

WHISTLER ANIMALS GALORE



# WAG ANNUAL REPORT

# 2022



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# INTRODUCTION



We are proud to be a unique Animal Shelter who values the lives of senior, palliative, and special/behaviour needs animals as much as we do our kittens and puppies.

WAG places a strong emphasis on rehabilitation, critical, and compassionate care.

## Vision

Through education and awareness, create a safe and loving community for dogs, cats and people to enjoy together.

## Mission

Our mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment to homeless and lost dogs and cats in our community and to be advocates in finding their forever homes.

# MESSAGE FROM WAGS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of WAG

We were elated to turn 40 this year! WAG was founded in 1982 when two friends identified the need for an animal rescue service in the Sea-to-Sky corridor. Since then, WAG has grown into a respected community asset, and leader in animal welfare. I am so incredibly proud to be a part of the WAG team, and I am grateful to all of the past and current directors, staff, volunteers and supporters for making WAG who we are today.

Today WAG is a unique animal shelter servicing the entire Sea to Sky Corridor and beyond, reaching many isolated and remote communities such as Tipella, Skatine, Port Douglas, Anihaim Lake, D'Arcy, Seaton Portage and the list goes on. We go where our help is the needed the most and often that is down a very long dirt road to remote, communities with no veterinarian access, no cell service and often with financial challenges.

At WAG we are proud to be an animal shelters who values the lives of senior, palliative, and special needs animals as much as we do our kittens and puppies. Alongside other amazing rescues like PAWS in Pemberton and the C.A.R.E Network in Tofino, we lead by example and understand that many animals who need our help have challenges and need behaviour modification, patience, time and understanding. Physical or emotional rehabilitation has always been our focus as many of the animals who end up at WAG have had a trauma happen in their lives.

We are grateful to have continuing support of so many local business, including the RMOW, First Mate Pet Foods, Zog's and Moguls and so many more! Their generosity and devotion to WAG and our mission fills our hearts with hope.

On behalf of all the animals of WAG, thank you for 40 years of rescue, adoptions, rehabilitation, donations and support!

With Love,  
Lindsay Suckling  
Executive Director



**"At WAG value the lives of senior, palliative, and special needs animals as much as we do our kittens and puppies."**

# THE WAG TEAM



**2022**

## Board of Directors

Denise Wood - Board Chair  
Renee Erdman  
Sarah Stead  
Judith Thompson  
Jack Crompton  
Sherry Klassen  
Jessie Morden

**2022**

## WAG Staff

Lindsay Suckling – Executive Director  
Catherine Mazza – (Past) Assistant Manger and Marketing  
Coordinator  
Mallory Jensen– (New) Assistant Manager and Adoptions  
Coordinator  
Kendall Benbow – Marketing and Fundraising Coordinator  
Martha Oliver - Volunteer Coordinator  
Imogen Lowery - Shelter Assistant  
Robyn Bosada - Shelter Assistant  
Breanna Petch - Shelter Assistant  
Corrine Boles - Shelter Assistant

**WAG**

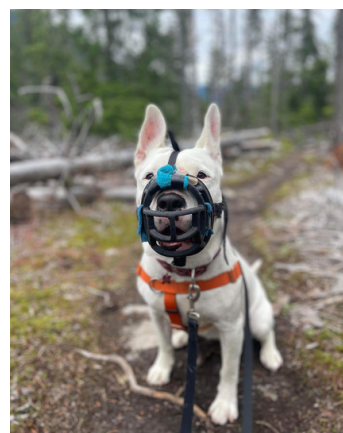
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# 2022 SHELTER HIGHLIGHTS



## Voted Whistler's Best Non-Profit 10 years in a row!

WAG is honoured to be named Whistler's 'Favourite Non-Profit' 2022 in Pique's annual Best of Whistler awards for the 10th year in a row! We want to thank our community for voting for us and supporting the work we do. We are thrilled that our very own Denise Wood is Whistler's Favourite Volunteer. She is incredibly deserving of this award, Denise dedicates a lot of time and love to WAG animals, through walking dogs, making and selling bandanas for donations and serving over 10 years on the WAG board of Directors.



## Lola goes to school with Whistler's Dog Nanny!

Lola originally came to WAG in 2018 when she was impounded by the RCMP and her previous caregivers were arrested, they never returned for Lola. Due to her neglectful and abusive past Lola is untrusting of new people especially men, and is dog reactive.

