



Enforcement Day Pre-Conference Schedule

November 20, 2019 — Toronto, Ontario

Ryerson University, Room: Tecumseh Auditorium

Presented by Humane Canada

Humane Canada is the national voice for humane societies and SPCAs. Founded in 1957, Humane Canada works toward positive, progressive change to end animal cruelty, improve animal protection and promote the humane treatment of all animals. As the convener and representative of the largest animal welfare community in Canada, Humane Canada advances the welfare of companion animals, farm animals and wildlife with government, policymakers, industry and the public.

As the Violence Link becomes better established, law enforcement is looked to for protection and guidance. Humane Canada recognizes the lack of Violence Link training available for law enforcement professionals and has therefore created this Enforcement Day Pre-Conference event. Working as a part of the Canadian Violence Link Coalition the enforcement sub-committee began training police officers across Ontario in 2017. This training is a part of the 2019 Enforcement Day Pre-Conference.

For more information on the police training, the Canadian Violence Link Coalition or Humane Canada please visit [registration](#).

Conference Agenda

8:00 am	Registration and Breakfast	
8:15 am	Welcome and Introduction to the Conference	
8:30 am	<u>The Violence Link in Police Work: practical applications from calls for service through investigation to the paperwork</u>	Sgt. Teena Stoddart , Ottawa Police Service
9:30am	<u>Prosecuting the Violence Link: accurate and innovative charging to better protect people and animals</u>	Mandy MacLeod , Family Protection Prosecutor, Alberta Crown Prosecution Service
10:15 am	BREAK	
10:30 am	<u>Recognizing Signs & Symptoms of Animal Abuse</u>	Dr. Margaret Doyle , DVM, VCA Riverbend Animal Clinic
11:30pm	<u>Training Law Enforcement in the Violence Link: best practices from Europe</u>	Mark Randell , Retired Detective Inspector UK Police, Hidden-in-Sight with Naturewatch Foundation
12:15 pm	LUNCH	
1:15 pm	<u>Working Interagency and in Community: violence link lessons learned from the trenches</u>	Brad Nichols , Senior Manager, Animal Cruelty Investigations, Calgary Humane Society Dr. Margaret Doyle , DVM, VCA Riverbend Animal Clinic Cst. Dennis Smithson , Community Resource Officer, Calgary Police Service



2:15 pm	<u>Best Practices for Animal Cruelty Investigations to Protect Animals, People and Workers</u>	Dr. Kendra Coulter , Chair of Labour Studies & Chancellor's Chair for Research Excellence, Brock University
3:15 pm	BREAK	
3:45 pm	<u>Improving the Effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System through Enforcement and Crown</u>	Barb Cartwright , CEO, Humane Canada Marcie Moriarty , Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer, BC SPCA Alex Janse , Administrative Crown Counsel, Ministry of Justice, Government of British Columbia
5:00 pm	ADJOURN	
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Link-Up Social Chelsea Hotel, Churchill Court // Sponsored by VCA <i>Open to all attendees including Enforcement & Prosecution Pre-Conference Events</i>	



8:30 AM - 9:30 AM:

The Violence Link in Police Work: practical applications from calls for service through investigation to the paperwork

SPEAKER:

Sgt. Teena Stoddart, Ottawa Police Service

ABSTRACT

Violence Link training is designed to provide participants with an understanding of the interrelationship between human and animal abuse. The training will provide enforcement officers with the evidenced based research on any violent crime that any police service in Canada investigates.

This training also provides officers with the practical application of Violence Link at calls for service such as 911 hang ups, elder abuse, dangerous offender applications, etc.

KEY LEARNINGS

1. What is the Violence Link
2. How can enforcement officers identify it
3. How to articulate it for court

BIO

Sergeant Teena Stoddart has been a police officer for the last 29 years supporting many critical thinking positions within her distinguished career.

Teena started with the Ontario Provincial Police in 1991, transferring to the Ottawa Police Service in 1998 as part of amalgamation within the National Capital Region. She has been a Sergeant since 2001, holding positions in frontline policing, Human Resources, Major Case Management, Planning, Performance and Analytics, Quality Assurance, and as the Violence Link and Animal Welfare Coordinator.

