



Bide Awhile  
Animal Shelter Society

# 2021 Annual Report



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"UNTIL ONE HAS LOVED AN ANIMAL, A PART OF ONE'S SOUL REMAINS UNAWAKENED"

- ANATOLE FRANCE

# President's Report



It has been nine months since our last AGM. This was yet another year of life during the pandemic, and of changes for Bide Awhile. Last fall, we were hoping to focus on a public reopening plan for the shelter, but with the new variants and continued high number of covid cases we are still continuing with covid protocols to ensure the safety of the Shelter staff. We will announce when this changes, but currently the shelter remains closed to the public and volunteers. Adoptions are completed by appointments.

Our Animal Care Manager, Jennifer Taylor, moved on earlier this year. I am so proud of the current Animal Care Attendants and all that they do at the shelter, and particularly of Chelsea Pugh, our Interim Animal Care Manager. The animal care staff have shown their strength and dedication to the animals who land in our care. The culture at the shelter has become very strong, and the staff have come together to support each other.

Paul Jenkins, our Executive Director who started in August 2021, unfortunately had medical issues and had to recently step away to look after his health. While understandable, it is sad that we only had Paul for a short period of time, since he made great strides implementing our donor management & non-profit software, Keela. He put many hours into cleaning and moving information from the old database, and put in so much effort to increase the shelter's information technology capabilities. Currently Michael Stack, our Communications Coordinator has taken on more duties, and the Board of Directors is supporting the shelter by taking on many projects. We are currently starting the process to recruit for this role, and hope to fill it in a short period of time.

I want to thank our board this year, it has been a pleasure to work with you all. It has been great meeting with you each month and seeing the fantastic work we accomplish. Our executive team, Stacey, Aaron, and Christine, your support and hard work has been amazing. I am proud to be a part of this team.

I am continuing my role as President into this next term, and I look forward to the coming year, as I foresee more positive changes to come for Bide Awhile. I am looking forward to lessening restrictions, to in person events, and to meeting our next Executive Director.

Jenny Allen



# Shelter Report

## Adoptions

During the switch to appointment-based adoptions, we were initially worried the approach would slow down adoption rates and cause animals to be in the shelter longer. It shows the care that the Animal Care Team put forth in learning about each animal – assessing who is good with children, who would only be best suited to a quieter home – that care and effort is truly reflected in the result of all of the successful adoptions. 273 adoptions were completed in 2021, and 42 adoptions have been completed so far this year.

## Long-Term Foster/ Palliative Care Program

This program assists animals with unique health challenges that potentially hinder adoption by having Bide Awhile assume the cost of treating their pre-existing conditions. We are very thankful for Eastern Passage Village Veterinary Hospital and their support for this program, and those wonderful

fosters who take on the care of these animals knowing the additional time and dedication it requires. To date, 10 animals are currently active in this program and continues to grow.

## Spay/Neuter Program

This is an ongoing program operating with Eastern Passage Village Veterinary Hospital. We completed at least 267 spay and neuters in 2021 and 125 so far in 2022. We are very fortunate to have the partnership with 9-Lives Cat Rescue Society who have chosen Bide Awhile's low cost program for their spay and neuter surgeries. We continue to have 9-Lives as a major source for our shelter cats, both directly and by referral.

## Animal Care

Cats in our care at Bide Awhile are enjoying the freedom of our amazing portholes in the intake rooms. The cats are given lots of attention and love, as well as treats and cat nip, during their time with us to help them feel at home. We

are starting to see our first few groups of kittens come into our care for the upcoming 2022 kitten season. There is still a high demand for cats to be adopted and while the Animal Care Team is as busy as ever with adoptions, it's fantastic to see these animals get to go to their forever homes.

