



## **Bonnie Dawson**

Candidate, Western Arctic  
Animal Alliance Environment Voters Party of Canada  
(AAEV Party of Canada)  
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Bonnie Dawson was born, raised and educated in Ottawa, Ontario, and active in animal rescue since she was a child. Bonnie served as a Federal Government Civil Servant from 1972 to 1984 and moved to the Northwest Territory in 2005. After spending one year in Fort Smith, she then moved to Hay River in 2006. The long weekend of September 2006 found her literally laying in the street cradling a dying mother of 6 newborn pups as she bled out, just yards from her home – a car victim. She was outraged that no resident veterinarian was available and outraged at the length of time it took the then Bylaw Officer to respond.

In early 2007 Bonnie began her fight for Comprehensive Animal Protection Laws within the Territory due to the extreme violence dogs faced in the NWT. The Animal Legal Defense Fund, for two consecutive years, designated the NWT "Best Place to Abuse Animals" (<http://www.aldf.org/article.php?id=1371>). This dubious distinction fuelled Bonnie to apply pressure on the Territorial Ministers, and after gaining support from various GNWT MLA's, the Territorial Government was forced to take positive action and move forward with a new Dog Act.

In 2009 Bonnie founded Action for the Protection of Northern Animals and has actively utilized this group to protest on an international scale the horrors of animal cruelty in the NWT.

Receiving regular phone calls and e-mails concerning animal neglect, Bonnie continues her activism in Hay River. In January 2010 she presented a Proposal for a Zero Tolerance Policy on Animal Cruelty to the Mayor, urging diligence to investigate any and all reports of alleged animal cruelty and to revisit, amend and strengthen existing Municipal By-Laws to protect animals in Hay River.

She also received a Certificate of Nomination from CBC's Champions of Change in 2010 and received a nomination for the IFAW Award in 2009 for her work.

Bonnie shares her home with two rescued Northern dogs named "Philly and Hemi", a rescued wild bunny she named "China" and a rescued Ontario cat "Lunar Magic".

Bonnie is currently running as a candidate in the 41st General Election in the riding of Western Arctic.