In 2010, Teena was seconded to the Ontario Behavioural Science Unit as a Viclas Analyst, where she received training on sexual serial predators. As part of her tenure with Behavioural Sciences, Teena trained other police services across the Province of Ontario.

Teena had the opportunity to work in community policing, where she assisted with the implementation of a collaborative policing initiative, better known as the Hub Model.



Teena has volunteered with the Ottawa Humane Society for more than 15 years, assisting with event planning. Teena started volunteering with the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies in 2009, and was instrumental in coordinating a meeting with the Justice Minister's office to support changes to animal welfare legislation.

Teena has been an active member of Humane Canada's team since January 2017 and is one of the founding members of the Canadian Violence Link Coalition. Teena has served on expert discussion panels, and presented to conferences and community groups focused on the Violence Link. As a member of the Canadian Violence Link Coalition, and the person responsible for the enforcement portfolio, Teena has been instrumental in:

1. Seeing Violence Link Training for officers across Canada becoming a reality;
2. The passing of Bill C84 (Bestiality and animal fighting legislation) with amendments;
3. Ensuring threat assessment questionnaires include violence link questions;
4. Talks with Statistics Canada to ensure police services capture animal abuse statistics;
5. Encouraging Judiciary training on the Violence Link;
6. Planning the Enforcement Day Training and the 2019 CVLC;
7. Providing a network for on-going violence link work.

Teena has played an integral role on the planning committee for both the 2017 and 2019 Canadian Violence Link Conference, and the Enforcement Day pre-conference.

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM:

Prosecuting the Violence Link: accurate and innovative charging to better protect people and animals

SPEAKER:

Mandy MacLeod, Alberta Crown

ABSTRACT

This session explores the current status of the Violence Link. The legal status of animals, chargeable offences against people and animals, and other applications of the Link including in sentencing are covered.

KEY LEARNINGS

1. Understand how the criminal law views animals;
2. Identify Link crimes against both people and animals;
3. Appreciate how the Link informs sentencing of offenders.



BIO:

Mandy MacLeod is a Crown Prosecutor specializing in family protection: the prosecution of the abuse of intimate partners, children, the elderly, and animals. Mandy is a proud member of the National Centre for the Prosecution of Animal Cruelty Steering Committee and the Canadian Violence Link Coalition. She is excited to be at the table during the formation of Edmonton's Animal Protection Task Force. Check out her TEDxTalk entitled, "Protect Pets, Protect People: Time for Legal Change" for more info and for several glamorous photographs of her beloved cat Smudge.

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM:

Recognizing Signs & Symptoms of Animal Abuse

SPEAKER:

Dr. Margaret Doyle, DVM, VCA Riverbend Animal Clinic

ABSTRACT & KEY LEARNINGS

This session will look at animal cruelty investigations through the lens of a forensic veterinarian. The training will provide participants with the tools to apply the Violence Link to their every day work. In this session you will learn about the different forms of cruelty towards animals, signs of stress in animals, behavioural & physiological responses and how to articulate the signs of stress in animals or animal abuse for court purposes.

BIO:

Dr. Margaret Doyle was raised in southern Alberta and studied sciences at the University of Calgary before moving to Ireland to pursue veterinary medicine. A 2009 MVB graduate she returned to Canada to small animal practice in Calgary. Currently Dr. Doyle works out of the Riverbend Animal Clinic in Calgary where she is proud to be a part owner with VCA Canada. Dr. Doyle provides forensic consulting services for the law enforcement agencies across Canada. Through her work with local law enforcement she has been involved in hundreds of animal cruelty cases in the Calgary area from crime scene analysis to providing expert witness testimony in court. Dr. Doyle is a certified forensic veterinarian and holds a masters in veterinary forensics from the University of Florida. Dr. Doyle is a member of the ABMVA animal welfare committee and through seats on other committees in Calgary she is committed to improving working relationships between law enforcement agencies and the veterinary community. Her goal is the facilitation of better handling of animal cruelty cases to benefit the animals directly and assist in risk assessment utilizing animal cruelty as an indicator for future violent crimes.



