

# AnimalKind

## New approaches to measuring animal welfare

**The long-running debate about how we should treat other animals has been re-invigorated in recent years by the new field of “animal welfare science.”**

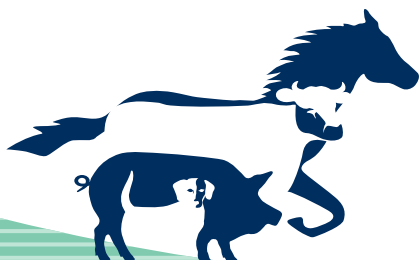
Dr. David Fraser, currently a professor in the Animal Welfare Program at the University of British Columbia, discussed these developments when he delivered the Fred Pearce Memorial Lecture in Red Deer in January.

Dr. Fraser identified three general areas of animal welfare concerns:

1. basic health and productivity
2. “affective states,” which includes the animals’ comfort, contentment and avoidance of pain and distress
3. the extent to which animals can live “natural” lives

According to Dr. Fraser, advances in science have given us tools to assess and improve all three areas of animal welfare. For example, scientific research helps us develop better housing and management practices, recognize and treat pain more effectively, and encourage important types of natural behaviour.

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Alberta  
**SPCA**

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## Generous support ensures bright future for Milk River dogs

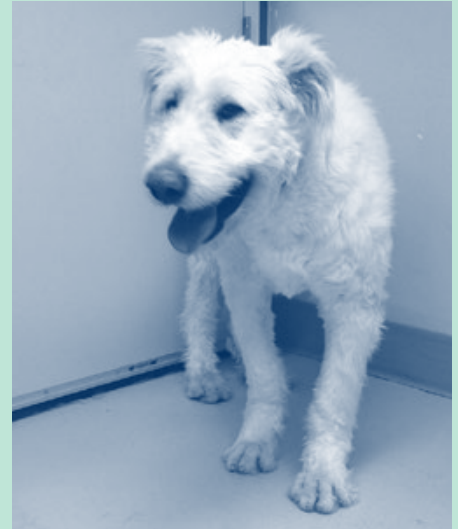
By now, you are likely aware of the recent Alberta SPCA investigation that saw our peace officers remove 201 dogs from a property near Milk River in December and January. On February 25, 2015, we filed 13 Animal Protection Act charges against the owner. Her first court appearance is scheduled for April 13.

This investigation involved the largest removal of dogs from one property in the Alberta SPCA's history. Helping these dogs took extraordinary efforts from many people and organizations. And that effort has been rewarded: most of the dogs are recuperating well and many of them have begun new lives as loved pets. Whether they are adopted or still with sheltering organizations, they are all warm, fed, healing and loved.

It is the ongoing support of our generous donors that ensures the Alberta SPCA has the resources to even consider such a large operation. Because of your donations, whether to our special Milk River appeal, as part of our monthly Animal Response Team or as one-time gifts, we are able to help animals like these dogs.

Despite our resources, the Alberta SPCA still couldn't have done it alone. We are incredibly grateful for the assistance our peace officers received on the ground from the Milk River RCMP detachment, Foothills Veterinary Clinic and Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (AARCS).

Because we took so many dogs into protective custody, we knew no single



March 8



January 15

facility could hold them all. The team at AARCS was indispensable in helping secure space at a dozen facilities around the province: AARCS; Alberta Animal Services (Red Deer); Calgary Humane Society; Heaven Can Wait Animal Rescue Foundation (High River); Hinton and District SPCA; Klassic Kennels (Red Deer); Lethbridge Animal Services; Pawsitive Match Rescue Foundation (Calgary); Prairie Rose Boarding Kennels (Tofield); Red Deer and District SPCA; Springbank Pet Resort (Calgary); Yamnuska Wolfdog Sanctuary (Cochrane).

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**AnimalKind is published by the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Alberta SPCA)**

*President:* Dr. Marion Anderson  
*Executive Director:* Terra Johnston

Opinions expressed in *AnimalKind* are not necessarily those of the Alberta SPCA.