## Human Resources

The Board of Directors continues to support the initiative to increase the hourly rate of pay for animal care attendants to an appropriate market level over a two year process. Subject to budget approval, this would be completed in the 2023 fiscal year. As highlighted in the previous AGM, this is an investment in our staff, and extremely worthwhile. The Animal Care Team is the heart of the shelter, and we love to recognize the very important work they provide each time from intake to adoption, for all animals while they reside at Bide Awhile.





# Shelter Report

## Information Technology

A lot of effort was put into getting Keela up and running and transferring information out of the old database. With Keela and Stripe, memberships and donations can be managed more efficiently while maintaining compliance, as well as streamlining the annual receipting process. The closing on 2021 had some challenges as we integrate the new and old databases, but moving forward we are expecting a much smoother process.

## Volunteer Programs

Due to ongoing covid restrictions and physical distancing requirements, important programs such as Pet Visitation and many other volunteer activities remain on hold. We look forward to re-starting these volunteer programs in the near future as these events and programs are a huge part of the Bide Awhile culture and a cornerstone for the organization. We are excited to see a start to re-joining the community at events such as Bluenose marathon and the upcoming parades.

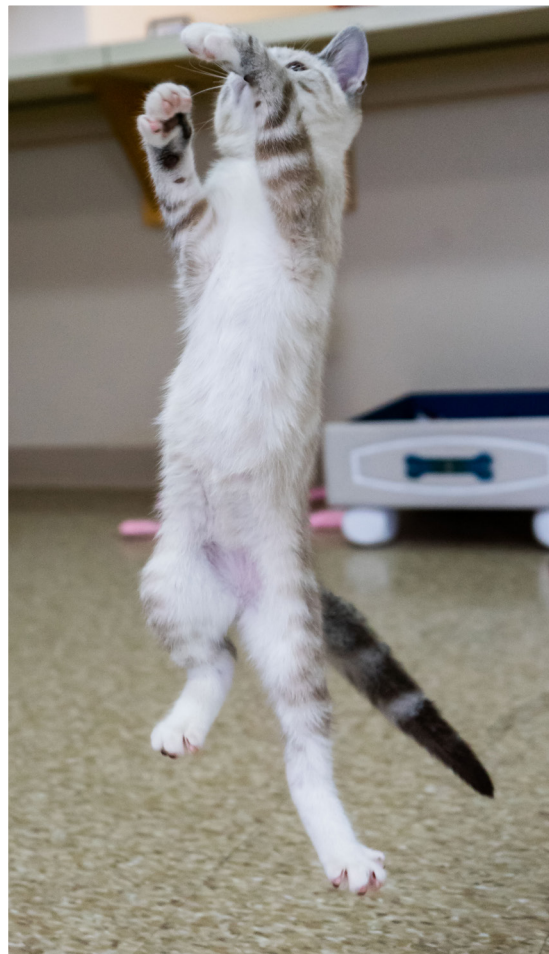
## Executive Director

As mentioned, unfortunately our Executive Director role is currently vacant. With the combination of Michael Stack, Communication Coordinator, stepping up to take on additional duties, as well as the Board of Directors being more hands-on at the shelter, we are providing operational support while we recruit for this role. The job will be posted shortly and we hope to have this role filled with a great

candidate in the near future.

I want to take this opportunity to again thank all of the staff at Bide Awhile Animal Shelter. While challenges may arise, you have all shown great strength and commitment to our mission and purpose at Bide Awhile.

SUBMITTED BY JENNY ALLEN  
PRESIDENT



# Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Statistics

## Animals In

| Period | Cats | Dogs | Total | Halifax | County | Dartmouth |
|--------|------|------|-------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 2021   | 279  | 0    | 279   | 48      | 191    | 40        |
| 2020   | 307  | 5    | 312   | 76      | 126    | 110       |

## Adoptions

| Period | Cats | Dogs | Total | Male | Female |
|--------|------|------|-------|------|--------|
| 2021   | 273  | 0    | 273   | 137  | 136    |
| 2020   | 318  | 5    | 323   | 163  | 160    |

