sentient. The e-petition garnered 10,187 signatures and was presented to the House of Commons on November 20, 2024. The government response was due on January 4, 2025. That date was not met, and parliament was prorogued on January 6. Then on March 23, Parliament was dissolved. This means that the e-petition process must be re-started. We will do that, confident that we will have the same support from you and other animal protection organizations.

One of the issues is that animals are considered property in the criminal code. If animals are considered sentient, it is our view that cruelty to animals could be moved to a separate section of the code.

Our campaign against foie gras continues. Petitions with 3789 English signatures and 2686 French were sent to restaurants and stores that serve or market the cruel product. The current focus is consumers themselves, educating them of the realities of foie gras production.

In late 2024 we started strategic planning for the next three years, with the document to be released in June of 2025.

We are so grateful to you our donors, volunteers, and supporters who make our work possible. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without you!

Best regards,

**Vicki Fecteau, President**

## Board Members

### Edana Brown



A board member of CCFA since 2012, Edana's current role as Chair involves providing advisory and communications support for initiatives ranging from strategic planning to campaign development. A copywriter by trade, she lives with her two kids, chihuahua Cooper, and black cat Jake in Hamilton, Ontario.

### Vicki Fecteau



Vicki is a retired engineer (BESc., P.Eng.) who spent most of her career with IBM Canada. After retirement she took on a new career – volunteering – that gave her the same satisfaction as her job with IBM. She now devotes all her time to farm animal welfare as President of CCFA. She and her husband live in midtown Toronto with their two cats, Sophie and Oliver.

## Adrienne George



Adrienne resides in the Niagara Region of Ontario and is currently Global Marketing Director with Animal Save Movement (ASM) and the Plant Based Treaty campaign. Adrienne is also Co-Organizer for Toronto Pig Save, Regional Liaison for ASM chapters in North America and a Board Member for Burlington Vegfest and VegTO. With a college diploma in Marketing and Promotions, as well as a degree in History from Brock University, Adrienne branched out into a 20-year Marketing & Special Events career with companies such as Warner Music Canada and Tim Hortons.

## Geraldine Lindley



Geraldine holds a Master of Laws from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and B.Sc. and LL.B. degrees from the University of New Brunswick. After university, she took her first job in Toronto where she still resides. She applied biology and law degrees to her professional career and to volunteering. Recently retired, her enthusiasm for animal welfare also reflects her background in science, law and ethics.

## Tony Weis



Tony Weis is a Professor in Geography at Western University. He is the author of *The Ecological Hoofprint: The Global Burden of Industrial Livestock* (2013) and *The Global Food Economy: The Battle for the Future of Farming* (2007). His research is broadly located in the field of political ecology, with a focus on agriculture and food systems, and he teaches courses on climate change, animal geographies, biodiversity conservation, and global agriculture.

## Supporter Testimonials

Over the years, the transformation of the food industry has catapulted into “gross indecency” when it comes to the treatment of animals. Contrary to earlier practices where people accessed their food from local farmers, many of the slaughterhouses are now a “big business” model that optimizes profit over animal welfare and safety. Despite the Department of Agriculture’s regulations, there’s been increasing evidence of maltreatment of animals in our food industry.

The Coalition of Farm Animals is an organization which reports regularly to the public regarding the conditions animals are subjected to for our food consumption. They advocate for safety and humanitarian practices whether it be the beef, pork or poultry industries. Their in-depth research provides vital information for citizen advocacy which is key to achieving changes in the field.

Gabrielle L. - Vancouver, BC

My concern for the creatures with whom we share the planet encompasses myriad species. While much attention is afforded to companion animals, millions of farmed animals experience pain, suffering, and deprivation behind closed doors. The Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals (CCFA) has worked tirelessly with its campaigns to educate the public about the appalling conditions endured by so many animals.

I am so grateful to CCFA for continuing to advocate for the voiceless and I will continue to support this remarkable, reputable organization in its mission to alleviate suffering.

