

Shane Thompson for Nahendeh

The NWT is in second last place regarding Animal Protection Laws. Animal abuse and neglect continues throughout the Territory with few charges and even less convictions. How will you promote and work toward better animal rights in the Territory?

- 1) Research the issue. Help myself become well informed and see what needs to be done to bring a bill forward.
- 2) Work with the appropriate committee to discuss how we can get the GNWT to be engaged with this topic.
- 3) Being an Advocate and ask questions of the appropriate Minister in writing and on the floor.

2. Northern Communities are continually asking the NWT SPCA for help regarding animal care, supplying pet food and removal of unwanted or nuisance dogs. It is important to the health and safety of their neighbourhoods. The NWT SPCA helps members and community governments by sending pet food as well as removing dogs from their community. The alternative is starvation and shootings as a means of control. Will you support the NWT SPCA and advocate for Annual Core Funding from the GNWT so the organization can continue its many programs and necessary services to assist NWT Communities?

Yes, I think the work being done by the SPCA is very important and we need to work on develop core funding. However, I do not think the money needs to come form MACA and the NGO Stabilization funding. I think it needs to be provided yearly to help with the work being done in this area.

3. Most Northern Communities have limited access to vet care. It is a major reason for the over population and the suffering of thousands of dogs in the North. Communities continue to ask the NWT SPCA to visit their community with the mobile spay and neuter clinics. Will you support funding for the NWT SPCA to increase the number of animal health and wellness clinics in the NWT communities?

Yes I would but it needs to be a joint effort by the GNWT, SPCA and the communities. It can not all fall on the GNWT. I think part of the core funding should be used to offer a "x" amount of clinics outside of YK.

What steps will you take to ensure this Government support?

Again, it is about advocating and working with Cabinet to get this work done. As well, we can request this type of funding be part of business plan and ask questions on the floor.