## Spay/Neuter Program

## Palliative Care Foster

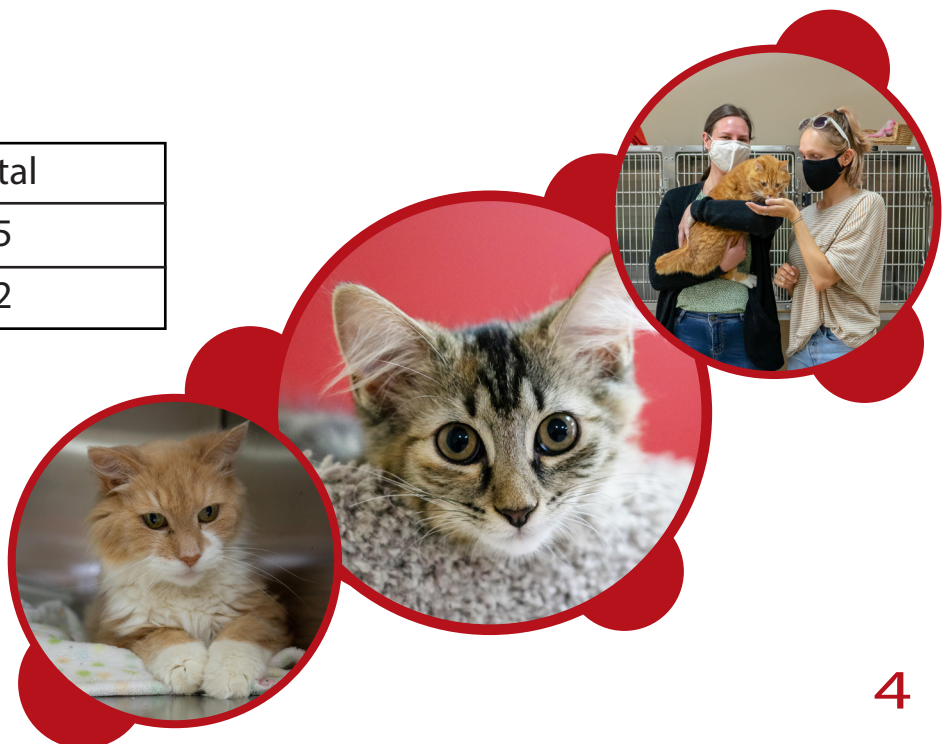
## Return to Owner

| Period | Total | Total | Total |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2021   | 267*  | 9     | 7     |
| 2020   | 366   | 7     | 10    |

## Euthanasia

| Period | Total |
|--------|-------|
| 2021   | 15    |
| 2020   | 12    |

- \* Data Incomplete for 2021



# Finance Committee Report

**W**e are reporting on our fiscal year end, December 31, 2021.

Our financial statement package includes the following:

Statement of Financial Position (page 2) reflects the assets Bide Awhile owns and the liabilities we owe - financial obligations we are required to settle now and in future periods. The difference between the asset and liability accounts is called net assets.

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures (page 3) reads like an income statement for a business, it shows revenues less expenditures, grouped by source (operations and other). Operations relate to the core business of running the shelter, while Other is related mainly to investment activity.

Statement of Cash Flows (page 5) explains the change in the cash balance from the prior year. In other words, where did cash come from and where was it spent.

Notes to the Financial Statements (page 6-9) provide further explanation of items found in the balance sheet, statement of operations, and cash flow statement.

## Highlights for 2021:

### Balance Sheet

We had \$180,365 in cash in the bank on December 31, 2021.

Our investment portfolio increased approximately \$63,208 year-over-year to \$1,290,645. At year-end, we held a combination of high-interest savings accounts (\$719,008) and stocks (\$571,637) all in accordance with our approved investment policy.

Capital assets decreased overall due to amortization being higher than capital asset additions.