Carol T. – Alberta

There is an on-going debate about what is most effective to bring about change for our animal cousins - individual efforts vs systemic change. I believe it's both. To that end, I've embraced veganism and boycott all animal (ab)use industries. But until we operationalize the Canada Food Guide and transition to a plant-based food system, we need to make massive systemwide improvements to ensure the over 800 million sentient beings who are raised, transported and killed for food in Canada annually experience the least inhumane conditions possible.

The Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals are contributing to this important work and are focused on amplifying the voices of these silenced individuals.

Debbie W. – Manitoba

As a health professional, I subscribe to the concept of "healthy person, healthy planet", in which the healthy planet includes animals, plants, and our common environment. I believe that animals, as sentient beings, deserve respect and compassion, not abuse. That said, factory farming often raises and slaughters animals in conditions of abuse and sometimes extreme cruelty. There is no effective oversight of factory farms in Canada. CCFA is an inspiring organization that works solely on behalf of farmed animals, and speaks for those who have no voice. I am happy to continue supporting them.

Susan L. – Quebec

I have been supporting the noble cause of the CCFA for several years now. This wonderful and welcoming organization is unfortunately the only voice for our beloved farm animals and the sometimes unspeakable treatment they are subjected to. Despite having so few resources and so much to do, the CCFA is achieving results! This gives me great joy and deep satisfaction! CCFA has my unwavering support, and our beloved farm animals deserve to be heard.

(Translated from French)

H. St-Germain, Montréal

Photo credit: Manitoba Animal Save



## There Ought to be a Law Campaign

If you believe animals feel love, happiness, fear, sorrow, pain...then you already know animals are sentient.

We believe there should be laws for animal protection on farms.

Unfortunately, animals are considered property in the criminal code.

Property comes under the jurisdiction of the provinces and territories, not the federal government. The provincial and territorial animal welfare acts for the most part exempt "generally accepted practices of agricultural animal care, management or husbandry". This means that piglet thumping, tail docking, taking a calf from its mother and other cruel practices are allowed. Animals on farms endure treatment that would be considered cruel if used on a companion or wild animal.

On top of that, cruelty complaints often aren't followed up on when reported.

If animals are considered sentient, it is our view that cruelty to animals could be moved to a separate section of the code.

This is why we launched the **There Ought to be a Law Campaign** in 2024 which included [e-petition 5114](#) asking that animals be declared sentient by the federal government.

In our continuing campaign to have animals declared sentient, we will advocate strongly for animals to be taken out of the property section of the criminal code and put in its own section. That would mean that the federal government could make laws regarding animals on the farm.

CCFA works cooperatively with other animal protection organizations in a concerted effort to improve the lives of farm animals.



## Foie Gras Campaign

For foie gras production, 3-month-old ducks (who have only recently learned to quack), are immobilized in individual cages or small group pens. Then, for two weeks, long metal pipes are forced down their throats and more than 1.75 kg of food a day is pumped into their stomachs. Their livers swell up to 10 times their normal size. This not only causes extreme pain and suffering, but some die as a result. At only three months old, the ducks are sent to slaughter.

Since Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver are the highest consumers of foie gras, we decided to run our campaign in these cities.

We put up signs in Ottawa on transit shelters and street stands, and posters on the Skytrain in Vancouver.

We ran full-page ads in Montreal's *Cult Magazine*, December edition, Toronto's *Grind Magazine*, February/March edition, and Vancouver's *Georgia Straight Magazine*, February edition.

We also ran Facebook ads to raise awareness of the reality of foie gras.

