



Inadequate animal cruelty bill introduced in Parliament

On April 26, 2006, Senator John Bryden tabled Bill S-213, a private member's bill to amend the animal cruelty section of the Criminal Code. This bill is identical to Bill S-24, which Senator Bryden tabled in February 2005 and which died on the order paper with the election call last November. The bill contains the exact wording of the current animal cruelty section written in 1892, but with the increased penalty provisions taken from the previous Parliament's bill most recently called C-50.

Bill C-50 was the seventh iteration of a bill first proposed by the previous Liberal government in December 1999 to amend the animal cruelty section of the Criminal Code. C-50 achieved an excellent balance between increasing protection for animals and retaining the legal protections that allow the use of animals for



farming, hunting, fishing, sealing, trapping or scientific research. Seven times that bill fell victim to election calls or other Parliamentary adjournments. Despite the fact that in 2003, it was supported by scores of animal industry groups, animal protection groups, all parties in the House of Commons, and 93% of Canadians, it could not get past the Senate.

The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies and its member humane societies and SPCAs strongly oppose Bill S-213, as it would not be a step forward in animal protection in Canada.

Turn to the last page of this newsletter to better understand the differences between Bill S-213 and Bill C-50, and to see how you can help the CFHS work towards better protection for animals in Canada.

A note from CEO Steve Carroll



As the new CEO of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, I'm thrilled at the prospect of working with thousands of caring Canadians like you to promote the well-being and humane treatment of all animals. As the national voice for Humane Societies

and SPCAs in Canada, the CFHS has worked hard to earn its reputation as a professional, vital and respected national organization – and as the voice of reason for animal welfare in Canada.

The national office team, the Board and I are committed to building on this foundation to ensure a strong, sustainable, progressive and united federation well positioned and equipped to take on both the challenges and many opportunities that lie ahead. We will maintain our leadership role in the efforts to update Canada's antiquated animal cruelty legislation;

we will continue to work with our member societies to improve the standards for care of farm animals; and, we will pursue initiatives to educate Canadians about responsible pet ownership and the humane treatment of animals.

As we approach our 50th anniversary in 2007, we will certainly take a few moments to reflect on the past half-century, and the vast improvements that have already been made to animal welfare. But mostly, we will be looking to the future, at how the CFHS, our member societies and our supporters can work together to make Canada a more humane place.

Look out for our next issue of *Animal Welfare in Focus*, or visit www.cfhs.ca regularly, to get the latest news on our anniversary activities, and to find out how you can help the CFHS celebrate 50 years of animal welfare in Canada!

Photo reproduced with permission from *Pet Professional Magazine*: www.petprofessional.com

New mission statement

On the eve of its 50th anniversary, the CFHS recently updated its mission statement to better reflect current activities and to help guide the organization as it looks toward the next 50 years of animal welfare in Canada.

As the national voice of humane societies and SPCAs, the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies supports its member animal welfare organizations across Canada in promoting respect and humane treatment toward all animals.

Please remember that the CFHS receives no government funding. In our 50th year and beyond, your financial support remains key to help us fulfill our unique mandate to make Canada a more humane place through public education, national animal welfare initiatives and the enactment of legislation to prevent animal cruelty.

Yes! I'd like to support the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies.

- Please accept my gift of \$ _____
- Please send me information on monthly giving (SAM)
- Please send me planned giving information
- My email address is: _____
- Please do not trade my name



Canadian Federation of Humane Societies
102-30 Concourse Gate
Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7V7
www.cfhs.ca



<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque	<input type="checkbox"/> American Express	Card No. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	Expiry _____
Donations of \$10 or more will be issued an annual tax receipt. Charitable registration # 11883 0884 RR0001		Signature _____

At the table: The National Farm Animal Care Council



As the voice for animal welfare in Canada, the CFHS represents its member Humane Societies and SPCAs on issues of national importance. We work with other organizations, industry groups and coalitions to improve animal welfare standards and laws, and to implement initiatives to help educate Canadians about key animal welfare issues.

In each issue, *Animal Welfare in Focus* will update you on how, with your support, our participation in national animal welfare initiatives is making a difference for all animals in Canada.



National Farm Animal Care Council

In Canada, the Humane Slaughter Act regulates how animals are slaughtered and there are regulations under the Health of Animals Act governing the transport of animals. However, there are very few laws or regulations governing the welfare of animals on the farm.

Since the 1960's, Canada has had a system of voluntary Codes of Practice that set out generally accepted practices for the care and handling of farmed animals. The development of these Codes has been led by the individual industry groups, with participation from a CFHS representative, and financed by the government.