Deferred contributions represent donations received for the Spook's Memorial Kitty program that have not yet been utilized in the program.

Deferred contributions related to the building are being recognized over the life of the building. This relates to capital campaign donations received towards the construction of the Shelter. As we amortize our building (an expense), we will amortize the deferred contributions (a revenue, under Other Income).

### Revenues

Year over year revenue increased by \$131,094. Donations, bequests, memorials and a

lengthy estate settlement, account for \$150,804 of the increase, while membership dues decreased by \$2,190 and fundraising revenues dropped by \$23,300. Donations to Spook's Memorial increased by \$9,380 and adoptions decreased by \$3,600.

This significant increase was due mainly to bequests. Continued Covid restrictions resulted in less than normal revenues for the Bluenose Marathon, Cat Yoga, Cat banks, and reduced support of corporate casual days.

With the ongoing support of the volunteers and our membership, we continue to look for new ways to consistently grow the shelter's revenue streams to a level that is sustainable into the future!

### Expenses

Year over year expenditures decreased approximately \$16,482.

Major changes are as follows:

Animal Care costs increased by \$9,085. This was due in part to a combination of our palliative care program and cost increases.

Professional fees are up due to interim contract positions for the executive director and bookkeeper.

Salary and benefits decreased by

# Finance Committee Report

\$78,764 due to the bookkeeper and executive director positions being contracted out and the departure of our animal care manager.

too far away.

Spay and neuter program expense increased by \$9,380.

## Other Income

In 2021, net investment income increased by \$8,972 to \$38,033. Bide Awhile's portfolio is diversified to reduce risk which resulted in fairly good performance.

## Operations and Investments

In 2021 Bide Awhile generated a surplus of \$140,706 which is an overall increase of \$148,824 compared to 2020 results. This is generally the result of generous bequests.

## Looking Forward

It has been my pleasure to serve the shelter as Treasurer for the past two years. I would like to thank the Finance Committee, Scott Roberts and Michael Stack for their help during this time. I will be stepping away from the Board next year but will never be

SUBMITTED BY

CHRISTINE LATTER STRATTON

TREASURER





# Fundraising Committee Report

Fundraising continues to be an integral component to supporting Bide Awhile. The shelter was unable to host in-person events over the last two years, but we are now looking forward to a return to some of our previous events and finding new and exciting ways to bring needed funds to the shelter.

## Kennel Klub

The Kennel Klub is our monthly giving program. This is our biggest funding source and is a top priority. We are always looking to promote the benefits of monthly giving to our donors, and highlight the impact of those regular donations on meeting our animal care needs. Just like in our own households, having a predictable income can help us to plan our expenses and better respond to unexpected events.. Regular communication with Klub members to keep them engaged and informed is important to us, We're always interested in expanding our Klub so new recruitment efforts are being explored.

## Pet Photo Challenge and Calendar Sales

Our annual calendar for the 2022 year was a great success, raising over \$20,000. We are so grateful to those purchasing the calendar and to the many veterinary clinics and retail locations that helped with sales. It featured the winners from our annual Pet Photo Challenge, another fundraiser, which will

wrap up in July this year. We are currently securing sponsors for the 2023 calendar and will begin selling this fall.

## Blunose Marathon

We were pleased to see the Bluenose Marathon return to the streets of HRM in May and so grateful to have walkers and runners taking part who represented Bide Awhile. With more than \$4700.00 raised, our thanks go out to the "Tails in Motion" participants and our supporters.

## Rafflebox

Rafflebox is an online raffle platform we've used previously for two successful 50/50 draws. Unfortunately they're very popular with many other Not for Profits, so we're biding our time and planning another one for the fall. It is fairly low effort and can yield big results.

## Pours for Paws

We are excited to be bringing back a very successful event from 2019 – Pours for Paws! We had partnered with a variety of breweries, cideries and wineries who donated samples of their products for attendees to taste. Tasters were also very pleased with our "silent auction" featuring many great products and services. We are planning for a fall event this year so stay tuned.