11:30 AM – 12:15 PM:

Training Law Enforcement in the Violence Link: best practises from Europe

SPEAKER:

Mark Randell, Retired Detective Inspector UK Police, Hidden-in-Sight with Naturewatch Foundation

ABSTRACT:

Mark Randell, a retired Senior Police Detective of the United Kingdom, has helped introduce a practical response to the research behind The Link. A career of innovative policing, including challenging traditional approaches on border security and undercover policing, has allowed him help tackle animal abuse from a unique angle. Now with an extensive knowledge of how animal Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) work internationally, he can often find a middle way of collaborative working that benefits animals, the humans caught up in the violence – and the strategic aims of Law Enforcement and the NGOs.

In 2013 Randell started a project to illuminate police officers in Europe how, by investigating animal abuse professionally, other crimes can be uncovered. Thereby safer communities can be created for all. From Greece to Ukraine, working with animal advocates as partners, the intention is to help change the way animal crime is perceived and how it links into existing policing strategies without a need to create new priorities.

The training works with real cases to uncover what was missed or discovered when a report of animal cruelty was made. As a result, attitudes are slowly changing, and animals are being seen as an integral part of a community that requires protection. Partnerships are developing between advocates and law enforcement that enable increased chances of successful prosecutions. Laws and sentences are also being reviewed and, in some places, increased.

The intention of the presentation is to show attendees this project, as well as some of the other excellent work on The Link taking place across Europe and how adaptations have to be made; depending on culture, language and attitudes.

There will also be the chance to see that animal cruelty already connects to many existing policing priorities in Europe and that, by developing effective partnerships with animal groups, progress can be made in many other areas of community policing.

Until animal abuse is seen for what it really is – an indicator of further violence it will not be taken seriously.



KEY LEARNINGS:

1. Delivering the message about The Link to frontline police officers.
2. The situation of The Link in Europe
3. Ways to increase chances of successful animal abuse prosecutions.

BIO:

Mark Randell is a retired detective inspector from the United Kingdom Police, and director of operations for Hidden-in-Sight. He is a former senior British Police Detective and Animal Charity Director, now working to prevent animal abuse internationally. Hidden-in-Sight was created to show how professional training and undercover investigations could help tackle animal cruelty around the world. Mark Randell brings with him a wealth of knowledge on the best practices from Europe to train law enforcement in the violence link. His recent work includes projects in Greece, Italy, Namibia and the Ukraine.

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM:

Working Interagency and in Community: Violence Link lessons learned from the trenches

SPEAKERS:

Brad Nichols, Senior Manager, Animal Cruelty Investigations, Calgary Humane Society
Dr. Margaret Doyle, DVM, VCA Riverbend Animal Clinic
Cst. Dennis Smithson, Community Resource Officer, Calgary Police Service

ABSTRACT:

Physical abuse calls can be frustrating for investigators because in 90% of cases, they are presented with a happy and healthy animal and no grounds to intervene beyond education of potential consequences and appropriate training techniques. The other 10%, where the animal is found severely injured or dead, have uncanny similarities, from the ever present domestic component to the injury or death event being a direct result of an animal behavior issue, most commonly house soiling.

Calgary Humane Society's Protection and Investigations department in partnership with Calgary Police Service and forensic veterinarian Margaret Doyle, deal with these cases on a regular basis with a toolkit of education, enforcement authority, social service resources and science. Using local case studies, we will discuss the link between animal cruelty and domestic violence and how we are combating the issue in Calgary, Alberta.



KEY LEARNINGS:

1. The Link is clearly demonstrable at the field level.
2. The Link theory is a compelling argument for police involvement in animal protection.
3. Social resource programs can be a useful tool for enforcement officers battling domestic violence and animal cruelty.

BIOS:

Brad Nichols is a Mount Royal University graduate, obtaining a degree in Justice Studies in 2003. Once graduated, he joined the Calgary Humane Society animal protection team as a Special Constable. Over the last 15 years, he has investigated thousands of animal cruelty files and seized hundreds of animals toward prosecutions and convictions. Under his leadership since 2008, CHS Animal Protection and Investigations has obtained a high public profile and is internationally recognized as a leader in animal cruelty investigations. He has been able to forge strong strategic partnerships with local police agencies and forensically inclined veterinarians toward improvements in animal welfare and enforcement.

Dr. Margaret Doyle was raised in southern Alberta and studied sciences at the University of Calgary before moving to Ireland to pursue veterinary medicine. A 2009 MVB graduate she returned to Canada to small animal practice in Calgary. Currently Dr. Doyle works out of the Riverbend Animal Clinic in Calgary where she is proud to be a part owner with VCA Canada.