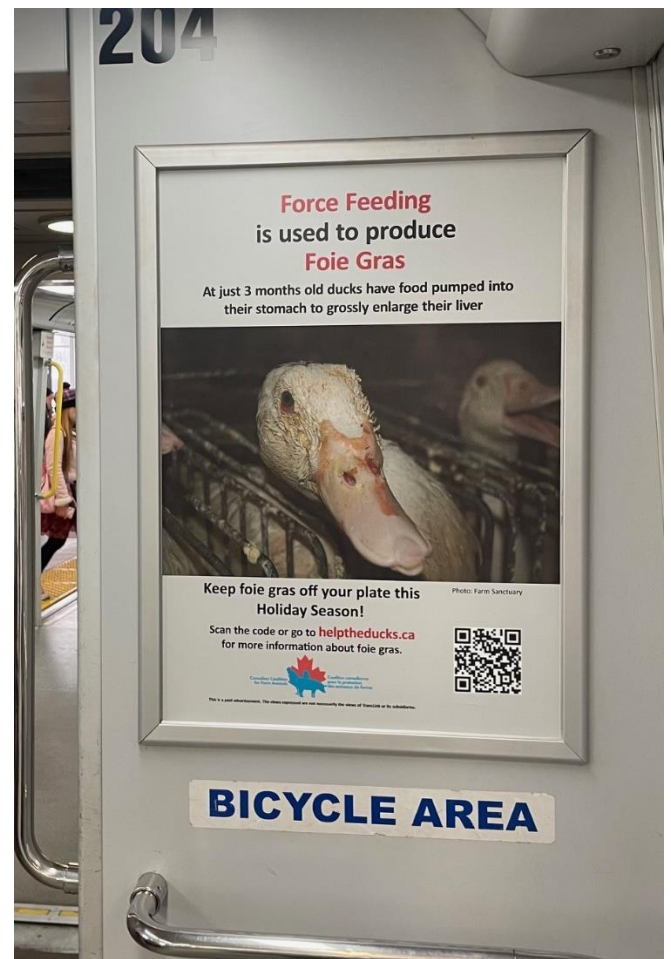
We designed two petition websites – English and French – asking readers to sign our

petition, calling for an outright ban on foie gras. Our petition targeted restaurants, grocers and suppliers across Canada. We garnered 3789 English signatures and 2686 French signatures. These were sent to restaurants and stores that serve or market the cruel product.

We launched a petition on [change.org](http://change.org) urging omni hotels to take foie gras off their menus. This petition garnered 6490 signatures.

The current focus of this campaign is consumers themselves, and educating them of the realities of foie gras production.

Visit [humanefood.ca/ducks-and-geese](http://humanefood.ca/ducks-and-geese) to learn more about foie gras.