She has been at WAG for 4 years, our longest resident yet. To help with her adoptability Lola was invited to join Whistler Dog Nanny's Parallel Walk Club. Lola doesn't have any dog friends, however she has learned to see other dogs and even walk side by side with a few dogs and not react! We are so proud of Lola and grateful for Kayla with Whistler Dog Nanny for being one of Lola's champions! We hope 2023 is Lola's year to find her foreverhome.

# 2022 COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

WAG provides meaningful community engagement opportunities through our volunteer and foster programs and community events. These programs greatly enrich the lives of community members who learn about animal behaviour, welfare, sheltering, event planning, training, disease prevention, and most importantly empathy and compassion towards animals.



## WAG Woof Water

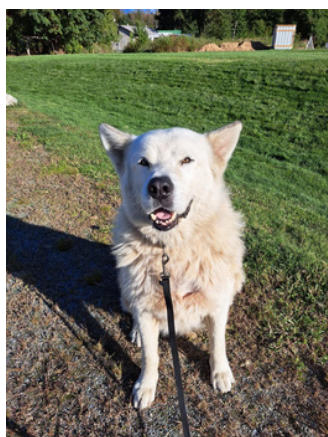
In partnership with Arts Whistler, WAG presented a dog jumping competition at Art on the Lake.

## School Tours

School Visits – classes and camps of children ages 4- 10 joined us at WAG for educational shelter visits, to learn about animal welfare and behaviour.

## 100 Women in Whistler

We were voted charity of choice by the 100 Women of Whistler - in support of our life saving Critical and Compassionate Care Program.



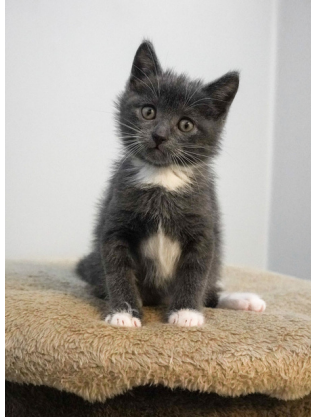
## 2022 Animal Wellness Clinics

In partnership with the Pemberton Veterinary Hospital and Coast Mountain Veterinary Clinic WAG hosted 4 Animal Wellness Clinics in the Lil'Wat Nation Community. During the clinics we saw 80 animal attendees, all were vaccinated, examined by a Vet, given parasite control and a voucher for a low cost spay and neuter. The clinics play a vital role in our shared goal of reducing the stray animal population in the Lil'wat Nation community, reducing animal suffering and positively impacting the local health and safety of the animals and human residents.

Our wellness clinics and low-cost spay and neuter programs are aimed towards assisting families and animals to stay together. We offer a low-cost spay and neuter program year-round to families needing financial assistance.

# 2022 ANIMAL STATS

2022 was a busy year, In total WAG took in 124 animals!



## Adoptions - 74

every animal is unique and our adoption program is designed to not just put animals in homes, but to match them up with right fit based on temperament, age, health, strengths and challenges. We work hard to find the right forever homes for our animals, we offer pre and post adoption support to set our animals up for success!



## FANS - 20

We offer a low-cost spay and neuter program for low-income families needing assistance, this program helps reduce the number of unwanted litters while also allowing families to keep their animals rather than having to surrender or to continue having litters. In 2022 we doubled the number of FANS recipients from 2021, with 20 animals getting fixed!

## Strays - 31

WAG shelters lost and stray animals, we care for these animals until we can reunite them with their families. When an animal is not claimed WAG takes on the care of that animal and will place them up for adoption after vet exams, behaviour assessments, and spay and neuter surgeries are done. In 2022 WAG took in 31 stray animals, we reunited 22 of those animals with their families and took on the care of the remaining 9.



## Critical Care - 34

A Critical Care case is any medical need or expense that goes beyond our routine vet care, and spay-neuter protocol. In 2022 we cared for 3 animal with cancer, 2 senior cats with diabetes, 1 senior cat with pancreatitis, 1 broken hip, 3 broken legs, 1 leg amputation, multiple eye and dentals surgeries, 3 litters of puppies and kittens who needed to be bottle fed every 2-4 hours, and a sweet senior dog named Copper who was surrendered to us at 16 year old. Those are just a few of the 34 cases we saw in 2022, we are able to say "YES!" to these animals who need us the most because of our incredible supporters, donors, critical care foster homes and amazing veterinary clinics who offer us shelter discounts.