In 2002, the government launched a consultation process involving livestock producers and processors, consumer groups, animal welfare organizations, academics and government representatives to explore what changes, if any, need to be made to Canadian farm animal welfare standards. This resulted in the formation of the National Farm Animal Care

Council (NFACC) in 2005. The NFACC consists of approximately 18 member agencies, the majority of which are livestock groups. The CFHS is the only animal welfare representative on the NFACC, and is a member of the NFACC Executive Committee.

One of the focus areas of the NFACC is to re-establish a system for the development of Codes of Practice. The CFHS has also been pushing hard for the NFACC to implement a system of on-farm verification programs that would be implemented by individual commodity groups. Such a program would include third-party auditing of measurable standards of animal care on the farm, as well as consequences for producers who fail their audit. Thus far, the livestock industry seems reluctant to change, instead favouring the status quo. On behalf of our member societies and concerned Canadians like you, the CFHS is standing its ground and continuing to ask for enforceable programs to help ensure the welfare of farm animals.

Representatives on NFACC

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
Animal Welfare Researchers/Acedemics
Canadian Bison Association
Canadian Cattlemen Association
Canadian Cervid Alliance
Canadian Council of Grocery Distributers

Canadian Federation of Humane Societies
Canadian Meat Council
Canadian Pork Council
Canadian Poultry & Egg Processors Council
Canadian Restaurant & Food Services Association
Canadian Sheep Federation

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
Dairy Farmers of Canada
Equine Canada
Ontario Trucking Association - Livestock Transporters Division
Provincial Agriculture Departments
Provincial Farm Animal Care Groups

Understanding the difference between animal rights and animal welfare

Animal protection organizations are too often lumped together under the banner "animal rights groups". This is a mistake. In reality, animal welfare groups and animal rights groups have very different philosophies and views regarding the use and treatment of animals.

The animal rights philosophy opposes the use of all animals, for any purpose, no matter how humane: for food (including the use of animals for dairy or eggs); for assistance (including guide dogs or police dogs); and for companionship (including the ownership of pets). Animal rights supporters believe that all living beings are equal, and that humans have no right to dominate over, use, breed or eat non-human species. Overall, animal rights groups work for humane care and legislation only as a means to achieve their goal of ending all use of animals

by humans. The most extreme animal rights groups have been linked to illegal activities including arson and vandalism.

The animal welfare philosophy – reflective of the values of the majority of Canadians – promotes the responsible and humane use of animals. Animal welfarists understand that humans have an innate interdependency with animals in many respects, such as farming, fishing/hunting, companionship and assistance. In all circumstances where animals are used by humans, they must be treated humanely and with respect.

The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies is an animal welfare organization. The CFHS accepts those animal use practices that can be conducted with respect and humaneness, and

works with those industries to improve the treatment and well-being of the animals in their care. However, we oppose certain activities whereby the nature of the activity precludes respect and humane treatment of animals, such as the use of exotic animals in travelling circuses. Our goal is not to stop all uses of animals by humans but to encourage compassionate and humane treatment of all animals and to prevent cruelty and abuse. We strongly promote the value of pets, and collaborate with our member humane societies and SPCAs to educate the public about responsible pet ownership, and to promote compassion toward animals.

To learn more about the CFHS, or to become an animal welfare champion, visit www.cfhs.ca or call us at 1-888-678-2347.

Great summer reading!

The SMARTER than JACK books contain true stories submitted by the public and are sure to convince you that humans may not be the superior beings after all!

A portion of proceeds from each book you buy goes directly to help the CFHS.



Order Details:

TITLE	#	REG. PRICE	SUMMER PRICE	SUB-TOTAL
Canadian animals are SMARTER than JACK		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Why animals are SMARTER than US		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Animals are SMARTER than JACK		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Dogs are SMARTER than JACK		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Cats are SMARTER than JACK		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Heroic animals are SMARTER than JACK		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Smart Sassy Animals		\$17.95	\$15.95	
Shipping (1 st book \$4.00 + 2.50 for each additional book)				
Subtotal				
GST (7%)				
Total				

SUMMER'S HERE!

The CFHS offers the following tips to ensure your pets enjoy the warmer weather safely!

- Don't leave your dog in a hot car! Keeping the windows open a crack, or leaving the air conditioning running isn't enough. If you need to run errands in hot weather, leave your pets at home!
- If you see a dog locked in a hot car, don't hesitate to call your local humane society or SPCA, or even your local police.
- Exercise... in moderation. When the mercury climbs and the humidity sets in, make sure you don't overdo your jog with Rover or Fido's fetch session. Swimming – or even a dip in the kiddie pool – are great hot weather activities for your dog.



