

# Campaigns Against the Cruelty to Animals

**Wish you a happy holiday season and the best for the 2012!**

**E-Newsletter 23 December 22nd, 2011**



Another year is passing by...

The good news are that the **Canadian commercial Harp seal hunt** back East has no market, so is dying after the ban on the import trade of seal products was implemented in the 2010. I believe the end is very near!

Other good news is that there is a big possibility that maybe by next year, Mexico City ban the **bullfights**. Mexico City has the shameful honor to have the largest bullring in the world, for 48,000 people sitting at once. My colleagues of AMEDEA Mexico have been doing a wonderful job lobbying with the Mexican government.

Regarding **Yupi the Polar bear in Mexico**, now the deadline to collect the signatures is up to the middle of January 2012. You can either send them to the Zoocheck address on my website or scan and send them to me to [harmonyseal2004@yahoo.ca](mailto:harmonyseal2004@yahoo.ca) (up to January 15th). Pls. read the information here: <http://www.catcahelpanimals.org/yupien.html> We are very happy to announce that the Green Party of Mexico is our voice for this campaign in Mexico.

My experience as Ambassador of Canada for **World Animal Day** was very nice. We created lots of awareness, especially among teachers, parents and the kids. Thanks to all the activists and our supporters, and companies who kindly volunteered for the busy WAD Events on the Mainland in September and October, or who donated stuff for the kids or drove us to and from the events.

Our work exposing the **internet trade** worldwide and our high level lobbying are finally paying off. Venezuela's largest website for e-trade banned all transactions involving wildlife. Our advice about our methodology has been requested in Europe, Asia and Latin America, by governments and NGO's so we are very proud of our work exposing the illegal internet trade of wildlife.

CATCA is planning some very interesting animal conservation and welfare projects for the 2012-2013. The only thing we need is sponsors! **If we get some funds to develop these projects, I will need people who can help me that speak any of these languages: Japanese, Chinese, Afrikaans, Hindi, Punjabi, Korean, Arabic, Farsi, Swahili and maybe even Russian for few hours in a couple of weeks.** The work directly will benefit the wild animals of those countries.

Can you help? Please send me an e-mail to: [harmonyseal2004@yahoo.ca](mailto:harmonyseal2004@yahoo.ca) and on the subject write: "VOLUNTEER FOR CATCA" (I receive over 350 e-mails a day, so I would not want to miss your e-mail!). If somebody wants to help us directly by sponsoring these investigations, for anyone who donate \$200.00 or more, your name will appear on the printed report and on the PDF version online in our website.

Early next year (hopefully), I will launch a **book** to help animal activists. I hope you will support us by purchasing the book.

CATCA was literally on the brink of "extinction" after almost 23 years, just in all these last rough months. Thanks to you all who supported us in the last months. **Very special thanks go to all the kind people which donated some money for CATCA this year. The second half of 2011 was difficult economically (and still is), but hopefully the 2012 will be better. My eternal gratitude goes for you all who helped CATCA in these hard times, especially to my friend and colleague Prad and his family. I would be totally lost without you! ☺**

Without you all we could have not done all those events and go through all "the potholes on the road" along the way.

THANK YOU!

**Ericka Ceballos and the CATCA Team**

Campaigns Against the Cruelty to Animals

[www.catcahelpanimals.org](http://www.catcahelpanimals.org)

## NEWS:

### **CATCA participated in the Seminar on implementation of wildlife trade regulations in Central and Eastern Europe.**

Representatives from nine Central and Eastern European countries, several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) including CATCA met last week in Poznań, Poland, to examine ways of improving wildlife trade regulations in the region.

The countries of Central and Eastern Europe share similar problems related to effective enforcement of CITES regulations (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), and because of their geographic situation, they have a unique responsibility for controlling the importation of protected animals and plants and their products from Asia.

Delegates examined issues ranging from ownership, registration and commercial trading of protected wildlife to ways of tackling the growing web-organized trafficking of protected species.

CATCA was invited to participate in the meeting, in particular to a session specialized to the illegal trade on the internet. Ericka Ceballos from CATCA presented the results of her last three monitorings of the internet trade in protected species in Latin America. One of her monitorings was conducted according to the methodology developed by the Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra" and CEEweb for Biodiversity which is used in Europe.