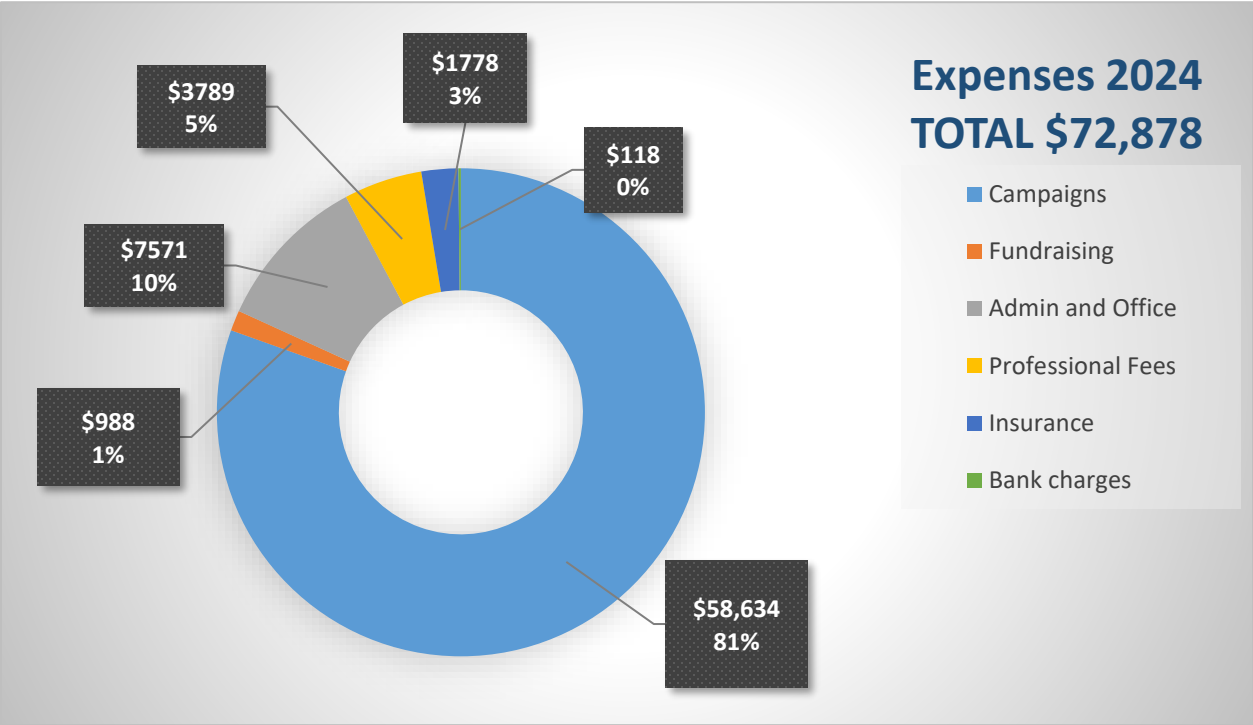
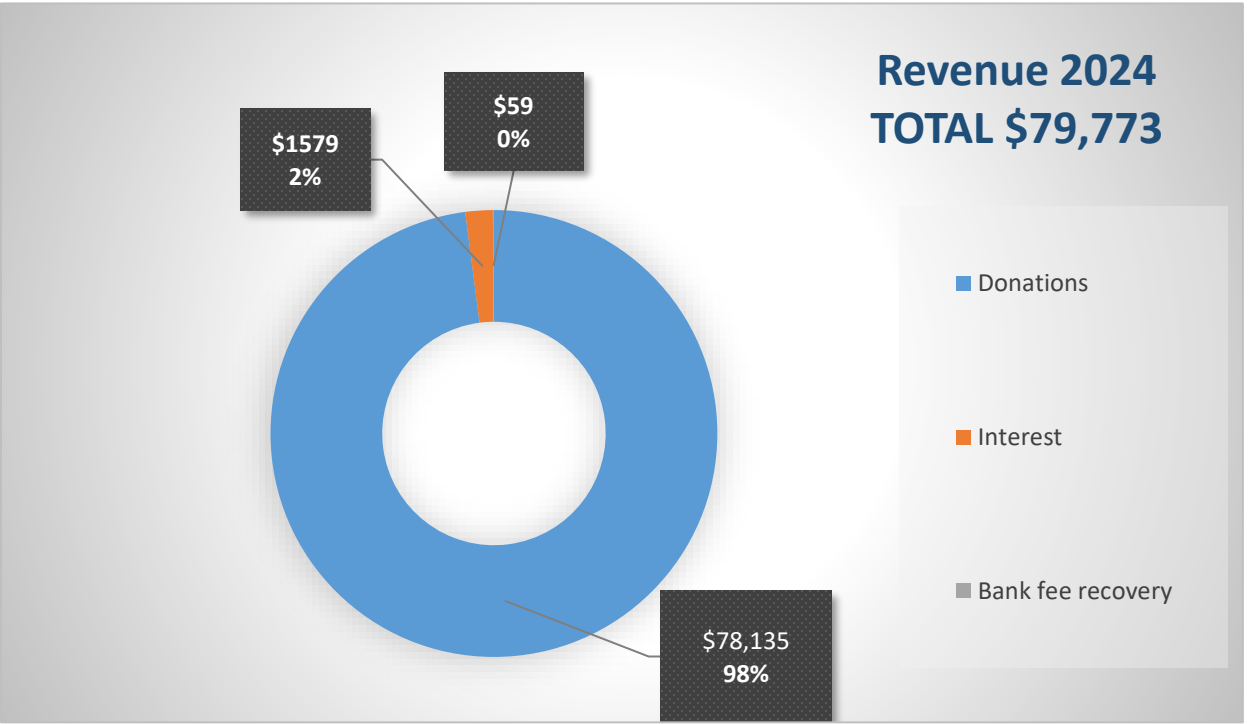


## Shopify Store


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](https://ccfastore.ca)



# 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](#)**

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