- Keep your pet healthy! Make sure you protect your pet against heartworm, fleas and other parasites this summer!
- Keep your dog inside the car! Dogs love to feel the wind in their hair on a beautiful summer drive, but debris and irritants can be dangerous for their eyes. Also never drive with a dog loose in the bed of a pick up truck.

For more petsafe tips, and to find out how you can help support the CFHS' public education initiatives, visit www.cfhs.ca.

Member society news

Ontario SPCA aids Kashechewan's animals

On Feb. 13th, Ontario SPCA's Spay North team flew to the First Nations Community of Kashechewan to provide veterinary services to the community's animal population. By the end of their 5-day mission, the team vaccinated and dewormed 119 cats and dogs. Of these, 104 were spayed and neutered (34 dogs spayed and 57 neutered; 7 cats spayed and 6 neutered).



veterinary service. By spaying and neutering the dogs and cats we have effectively addressed the dog overpopulation issue as well as the health and well-being of the animals and the community residents."

The team also brought back 29 animals that were surrendered to the Ontario SPCA and taken to its facilities and the Lincoln County Humane Society. The

animals will eventually be available for adoption.

In April, OSPCA staff once again came to the aid of Kashechewan's more than 120 animals left behind following the evacuation of the community's residents due to rising floodwaters. At the request of the OSPCA, the CFHS worked tirelessly to secure funding from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to cover the cost of evacuation, boarding, treatment and return of the animals - an excellent example of the invaluable national support CFHS can provide to member societies.

OSPCA sent the rescued animals to Sudbury, where they were placed in a number of boarding facilities in northern Ontario. Some of the dogs also went to the North Bay & District Humane Society and the Timmins Humane Society.



"I believe this project was a huge success," says OSPCA Senior Inspector Alison McAllister. "We believe there is a significant dog overpopulation problem in isolated northern communities because of the lack of available

Book Reviews

by Tanya O'Callaghan
N. Glenn Perrett



Smart Sassy Animals

Avocado Press
2006, 160 pages
ISBN: 0-9582571-4-0

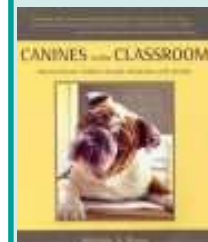
Smart Sassy Animals is a phenomenal collection of funny animal stories, and the incredible things animals have done to get what they want.

Imagine a Staffordshire Bull Terrier so scared of Great Danes that she plays dead in an attempt to disinterest the giant dogs. Or a cockatoo that tells children playing on the street to "Get off the road, you'll get run over!"

These are only a few examples of the amazing stories of animals who show off their sense of humour and their ingenuity to get what they want, or simply to enlighten our lives – and their own.

Just a word of warning: if you're reading this book in public, you'll need to be prepared for the strange looks when you spontaneously burst out laughing!

Canines in the Classroom: Raising Humane Children through Interactions with Animals



Michelle A. Rivera
Lantern Books
2004, 265 pages
ISBN: 1590560531

Canines in the Classroom: Raising Humane Children through Interactions with

Animals is an informative book written by Michelle A. Rivera. Rivera talks about the importance of being kind to animals along with many positive ways to achieve this goal. She also discusses many common mistakes that should be avoided – including having exotic animals in the classroom, and problems with 4-H clubs. Rivera's book effectively covers many topics of importance to humane educators including the chapter "The Birds and the Bees" which offers excellent teaching ideas and lessons for children pertaining to the overpopulation of dogs and cats.

Rivera's compassionate and detailed look at humane education and the vital role that it plays in raising kinder, wiser children makes it a valuable resource for parents and teachers and a "must read" for humane educators.

Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship




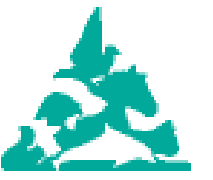
told by Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff and Dr. Paula Kahumbu
Scholastic Press
2006, 34 pages
ISBN: 0439829739
ages 4-8

Owen and Mzee is the true story of Owen, a baby hippopotamus who was separated from his pod and stranded on a coral reef after the tsunami of December 26, 2004 hit. Owen was rescued by compassionate people and taken to Haller Park (an animal sanctuary outside of Mombasa, Kenya) where he became best friends with Mzee, a 130-year-old giant Aldabra tortoise. The beautiful story is complemented with photos and sends several positive messages including, "Our most important friends are sometimes those we least expected."