Dr. Doyle provides forensic consulting services for the law enforcement agencies across Canada. Through her work with local law enforcement she has been involved in hundreds of animal cruelty cases in the Calgary area from crime scene analysis to providing expert witness testimony in court. Dr. Doyle is a Certified Forensic Veterinarian and holds a Masters in Veterinary Forensics from the University of Florida.

Dr. Doyle is a member of the AbMVA animal welfare committee and through seats on other committees in Calgary she is committed to improving working relationships between law enforcement agencies and the veterinary community. Her goal is the facilitation of better handling of animal cruelty cases to benefit the animals directly and assist in risk assessment utilizing animal cruelty as an indicator for future violent crimes.

Constable Dennis Smithson has been a front line police officer in Alberta for 12 years. Initially as a rural RCMP officer then moving to Calgary Police where he spent eight years as a patrol officer, two years as an acting sergeant and most recently has moved into a role as a community resource officer.

Dennis has been tasked within CPS with creating policy and SOP for officers investigating animal abuse. Dennis has spear-headed training front line officers in appropriate responses to animal calls as well as



lecturing veterinarians and social work professionals on the link between animal abuse and domestic and interpersonal violence. He has forged strong relationships with stakeholder agencies including Calgary Humane Society, the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, Calgary Crown Prosecutors office, with the goal of raising awareness of the importance of police action on animal related crimes.

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM:

Best Practices for Animal Cruelty Investigations to Protect Animals, People and Workers

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Kendra Coulter, Chair of Labour Studies & Chancellor's Chair for Research Excellence, Brock University

ABSTRACT:

Animal cruelty investigations play an important role in addressing the human-animal Violence Link. This presentation builds from comparative research on anti-cruelty investigations policy and work in order to identify best practices that are pertinent across jurisdictions. Different approaches have been assessed to consider their ability to protect and prevent harm to animals, vulnerable people, and front-line workers. The impacts of public policy, organizational practices, and daily labour are considered, and particular attention is paid to the role of workers in confronting the abuse of animals and people. This includes those on the front lines of investigations and those in crucial supportive roles. Key findings from the research will be presented, and then members of the audience will be invited to share their experiences with what policies and practices have been most effective - and what lessons can be gleaned from both successes and failures.

KEY LEARNINGS:

1. How animal cruelty investigations are undertaken in different regions
2. How different models facilitate or discourage recognition of the Violence Link
3. Best practices and promising options for protecting people and animals

BIO:

Dr. Kendra Coulter is Chair of Labour Studies and holds the Chancellor's Chair for Research Excellence at Brock University. She is a Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics and a Member of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. She is an expert on labour involving animals and is leading a SSHRC-funded research study on best practices for animal cruelty investigations.



3:45 PM – 4:45 PM:

Improving the Effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System through Enforcement and Crown

SPEAKERS:

Barbara Cartwright, CEO, Humane Canada

ABSTRACT

This session will explore the critical importance of the collaboration between Crown and Enforcement Agencies. Together, with a panel of experts, we will examine how to best improve the effectiveness of the criminal justice system through building better, lasting and functional relationships.

KEY LEARNINGS:

1. The importance of working collaboratively
2. How to build effective relationships
3. How will building relationships between Enforcement and Crown help you

BIO:

Barbara Cartwright is an award-winning leader in animal welfare, conservation and education, with extensive experience in developing and facilitating relationships with governments, corporations and NGOs. She has established community-based companion animal welfare programs, created BC's first grizzly bear rehabilitation program and contributed to the protection of the endangered right whale. Barbara has drafted, consulted on and secured amendments to provincial and federal legislation, including updates to the Criminal Code, the Migratory Bird Act and the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. Barbara has advised some of the top organizations in the world on animal welfare policy and is consulted by all political parties on animal welfare issues. As the CEO of Humane Canada, , Barbara convenes and represents the largest animal welfare community in Canada, working to end animal cruelty, improve animal protection and promote the humane treatment of all animals. Since taking on this role, Barbara has launched the annual National Animal Welfare Conference and the National Centre for the Prosecution of Animal Cruelty, the Canadian Violence Link Coalition and Conference and as well as spearheaded the first Shelter Accreditation program in North America.