The delegates agreed that the requirements for certificates of legal origin for specimens in national and EU trade should be standardized across the region and these are currently being drafted. All participants agreed that the seminar should be held on a regular basis and the next meeting is planned for 2012.

The meeting was held during Poland's current tenure as the presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU). It was organized by the Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra" and supported financially by the EU and the network of nature conservation NGOs of Central and Eastern Europe: CEEweb for Biodiversity.

The 35 delegates included representatives of CITES scientific and management authorities from nine countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine, and NGOs, who were invited to attend by the State Council for Nature Conservation and the Polish Ministry of the Environment.



### **This is from our friend and colleague Earle from CVFAF**

Hi All:

It has been a long time; regrettably both Coqui and I have had computer problems. We wanted to send out a special Christmas Greeting to all of you who have helped up over this past year....I'm sorry to say we are still running in the RED, but we are doing our best to cope. At present we have 60 dogs that need constant medical care, plus 13 cats, 8 horses and one mule. Our miniature horse was stolen during a storm, but we are hopeful that we will get her back...The police are working very hard to find her.

We are hoping that this Christmas will be one that will finally get us out of the RED and into the Black. We are attaching several videos of our horses and dogs. Enjoy, and Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

### **Kindest regards to all: Earle and Coqui and the CVFAF Team**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yWzmdvKfyu8>, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2-36h\\_Yg4w&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2-36h_Yg4w&feature=related),  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVpEg50nVDg&feature=related>, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-fPg1MsXc&feature=related>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFmEtpG9EFo&feature=related>, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhrUy0tBK\\_8&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhrUy0tBK_8&feature=related)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHksJwUy-QY>, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_r89xSgvvmQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_r89xSgvvmQ)

CVFAF is entirely funded by donations. Click on this link: <http://www.cvfaf.org/DONPAGE.html>



In other news, **Jan Olson** our good friend and colleague of **A Better Life Dog Rescue** was at the Surrey court house on Dec. 15th to protest the charges against her of "stealing" dogs to "sell". It is important to clarify that Jan only rescues dogs that are abused or neglected, that the SPCA doesn't bother to rescue. Due to the inefficiency and lack of care of the BCSPCA, she and other colleagues rescue these forgotten dogs. She is urging everyone to write to our MLA's and Mayors in BC for more and a better protection for dogs and the urgent need to strengthen the current weak animal cruelty legislation.

The court hearing didn't go ahead on the 15th as her lawyer has arranged a new date for the hearing, Jan. 26th. There were about 30 activists there to support her but of course it could be even better if more would attend on Jan. 26th!!

This video is from her speaking about the present state of animal cruelty laws and some of the dogs she's rescued

<http://www.peacearchnews.com/news/135704168.html?c=y&curSection=/&curTitle=BC+News&bc09=true>

**To help the dogs of BC, please take action:**

Write the MLA at: <http://www.leg.bc.ca> and e-mail the Surrey Mayor Mrs. Diana Watts at <http://www.surrey.ca>  
Also send letters to MLA's and Mayors in BC urging them to:

- Improve the current outdated animal cruelty laws and that animal cruelty legislation is still part of crimes against the property legislation
- Dogs suffer unnecessarily because of the lack of animal welfare legislation to protect them from inhumane treatment (e.g. chaining, confinement, not feeding them, lack of shelter, isolation, etc).
- Anti-chaining laws would improve the lives of thousands of dogs in BC
- 90% of dog bites are related to unsocial dogs living on chains
- To legislate (as the City of Lion's Bay), stating that dogs may not be chained or tethered unattended.



**Don't forget to LIKE us in Facebook.** We have dozens of news, alerts and petitions for the animals waiting for you to take action.

Click here: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Campaigns-Against-the-Cruelty-to-Animals/107173519371948>

so more people will get to read our animal alerts, news and petitions. Thanks!

**Buscanos en Facebook!** Por favor anda a este enlace y click LIKE asi mas gente podra ver nuestras noticias y alertas animalistas. Gracias.

**We have moved all our information for animal activists is there! // Toda nuestra informacion para activistas animalistas esta alla!**

**All the best for you and your family,**

**Ericka Ceballos**  
**CATCA**