To find out more about the work we do for animals across Alberta, visit our website at [www.albertasPCA.org](http://www.albertasPCA.org).

The mission of the Alberta SPCA is to protect, promote and enhance the well-being of animals in Alberta.

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RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN  
ADDRESSES TO THE ALBERTA SPCA:

10806 – 124 Street NW  
Edmonton, AB T5M 0H3  
Phone: 780-447-3600  
Fax: 780-447-4748  
Email: [info@albertasPCA.org](mailto:info@albertasPCA.org)

**During 2014, Alberta SPCA peace officers drove more than 650,000 km to investigate 2,342 animal welfare concerns province-wide, just a 2% increase from the annual total for 2013. In 2014, approximately 45% of the cases involved dogs, 36% involved horses, 12% involved cattle and 12% involved cats. Our peace officers laid charges under the Animal Protection Act in 20 cases in 2014. What follows are summaries of three of the successful APA convictions in 2014.**

## Lack of care results in two-horse limit for five years

**A Lamont County horse owner started feeding one of her herds after several visits from our peace officers. But then the officers discovered a second herd in distress.**

On February 23, 2013, the Alberta SPCA first received a complaint about 16 to 20 horses without food or water on a property south of Chipman. Peace Officer Stuart Dodds posted a notice for the unknown owner. On March 1, Lynda Keating, the horses' owner, called Dodds and agreed to rectify the issue.

On subsequent visits to the property our peace officers found that Keating still hadn't fed her horses. After twice posting instructions for the owner, they returned on April 16 with a search warrant. When

Peace Officers Rod McLaughlin and Ryan-Ann King arrived at the property, they found that Keating had finally provided adequate food, water and minerals for the 17 horses there.

The officers continued on to a second Keating property on Highway 16 west of Mundare. There they found more horses in poor condition and issued a warning notice to provide food and water, as well as veterinary care for specific animals on the property. A follow-up inspection with was to be made in a few weeks.

In May, the Alberta SPCA received a new public complaint about horses in distress at the Keating property on Highway 16. Peace Officers King and Dodds went to the property and found one dead horse and insufficient food and water for the others. On May 16, 2013, Peace Officers King, Dodds and McLaughlin returned to the property with a search warrant. They took into protective custody 16 horses that were in distress.

Keating pleaded guilty on April 28, 2014, in Vegreville Provincial Court. The charges were under sections 2(1), 2.1(a) and 2.1(b) of the Animal Protection Act for allowing horses to be in distress, failing to provide



adequate food and water, and failing to provide veterinary care. Keating received a five-year prohibition from having more than two horses, including horses she owns, possesses, cares for, controls or has on any property she controls.

## Farmer banned for 10 years from owning livestock

**When our peace officer searched the property about 120 km northwest of Grande Prairie, he found more than 160 dead cattle and 2 dead horses.**

On April 9, 2013, the Inspection and Investigation Branch of Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development contacted the Alberta SPCA with concerns about cattle near Bonanza. The Leiske family, who owned the property, had a contract with the Grande Prairie Feeders Association to feed and care for 233 association cattle. The Leiskes also kept their own cattle on the same feedlot.

A feeder association supervisor had conducted a random farm visit on January 31, 2013. He reported back to the association that the Leiskes had lost about 60 head of cattle and that the rest of the herd was in very poor condition. The supervisor and a second feeder association employee took over providing feed to the cattle until they could be removed for sale on February 14.

After receiving the information from Alberta ARD, Alberta SPCA Peace Officer Stan Webb obtained a warrant to search the Leiske property on April 17, 2013. He found the carcasses of 162 dead cattle and two dead horses. Analysis of bone and tissue samples determined that the cause of death was severe malnutrition.

On February 25, 2014, Tyson Leiske pleaded guilty in Grande Prairie court to four charges under the Animal Protection Act. He was fined \$10,000 and prohibited for 10 years from owning livestock.



