### Animal Welfare in Practice: Companion Animals

**Animal Protection** 

#### **APO Mike Gilbertson PEIHS**

#### Enough about me...







- Animal Protection Officers
- Shelter Staff
- Shelter Veterinarian
- Volunteers
- Donors



## **APO Resources**

- Island wide coverage
- 24/7 coverage (working or on call)
- 2 APOs Monday to Saturday, 1 on Sunday
- APOs
  - 3 fulltime
  - 2 to 3 part time / relief
- 2 vehicles



## **Two Main APO Functions**

- Animal Control
  - Enforcement of the Provincial Dog Act
  - Enforcement of municipal animal control bylaws for Charlottetown, Cornwall, and Stratford
- Animal Protection
  - Emergency response for injured animals
  - Enforcement of the Provincial Animal Welfare Act

## Dog Act

- At Large Dogs
- Dangerous Dogs





## Bylaw Enforcement

- At large dogs
- Dogs confined for pick up
- Barking
- Poop and Scoop



## Animal Welfare

- PEIHS under contract with the province
- Enforcement & shelter services
- Companion animals



## **Emergency Response**

• Injured or ill stray animals





## Animal Welfare Act

- Inspections
- Investigations
- Summary Offence Tickets
- Orders
- Seizures
- Search Warrants
- Prohibitions
- Surrenders



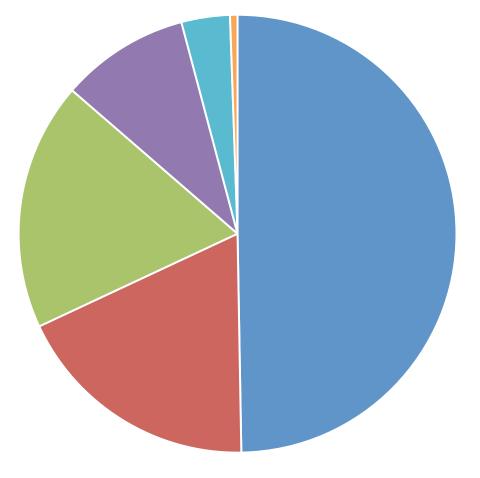
## **Criminal Code**

- Uttering threats
- Unnecessary suffering
- Bestiality
- APOs have no direct authority
- Liaise with Police and Crown



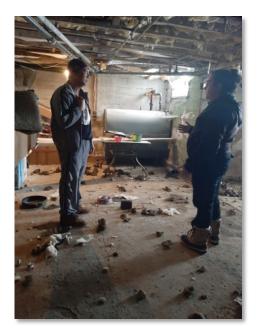
#### 2020 APO Cases

2020 Case Numbers (743)



# Welfare Investigations

- Receive complaints
- Conduct investigations
- Interview witnesses & suspects
- Gather evidence
- Report writing
- Determine course of action



# Case Types

- Abuse/cruelty
- Emergency Housing
- Injured/Illness
- No food/water/shelter
- Temp. related calls
- Welfare Check

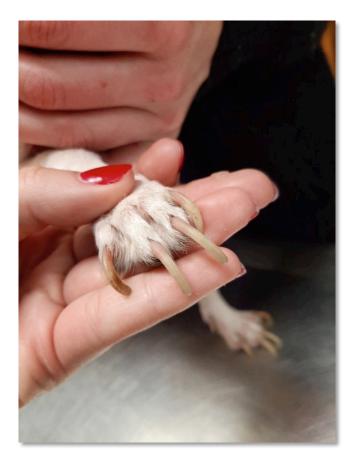


### Abuse/Cruelty



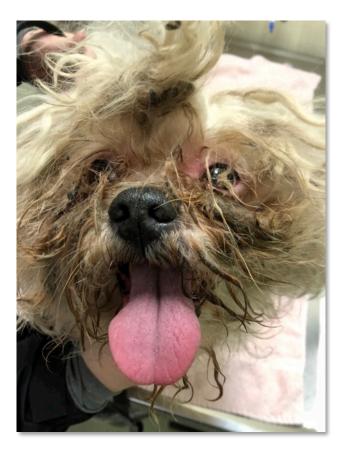


## Neglect





#### **Before & After**





# Hoarding





#### Breeders





#### Before & After





## Shared Interests/Clients

- Police Agencies
- Conservation Officers
- Crown Prosecutors
- Public Health
- Fire Departments
- Child and Family Services
- Probation Services
- Veterinarians



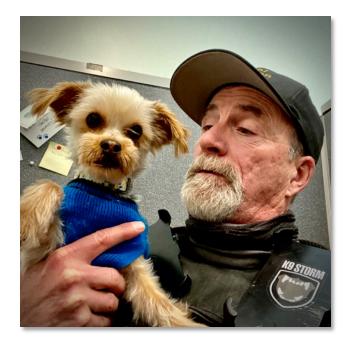
# Shared Challenges

- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Other criminal record
- Violence Link



### Puppies & Kittens





#### Thanks!

#### APO Mike Gilbertson PEIHS apo1@peihumanesociety.com

902-892-1191

902-892-1190

#### **Animal Protection**