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**Bulletin d'Aylmer**

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Dear Editor,

I'd like to express my thanks for reporting on the unexpected and vexing closure of SPCA of Western Québec. SPCAWQ provided safe and loving homes to ~10-20 dogs per month, sparing them from impending euthenatia.

Having been directly involved with the rescue transports for many years, If i may, i would like to provide a bit more color and a call to action.

I wish to testify as to regular employee mutinies due to what appeared to be a draconian and toxic environment. Also, chronic management errors and negligence were evident.

An example, the loss of CRA Charity Status yielding an expensive fine. This was extremely concerning, simply caused by the failure to submit taxation documents for more than one year.

Another, the terrible fire of the summer of 2018 which cruelly took the lives of over 70 animals. Innocent creatures were left in a damaged building with no power on a hot summer night during a lightning storm. What has come of the insurance proceeds is still unknown.

Having very limited visibility and footing internally, my attempts to remedy things were fruitless. All requests for a board meeting placated by Carole Wright or simply ignored.

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Having disposed of all equipment, failing to renew the lease, there is effectively no more shelter - and yet the web site / facebook are still up accepting donations?

Finally, this spring, having written letters to each member yielding no response my suspicions became real: there was actually no engaged board or president. No meetings or elections, and no succession plan.

Sadly, all that is left now is likely a few loose ends and a bank account, and control remains in the hands of Ms. Wright.

The SPCAWQ existed in Aylmer before Ms Wright started as a volunteer and needs to continue after. For the animals. For our community.

I ask her to give up control so that a board and president can be established. First order of business could be to choose a more appropriate name - The Humane Society of Aylmer perhaps?

I encourage folks to express themselves and / or sign the petition at <http://peepad.org>.

Thank You.

**Stefan Buchholz**

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