## Owner fined \$750 for poor dog shelter

**It was snowy and windy in Lethbridge on December 3, 2013, when the Alberta SPCA received a call about a dog huddled in an unheated dog house with snow piled up around it.**

When Peace Officer Grant Love arrived to investigate it was  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The dog's bowls were covered in snow. The shivering dog looked thin and had its tail tucked between its legs. Unable to locate the owner, Peace Officer Love took the dog into protective custody and left a notice.

On December 19, the dog was returned to its owner, Edward Kubik, after Kubik agreed to and signed Peace Officer Love's conditions for proper care of the dog.

When he checked on the dog in January 2014, Peace Officer Love found it had a heated bowl and a working heat pad in the dog house. But a recheck in February found the dog whimpering and shivering in  $-32^{\circ}\text{C}$  temperatures. Peace Officer Love couldn't find the owner and took the dog into custody again.

Kubik signed a new set of conditions, including indoor housing for his dog during extreme weather, and the dog was returned to him.

On June 10, 2014, Kubik pleaded guilty in Lethbridge court to two charges under the Animal Protection Act. The judge sentenced Kubik to a total fine of \$750. 🐾

## ALBERTA SPCA ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES

**Director:** Ken Dean (Innisfail)

**Northern Region Supervisor:** Stuart Dodds (Edmonton)

**Edmonton:** Ryan-Ann King, Colin Loov, Karen Stevenson, Rod McLaughlin

**Grande Prairie:** Shirley Klatt, Stan Webb

**Southern Region Supervisor:** Rick Wheatley (Okotoks)

**Okotoks:** Angie Bailey, Grant Love, Joan Treich

**Innisfail:** Erin Deems

**Report suspected animal abuse or neglect in Alberta**

SPCAs and humane societies rely on the public to help prevent cruelty to animals. Report suspected cases of animal abuse or neglect to the appropriate agencies:

**Outside Calgary and Edmonton**  
Alberta SPCA: 1-800-455-9003

**In Calgary**  
Calgary Humane Society: 403-205-4455

**In Edmonton**  
Edmonton Humane Society:  
780-491-3502



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## Animal welfare science

Dr. Fraser has been a scientific advisor to many organizations, including the World Organization for Animal Health in Paris, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Food Marketing Institute in Washington, D.C. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 2005.

The Fred Pearce Memorial Lecture, which is sponsored by the Alberta SPCA, is the closing event of the Horse Owners' and Breeders' Conference, held every January in Red Deer. More information is available at [www.albertahorseindustry.ca](http://www.albertahorseindustry.ca).

More information about Fred Pearce and past speakers is available at: [www.albertaspca.org/about/programs-services/fred-pearce.html](http://www.albertaspca.org/about/programs-services/fred-pearce.html). 🐾



Dr. David Fraser delivered the Fred Pearce Memorial Lecture at the Horse Owners' and Breeders' Conference in Red Deer on January 11, 2015.

## Three new peace officer appointments fill out Animal Protection Services

### One of the new officers will work out of our Grande Prairie office, and the other two out of Edmonton.

Peace Officer Shirley Klatt started work at the Alberta SPCA on July 14, 2014. She covers northwestern Alberta out of our Grande Prairie office. Shirley took over from long-time officer Stan Webb, who moved to part-time hours in September.

Shirley was previously a Fish and Wildlife Officer. The Solicitor General gave her an immediate appointment in recognition of her prior knowledge and experience. Shirley knows the Grande Prairie area well from her time at Fish and Wildlife, and she has knowledge of animal issues and how to identify and assess distress.

The two new peace officers for the Edmonton office are Colin Loov and Karen Stevenson. They both started work on August 25, 2014, and received their peace officer appointments after completing the Alberta Peace Officer Investigator Program in September 2014.

Colin has taken over the area southwest of Edmonton, formerly covered by Don Ferguson, who left the Alberta SPCA last spring. Before joining APS, Colin worked as a Sheriff for 26 years (most recently at the law courts in Wetaskiwin) and before that as a prison guard. Colin has extensive animal experience from working on a family dairy farm, as well as raising horses and Texas Longhorn cattle.