I want to thank our volunteers and donors for their ongoing dedication and support. We appreciate you and look forward to working together in the year ahead!

SUBMITTED BY EMMA MENCHEFSKI  
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIR



# Communications & Community Outreach Committee Report

The Communications and Community Outreach (CCO) Committee was initially formed in 2018 with the goal of increasing awareness of Bide Awhile and its mission.

The new Communications Coordinator, Michael Stack, joined Bide Awhile in June 2021. The Committee has worked closely with the new Communication Coordinator in advancing his communication plan in tandem with future strategic planning efforts by the shelter.

As with other Committees, CCO activities for 2021/2022 were adversely impacted by the ongoing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even with this challenge, the CCO Committee participated in events such as Christmas at the Forum in November and Ren's Pets.

Bide Awhile participated in the "Betty White Challenge," (in honour of her passing) which was hugely successful.

The Committee members,

alongside our new Communications Coordinator, researched ways to get the Bide Awhile message out to the public and investigated several initiatives over the year, including establishing a social media calendar and starting a website audit.

As the Province and businesses continue opening up, part of the challenge for the Committee for next year will be safely modernizing our outreach practices and following public health measures to keep everyone safe. Committee members continue to identify opportunities for participation in events and activities to ensure Bide Awhile continues to develop awareness among the broader community.

SUBMITTED BY GENEVIEVE SHARKEY  
CCO COMMITTEE CHAIR





# Volunteer Committee Report

**M**uch of what we do to raise funds for the Shelter and engage with our community relies on our volunteers. Sadly, volunteer opportunities to support and showcase Bide Awhile have been cancelled or on hold for the two years of Covid 19. As our world opens up, volunteer efforts will return – cat socialization, pet visitation to nursing homes, in-person fundraising events, parade participation and more. We'll be reaching out to our volunteers over the coming months. We can't wait to see you again!

SUBMITTED BY FLORENCE MACLENNAN



# Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee's mandate is to recruit board members who are prepared to commit their volunteer efforts and talents to the work of Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Society and to take on leadership positions within the Society on various committees and as Officers.

For the 2022-2023 year, the Committee was specifically interested in recruiting individuals who would round out the financial, fundraising and communications committees.

We had a fantastic committee consisting of Emma, Genevieve, Rachelle, Thom and myself (Stacey).

Unfortunately not everyone will be able to return to the board for the upcoming year. The following Directors will not be returning for the 2022-2023 year:

- Natasha Chestnut
- Michael Hughes
- Gwyneth Christoffel
- Christine Latter
- Donna Jewers

We would like to thank these members for their many contributions over their terms, we wish you all the best.

## Recommendations for Directors and Officers for 2022-2023 term:

The following Directors have completed their fourth term and are reoffering for a fifth term:

- Jenny Allen
- Stacey Langley
- Aaron Veinotte

The following Directors have completed their third term and are reoffering for a fourth term:

- Emma Menchefska
- Kimberley McOnie
- Florence MacLennan

The following Directors have completed their second term and are reoffering for a third term:

- Genevieve Sharkey
- Rachelle Boutilier
- Melissa Manette

The following Directors have completed their first term and are reoffering for a second term:

- Arvind Babajee
- Thom Williams

There are six new nominees this year:

- Kristin Matthews
- Rylie Peacock
- Rebecca Rawcliffe
- Fay Dickinson
- Charley Baxter
- Angela Martin

## The proposed slate of Officers for 2022-2023 is:

President: Jenny Allen  
Vice President: Aaron Veinotte  
Secretary: Thom Williams  
Treasurer: Charley Baxter  
Past-President: Stacey Langley

Thank you once again to all our current and past Board Members for all the hard work they put in to help our furry companions!

SUBMITTED BY STACEY LANGLEY  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