## Surrenders - 86

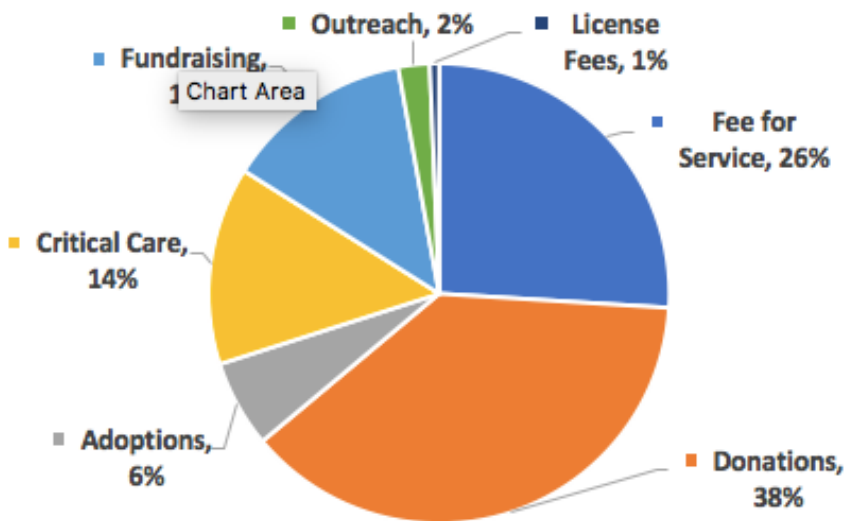
Community members sadly surrender their pets for many reasons including vet costs, lack of pet friendly housing, and behaviour issues. In 2022 WAG took in 86 surrendered animals.



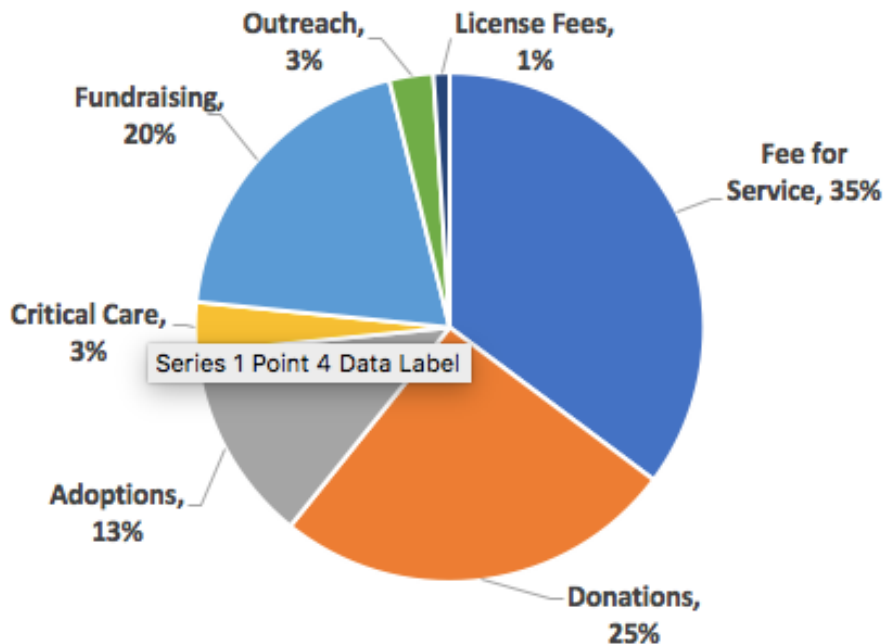


# Financials - Revenue

The 2022 Financial Statement, prepared by independent accounting firm Valley Business Centre, is available upon request to [wag@whistlerwag.com](mailto:wag@whistlerwag.com)