Karen covers the area northeast of Edmonton. She is a Registered Animal Health Technologist who previously worked as an Animal Control Officer for the County of Sturgeon. 🐾



*continued from page 1*

## Milk River dogs

After the legal 10-day hold period expired (and the dogs' former owner was unsuccessful in getting them back), more groups stepped in to help continue the dogs' recovery and find new, permanent homes for them: Global Animal Lovers Society; Humane Animal Rescue Team (Edmonton); Infinite Woofs Animal Rescue Society (Onoway); Zoe's Animal Rescue Society (Edmonton).

Our thanks also go to the veterinarians, groomers, trainers and volunteers who have helped these many organizations with the rehabilitation of the Milk River dogs. And to all the many Albertans who support animal sheltering and welfare organizations around the province. Some of the dogs have already found permanent homes, but many more still need more work and recovery before they are ready for adoption.

From our peace officers, to veterinarians, to animal shelter and placement agencies, to you—thousands of people, from across Alberta and beyond united together to help these dogs. It's truly incredible what can be accomplished with collaboration. 🐾

## AnimalTales book program

### Now in its fifth year

Literature can be a powerful tool for students developing and shaping their moral code. Stories engage the imagination and allow readers to identify with the characters and assume their actions, which can be a great way to build empathy.

As such, we developed the *AnimalTales* book program for elementary classes. The program consists of a teachers' guide and four picture books that focus on animals and our relationship with them. The books deal with a variety of issues, such as the importance of being kind to all living things, responsible pet ownership, pet loss and bullying. The teachers' guide features discussion questions and activities that incorporate the Alberta Program of Studies while addressing the books' topics.

We can mail the program to teachers anywhere in the province. We've sent packages to schools as far north as High Level and as far south as Cardston—and everywhere in between.

Since *AnimalTales* debuted in 2010 we've added more books, podcasts, videos and SmartBoard activities. The program will continue to grow and evolve to meet the needs of teachers in the classroom.



What teachers have said:

"Our students learned that being kind, even to the smallest creature, is important; and that the way we treat other creatures is the way that we would want to be treated—with kindness and respect." — Grade 1 teacher, Edmonton

"Most of my students have pets, and the books and activities made them so much more aware of the proper treatment of their pets." — Grade 4 teacher, Cold Lake

"The books are great and the activities are well connected with the curriculum." — Grade 2 teacher, Coleman

"The books really inspired my kids to want to take action and help animals." — Grade 1 teacher, Chestermere

"This program effectively teaches compassion, empathy and responsibility through animals. I love it!" — Grade 4 teacher, Crossfield

To learn more about AnimalTales, visit [everylivingthing.ca/AnimalTales](http://everylivingthing.ca/AnimalTales). For a list of recommended reading, visit our aStore at [everylivingthing.ca/books](http://everylivingthing.ca/books). 🐾

## Humane animal handling resources for high school students

Alberta high school students can earn credits by learning about the humane care of horses, cattle or sheep. Available for free at [ctsanimals.ca](http://ctsanimals.ca), these resources present current best practices for animal handling and care. They correspond to Alberta Education's Career and Technology Studies (CTS) curriculum.

Through these resources, students consider livestock welfare and the requirements for humane and safe production practices. They focus on physical care requirements, environmental influences and housing and fencing options. They also learn about humane strategies and practices to raise, grow and finish livestock, and study animal health, quality controls and sustainable production practices.

We now have materials at [ctsanimals.ca](http://ctsanimals.ca), that meet the requirements for six CTS courses.

The Alberta SPCA is grateful to have received a grant from the Agricultural Initiatives Program to help develop these new resources. 🐾

## Practicing Empathy Together

This year's free classroom poster is based on Grant MacEwan's creed. Grant MacEwan, Alberta's Lieutenant Governor from 1966 to 1974, was a champion for environmental preservation and stewardship. He recognized that compassion was fundamental to a moral life. To support this important message, we created the Practicing Empathy Together (P.E.T.) pledge for teachers and students of all grades. This pledge involves everyone in the classroom committing to simple acts of kindness for animals, people and the environment at school and at home. Our classroom poster and P.E.T pledge are also available in French.