Animal cruelty amendments at a glance

	What's wrong with the current legislation?	How does Bill S-213 address it?	How would effective legislation address this problem?*
Wilful neglect	<p>The wording of the current offence of wilful neglect requires proof of a person's intent. The requirement that a person intended to neglect their animals makes it extremely difficult to lay charges, as is proven in the following example:</p> <p>A Saskatchewan farmer allowed more than 30 sheep to starve to death and his other animals were emaciated. The SPCA visited numerous times over several months advising him to provide proper feed and bedding. Ultimately he was charged with causing wilful neglect but the judge found him not guilty as he did not feel the farmer intended to starve his animals.</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>Under this legislation, crimes of neglect will continue to be nearly impossible to punish appropriately.</p>	<p>Effective legislation introduces the term negligent and defines it as "departing markedly from the standard of care that a reasonable person would use."</p>
Killing an animal	<p>It is currently an offence to kill an owned animal without lawful excuse. For example, animals may be killed in the pursuit of lawful activities such as farming or research.</p> <p>However, wild or stray animals can be killed for any reason.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Bill S-213 still would not extend any protection to wild or unowned animals.</p>	<p>Effective legislation makes it an offence to kill any animal without a lawful excuse.</p> <p>Lawful excuse includes hunting, fishing, farming, euthanasia and protection of life and property.</p>
Brutal and vicious	<p>The current legislation does not address brutally or viciously killing an animal as a form of violence.</p> <p>Several years ago in Edmonton, two young men tied a dog to a tree and beat it to death with a baseball bat. Because the veterinarian testified that the dog died instantly on the first blow, the men could not be convicted of causing unnecessary pain and suffering.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Cases such as this one from Edmonton would continue to go unpunished.</p>	<p>Effective legislation makes it an offence to kill an animal with brutal or vicious intent, whether or not the animal dies immediately. This would allow the Criminal Code to address a particularly heinous form of violence in our society.</p>
Different protection for different animals	<p>Current legislation refers to different animals and protects them differently.</p> <p>It contains a separate section and offences for cattle and also refers to dogs, birds and "other animals".</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Bill S-213 maintains the confusing language of the current legislation, enacted in 1892.</p>	<p>Effective legislation applies to all vertebrates equally whether they are owned or unowned and includes special provisions for the protection of law enforcement animals.</p>
Definition	<p>There is currently no definition of animal.</p>	<p>No change.</p>	<p>Effective legislation includes the following definition: "A vertebrate, other than a human being."</p>
Property section	<p>Currently, crimes against animals are considered property offences. Contemporary Canadian values place animals as more than just simple property, but rather as feeling, sentient beings.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Bill S-213 continues to entrench the century-old concept that animals need to be protected simply as someone's property.</p>	<p>Effective legislation moves animal cruelty out of the property section of the Criminal Code to better reflect modern Canadian values.</p>
Fighting and training	<p>The current legislation does not make it an offence to train animals to fight other animals, nor to receive money for the fighting of animals.</p>	<p>No change.</p>	<p>Effective legislation makes it an offence to train an animal to fight and receive money for animal fighting and training.</p>
Penalties	<p>In the current law, the penalties do not appropriately punish perpetrators nor act as a deterrent. The bill also provides different penalties for crimes against cattle.</p> <p>There is currently no provision for cost recovery for those who provide care and treatment (such as SPCAs, humane societies or veterinarians) for animals that have been abused.</p>	<p>Bill S-213 provides greater flexibility in sentencing by allowing animal cruelty crimes to be prosecuted as either summary conviction or indictable offences.</p> <p>Maximum penalties are either a jail term of up to five years and unlimited fines for indictable offences; or fines of up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment of up to 18 months for summary convictions.</p> <p>The bill also includes up to a lifetime prohibition on ownership, and those found guilty can be ordered to pay restitution.</p>	<p>Effective legislation contains all these penalties, and in addition, applies to unowned animals.</p>

* The problems with current legislation were all addressed in Bill C-50

 <p>a newsletter of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies Volume 19, Number 1</p> <p><i>As the national voice of humane societies and SPCAs, the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies supports its member animal welfare organizations across Canada in promoting respect and humane treatment toward all animals.</i></p>	<p>Portions of this newsletter may be reproduced or quoted with appropriate credit.</p> <p>The views expressed in <i>Animal Welfare in Focus</i> are not necessarily those of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies.</p>	<p>Editor Tanya O'Callaghan</p> <p>Contributors Steve Carroll Shelagh MacDonald Tanya O'Callaghan Ontario SPCA N. Glenn Perrett</p> <p>Layout & Design Pat Sample</p>	<p>Canadian Federation of Humane Societies</p> <p>102-30 Concourse Gate Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7V7</p> <p>613-224-8072 Fax: 613-723-0252 Toll Free: 1-888-678-CFHS E-mail: info@cfhs.ca</p> <p>www.cfhs.ca Charitable Reg. # 11883 0884 RR0001</p>	<p>President Robin Jackson</p> <p>Chief Executive Officer Steve Carroll</p> 
---	--	--	---	---