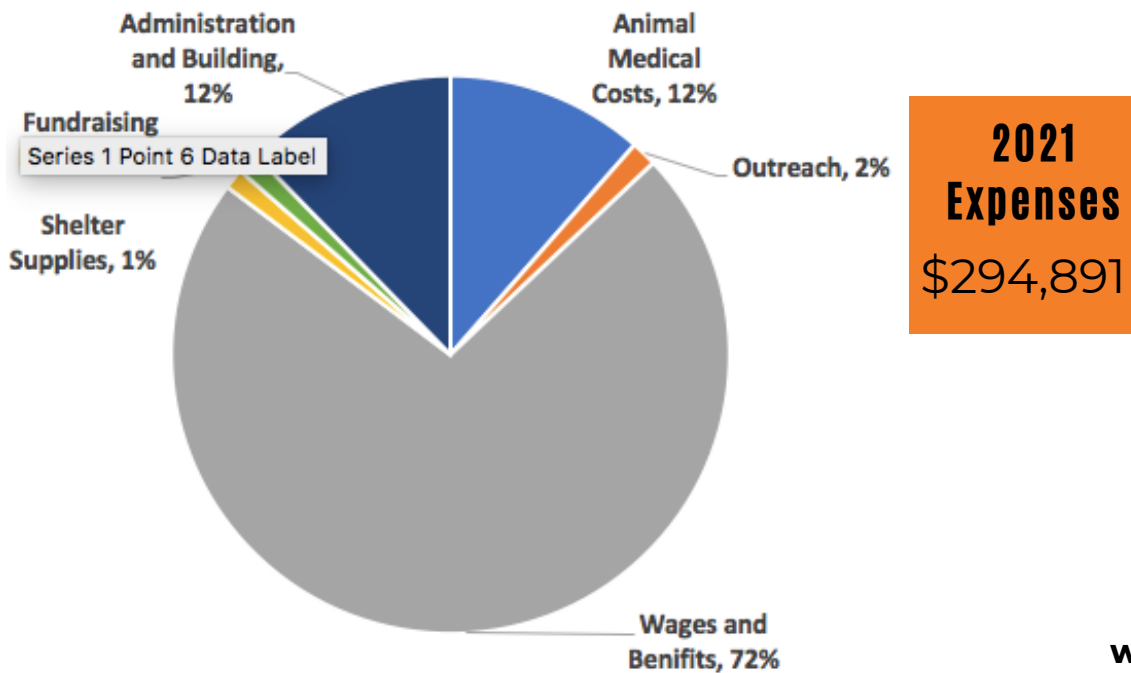
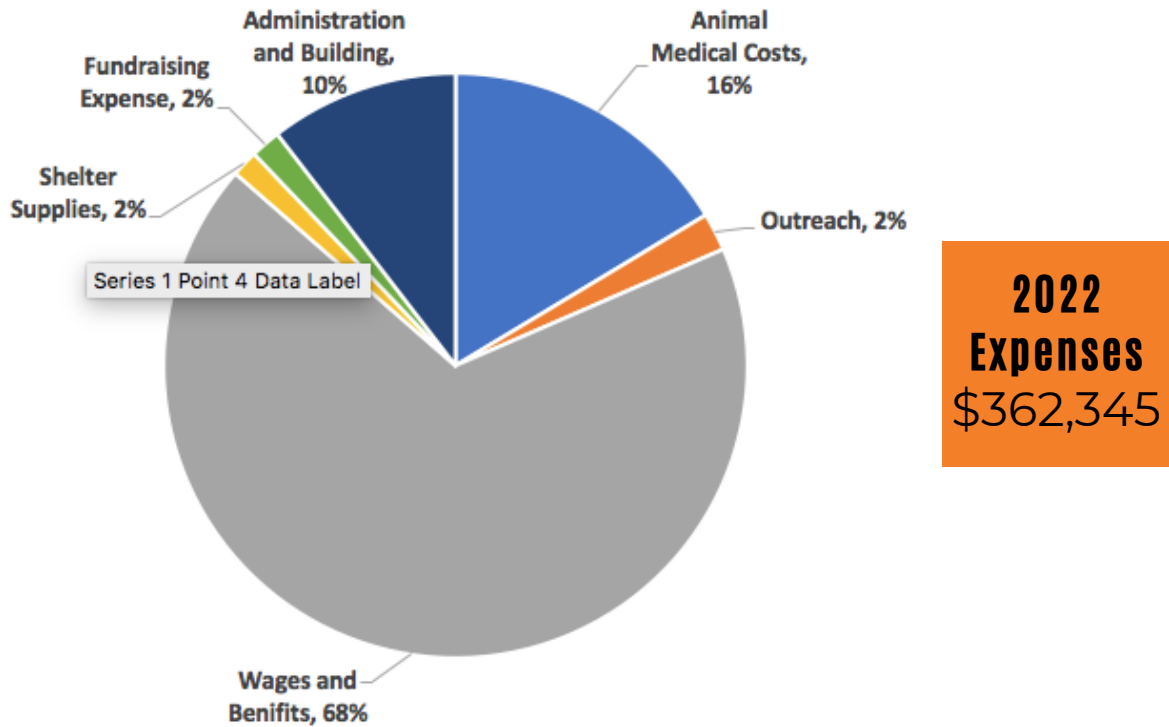
**2022  
Revenue  
\$393,362**



**2021  
Revenue  
\$333,641**

# Financials - Expenses

The 2022 Financial Statement, prepared by independent accounting firm Valley Business Centre, is available upon request to [wag@whistlerwag.com](mailto:wag@whistlerwag.com)



# ANIMAL STORIES

## Cal and Sol - Adopted!

Cal and Sol are true examples of rehabilitation success! These boys were part of a feral litter who were surrendered to our partner shelter (PAWS) in Pemberton. Luna, Stella, Cal and Sol - the most adorable group of totally under socialized teenagers! PAWS needed help so Stella, Cal and Sol were transferred into our care. Stella was quickly adopted into a home who had experience working with feral WAG dogs. After over a year of being at WAG the boys were adopted out together, however through no fault of their own they were returned to WAG after a few months. This was heartbreaking for the boys and staff, but WAG never gives up on our animals and we will always take them safely back into our care.