Classes that complete the pledge will be added to our Kindness Map and receive a certificate. The pledge and example kindness checklists are available online at [everylivingthing.ca/pledge](http://everylivingthing.ca/pledge). 🐾



*Beloved people and animals remembered through memorial donations of \$50 or more*

**Jason Aikenhead** by Jason Shihinski

**Dennis Asseltine** by Margaret Cumming

**Robert Baker** by Norma Mastrangelo

**Bill Roy Bamfield** by PetroLama Energy Canada Ltd.

**Bart** by Catherine Robertson

**John David Beckingham** by Iris Beckingham

**Big Louis** by John & Zennia Trollope

**Brigitte** by Virginia Kelly

**Mel Cartier** by Wadona Walsh

**Claus** by Mariana Suman

**Mandy Cooke** by Diane Longmire

**Robert Currie** by Tessa Shelvey

**Michael Dilts** by Deborah Debolt; and by Manuel Slavic

**Peter Eng** by Shirley Smith & Bev Moore

**Joan "Joey" Frances Finlay** by Joy Wood, Jane Zaverucka & Bryan Woollett

**Adeline Fluker** by Lorraine Manuel

**Amymarie & Robert Fornelli** by Gatineau Ski Patrol

**Gisele Geib** by Robert & Terrie Fraser

**Cathy Glenn** by Debbie Doyle; and by Cathy Huffman

**Guinness** by Crystal Backman

**Ira & Reggie** by Rose McDonald

**Gloria Jaggi** by Ursula Dietsche; and by Jodi Roseneck

**Larry Jensen** by Pat & Norman Stanger

**Kathleen Jenson** by Tara McDowell

**Della Johansen** by Russ Forrester

**Katie** by Suzanne McAfee

**Madeleine Kiel** by Ella Ness

**Samuel Lamont** by Frances Street

**Wally Larkam** by Lynn Leong

**Lee (a lovely Arabian mare)** by Carol Kettlewell

**Wayne Douglas MacLean** by Jeff Unger (on behalf of Alberta Opera)

**Norma Meroniuk** by Stella & Walter Baydala; by Mavis & John Glockler; by Laurie & Trevor Reay; by Terry & Roxanne Romanchuk; and by Norma Stanley

**Ken Millar & Murphy** by Candace Millar

**Ken Millar** by Richard Boer; and by David & Sandra Royal

**W. Kenneth Millar** by Jeanne Boer

**William Kenneth Millar** by Carol Bauer; by Matt LeQuelenec; by Jennifer Martens; by Judith Norton; by Agatha Starczyk; by Suncor; and by Kathi Way

**Molly** by Barbara Huzil

**Shelley Ann Monro** by Diane Bagnarol; by Melody Monro; and by Lynne Schmidt

**Mary Moody** by Allen Nolan; and by Gord & Lisa Richter & family

**Donald Newbold** by Elizabeth Jane Lunney

**Nobles Peppy Girl (Tiny)** by Laura McLaughlin

**Emily Ochotsky** by Thor Thordarson; and by Pauline Zukiwsky

**Pat Olson** by Isidor Gliener

**Patty Olson** by Adam Knisely (Knisely Nagase Anderson LLP)

**Oscar & Simi** by Linda England

**Murray Othen** by Linda Stamboltas (on behalf of Perpetual Energy Inc.)

**Dan Paisley** by Larry Brokop

**Pancho & Ocie** by Paula Sawatzky

**Pedro** by Robert Neal

**Margaret Prins** by Valda Stroman

**Edythe Puttonen** by Verna McFadden

**Hugh Renden** by Laurel Patterson

**Tom Ruzycski** by Rose Warwa

**Larry Ryder** by Maggie Schofield

**Sammie** by Kathy Jessop

**Sambu** by Andrea Vogel

**Sonia C. Santimeau** by Royal Canadian Legion #215

**Alvin Satermo** by Sandra Stepien; and by UTV Canada Inc.

**Elexis Schloss** by Dyanne Lyons

**Dana Scott** by Juan Carlos Brahim; by Lyle Kuzik (on behalf of the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops); by Wayne Paul (on behalf of the West Parkland Gas Co-op); by Rocky Gas Co-op Ltd.; and by Dale Swyripa (on behalf of the County of Vermilion River)

