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For Immediate Release

## NOVA SCOTIA SPCA ANIMAL HOSPITALS OFFERING COMPLIMENTARY MICROCHIPS WITH LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

**Dartmouth, Nova Scotia** – Thanks to PetSmart Charities® of Canada, pets can now receive a Microchip at no extra cost when they use the Nova Scotia SPCA low-cost spay/neuter program. The Nova Scotia SPCA was successful in being awarded a grant of \$55,000 to offer this exciting promotion at their SPCA Animal Hospitals in Dartmouth, Yarmouth, and Sydney, Cape Breton, until supplies last.

A Microchip is an easy, permanent way to keep families and their furry friends together. Once scanned, pets can be linked back to their family and quickly reunited should they become lost. A study completed by AVMA found that microchipped dogs are more than twice as likely to be returned to their family than dogs without microchips. The study found the difference in reunion rates was even more significant with cats. Cats with microchips are returned to their families nearly 22 times more than cats without them.

“Although Microchips are small, they have the ability to make a big difference by reuniting pets with their family,” says Elizabeth Murphy, CEO of the Nova Scotia SPCA. “Cats and dogs are naturally curious animals and the unthinkable can happen in the blink of an eye. Having a Microchip provides hope for a happy reunion, and we are so thankful to PetSmart Charities of Canada for supporting this project at our three SPCA Animal Hospitals in Nova Scotia.”

“We’re pleased to provide grant funding to the Nova Scotia SPCA that will help to keep people and pets together,” says Dani LaGiglia, regional relationship manager at PetSmart Charities of Canada. “Microchipping your pets is one of the very best ways you can help to ensure they’re more likely to find their way back home should they ever become lost or separated from their family.”

Subsidized spay/neuter procedures with complimentary microchips are performed at SPCA Animal Hospitals throughout Nova Scotia. By making these services affordable and accessible, the Nova Scotia SPCA hopes it will help pet owners keep their pets with them long-term and support an overall happier and healthier life. Pet owners requiring spay/neuter assistance are invited to apply online at [www.novascotiaspca.ca/vet-services](http://www.novascotiaspca.ca/vet-services)

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**About the Nova Scotia SPCA:**

The [Nova Scotia SPCA](http://www.novascotiaspca.ca) is recognized as providing expert leadership in the areas of advocacy and protection of companion animals and sets the standard of animal care for the province of Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty (Nova Scotia SPCA) has been protecting animals from cruelty since 1877. As a registered charity with locations across the province of Nova Scotia, we rely primarily on volunteers and donations to fund cruelty prevention; animal rescue, rehabilitation, seeking justice, and education. The Act to Protect Animals and Aid Animals in Distress requires the Society to enforce animal cruelty laws, making the Nova Scotia SPCA unique among animal welfare organizations in the province. The Nova Scotia SPCA also the distinction of being founded as the first place in North America to pass laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals. To learn more visit [www.novascotiaspca.ca](http://www.novascotiaspca.ca)

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**About PetSmart Charities® of Canada:**

[PetSmart Charities of Canada](http://www.petsmartcharities.ca) is committed to finding lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across Canada, PetSmart Charities of Canada helps to find forever homes and families for more than 25,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities of Canada also provides grant funding to registered Canadian charities aligned with its mission under four key areas of support: Preventing Pet Homelessness; Helping Shelter Pets Thrive; Supporting the Bond Between People and Pets and Providing Emergency Relief and Disaster Support. Each year, more than 500,000 generous PetSmart shoppers help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities of Canada using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities of Canada efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as a leading funder of animal welfare in Canada, granting more than \$14 million since its inception in 1999. PetSmart Charities of Canada is a registered Canadian charity, a member of Imagine Canada and is independent from the PetSmart business in Canada.

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