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Changes to Nova Scotia's Animal Protection Act Approved

Dartmouth, NS (September 24, 2018) - The Nova Scotia Law Amendments Committee has approved Bill 27.

"We are very grateful to Minister Colwell and his team for all their efforts to improve the lives of animals in our province." says Elizabeth Murphy, CEO of the Nova Scotia SPCA. "Nova Scotia has once again proven we are a progressive province and a leader in animal welfare as we now have one of the most advanced pieces of legislation to protect animals!"

Some of the changes to the Animal Protection Act, approved by the Nova Scotia Law Amendments Committee, outlined in Bill 27 mean that:

- SPCA Inspectors will be able to more effectively remove animals who are in distress;
- The Animal Cruelty Appeal Board's process will be transparent and open to the public;
- Dog fighting has been added as an offence under the Animal Protection Act; and
- Cosmetic procedures such as tail docking, ear cropping, de-clawing and de-barking are not permitted unless deemed medically necessary by a veterinarian.

"This was a collaborative process with participation from a very diverse group of animal welfare advocates and stakeholders" said Jo Anne Landsburg, Nova Scotia SPCA's Chief Provincial Inspector "Over the past 2 years, the opinions of many people and groups were heard and considered as we all worked together to ensure that necessary changes were brought forward to be included in Bill 27."

The Nova Scotia SPCA operates on a policy of zero tolerance for animal cruelty and sets the standard of animal care for the province of Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia SPCA urges you to report acts of animal cruelty by contacting our confidential toll-free hotline at: 1-888-703-7722

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