**Seba** by Tina Nielsen

**Shawna, Baby Shawn & Jess** by Patricia & Charles Benson

**Silver** by Norma Wark

**Skipper** by Rose Marie Smithies

**Strawberry** by Zelma Hardin

**Arpa Tauber** by Amie & Walter Tauber

**Tonka** by Kerri Schmied

**Pius Volk** by Nora & Robert Gretz; by Lloyd & Lyne Jewell; and by Kathy Soldan & Family

**Daryl Warren Wasilow** by Helen Flaming

**Sylvia Wilson** by Colleen Grinde Permanentz; and by Bill Moore

**Donald Edgar Young** by Val Young

**Sharon Zimmerman** by Olive Hayne; by Margaret Lakusta; and by William & Donna Vavra



**ALBERTA SPCA  
2016 CALENDAR  
PHOTO CONTEST**



**ENTER OUR PHOTO CONTEST AND MAKE YOUR ANIMAL A STAR!**

Submit your best shots of your favourite critter on our contest web site to be in the running to have your photo featured in the 2016 Alberta SPCA Calendar.

[www.albertaspcacalendar.ca](http://www.albertaspcacalendar.ca)

Contest begins Monday, May 18. More details to follow.

## Annual General Meeting

**March 28, 2015**

*The Annual General Meeting of the Alberta SPCA will be held at*

**11 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 28, 2015  
Chateau Louis Conference Centre, 11727 Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton**

*All members are invited to attend.  
Members in good standing for six months are entitled to vote.*

## Volunteer Appreciation Evening

**April 16, 2015**

*Alberta SPCA volunteers are invited to the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Evening*

**Thursday, April 16, at 5:30 p.m.  
Ramada on Kingsway (Courtyard Room A)  
11834 Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton**

*All volunteers who would like to attend must RSVP before April 1.  
Contact Betty Bell at [volcoord@albertaspc.org](mailto:volcoord@albertaspc.org) or 780-732-3735.*



## Thank you to all cupcake bakers!

This year was the first time the Alberta SPCA participated in National Cupcake Day, and it looks like it was a great success.

We won't know the final results until May or June, but we want to thank everyone who organized a Cupcake Day party or who bought cupcakes.

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO THE ALBERTA SPCA, 10806-124 ST., EDMONTON, AB T5M 0H3



# ANIMALKIND REPLY FORM

If you believe that enforcement and education are vital to preventing animal cruelty, then please support the Alberta SPCA's Animal Protection Services and Education Programs by becoming a member and/or making a donation. Help us help the animals by filling out this form and mailing it to: The Alberta SPCA, 10806-124 St., Edmonton, AB, T5M 0H3

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (home) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

## Donations and Memberships

**Yes!** I support the Alberta SPCA's province wide Animal Protection Services and Humane Education Programs.

Enclosed is a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Income tax receipts are automatically issued for donations of \$10 or more.)

I would like to renew my membership or become a member of the Alberta SPCA.

\$15 student/senior       \$20 individual

\$30 senior family       \$35 family

\$150 corporate

**I'm paying by:**

Cheque       Cheque       MasterCard  
 Credit card       Visa

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

## Animal Response Team (A.R.T.)

### Monthly Giving Program

I authorize the Alberta SPCA to deduct \$\_\_\_\_\_ from my bank account\* or credit card on the 1st day of each month or the next business day. I understand that I can change or cancel this monthly donation at any time, subject to providing written notice of 15 days or more.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Please withdraw this monthly amount from my:**

Bank account (attach a cheque marked VOID)  
 Credit card       Visa       MasterCard

CARDHOLDER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

\*To view a sample cancellation form or learn more about cancelling a PAD agreement, contact your financial institution or visit [www.cdnpay.ca](http://www.cdnpay.ca). You have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, you have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. For more information on your recourse rights, contact your financial institution or visit [www.cdnpay.ca](http://www.cdnpay.ca).