During their time at WAG they gained confidence, were able to meet new human and dogs friends and gradually started feeling comfortable when separated from each other. After a long 3 year journey at WAG, both boys were happily adopted into loving homes in 2022! Sol got to move in with his sister Luna in Pemberton and Cal got to move to the island with another WAG dog Alumni. The boys have stayed in touch and still love to play together!



# ANIMAL STORIES

## Oakley and her Mushroom Litter

This beautiful Momma came to WAG with her new born puppies. Oakley had gotten pregnant before her family could book her a spay appointment, the large litter was a total surprise, and her family needed help. We took in Oakley and her pups, so we could help her raise and feed her large litter, while making sure all puppies were gaining weight and developing properly. Once her puppies were finally weaned and eating on their own Oakley got to go home. we brought Oakley back to her home and she was thrilled to be reunited with her family. Once Oakley recovered from her pregnancy she was spayed. She is a puppy herself and thanks to our FANS (low costs spay and neuter program) she won't have the stress of being a young mother (again).

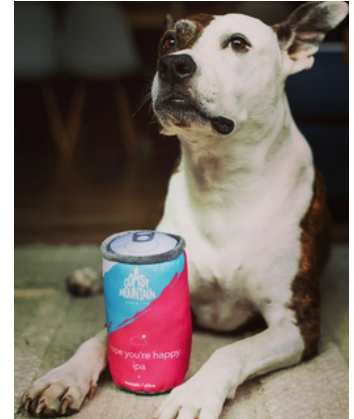
This amazing program helps reduce the number of unwanted litters while also allowing families to stay together.



**Reuniting Oakley with her family was one of the happiest moments!**

# 2022 MAIN FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

- **WAG Calendar Photo Contest**  
Fun engaging photo contest



- **WAG. WOOF. WATER**  
First time event, partnered with Arts Whistler to present a dog jumping competition as part of the Arts on the Lake weekend

- **Pups + Pints at Coast Mountain Brewing**  
First time event held at our local brewery, dogs and their humans were invited for a patio party raising \$1173 for WAG

- **Pet Photos with Santa**  
A family favorite event held at the Westin Whistler. Santa saw children, dogs, cats and even a pet python this year!

- **Matching Campaign**  
The owners of Zog's Whistler and Moguls Coffee House generously matched December Donations dollar for dollar up to \$25k. This is the third year in a row  
We are thrilled to have raised a total \$56,844!



# OUR INCREDIBLE SPONSORS



Corporate Partner:

Resort Municipality of Whistler

### Fee for Service:

Resort Municipality of Whistler  
Village of Pemberton

### Pet Food Sponsor:

First Mate Pet Foods

### Veterinary Partners:

Eagleview Veterinary Hospital  
Pemberton Veterinary Hospital  
Mountainside Animal Hospital  
Points East West Veterinary Services  
Coast Mountain Veterinary Services

### Foundations & Trusts:

Brooke & Tracey Wade Foundation  
Calgary Foundation  
Margoli's Family Foundation  
Paws for Hope Animal Foundation  
Rotary Club of Whistler  
The John C. and Sally Horsfall Eaton Foundation  
Whistler Blackcomb Foundation  
Don & Lorraine Moore Foundation



### Annual Monetary Donors:

Bandannas by Denise, Denise Wood  
Blackcomb Flowers  
Coast Mountain Brewing  
Moguls Coffee House, Whistler  
Pan Pacific Hotel, Whistler  
Tito's Vodka  
WOW Treats & More  
Zog's Whistler  
100 Women of Whistler

### Annual In Kind Donors:

Bravo Dog; Training & Behavior Consulting  
First Mate Pet Foods  
Happy Pets, Whistler  
Hollow Tree Candle Co.  
Pet Secure Pet Insurance  
Whistler Dog Nanny  
WOW Treats and More

### Rescue Partners:

Pemberton Animal Wellbeing Society

### Animal Wellness Clinics:

Lil'wat Nation  
Pemberton Veterinary Hospital  
Coast Mountain Veterinary Hospital



WAG

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# IN MEMORY



**To the beautiful souls who passed in 2022, you were loved and part of our WAG family.**

## **Contact:**

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