



## FOR IMMEDIATE

## RELEASE

### PRESS RELEASE: NOVA SCOTIA SPCA RECEIVES GRANT OF MORE THAN \$50,000 FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® OF CANADA TO SUPPORT SUBSIDIZED SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES ACROSS THE PROVINCE

**January 10, 2019 (Dartmouth, Nova Scotia)** – The Nova Scotia SPCA has been awarded a \$53,831 grant from PetSmart Charities of Canada to help provide subsidized spay/neuter surgeries for the pets of low-income families throughout Nova Scotia. Surgeries will be conducted at SPCA Animal Hospitals in Dartmouth, Yarmouth and Sydney, Cape Breton and start immediately until the goal is achieved. Transportation assistance is available from designated pick up spots to ensure this opportunity is available to residents across the province.

Spaying/neutering your pet is one of the most important things you can do to ensure you and your pet will live a long happy life together. Intact pets can display unpleasant behaviours such as spraying, constant heat cycles, and overwhelming numbers of unplanned litters. Spaying/neutering is the most effective and humane means of reducing the number of homeless animals. Many loving pet owners desperately want to be able to offer their beloved pet this important surgery, yet unfortunately due to the financial circumstances, they may not have been able to do so without this subsidy.

“We are extremely appreciative of the support from PetSmart Charities of Canada which will help hundreds of families in serious need” says Elizabeth Murphy, CEO of the Nova Scotia SPCA. “Unfixed animals are at a higher risk of running away, being surrendered, abandoned, or worse. Pets will be able to live happier, healthier lives while also preventing further pet overpopulation in our province.”

“PetSmart Charities of Canada is pleased to provide funding that makes veterinary care and spay/neuter procedures more accessible and affordable to eligible pet parents across Nova Scotia,” says Dani LaGiglia, regional relationship manager at the leading funder of animal welfare. “Together with pet parents in the province and under the expert guidance and care of the Nova Scotia SPCA, these spay/neuter procedures will not only help the individual pets they are provided to, but they will also help to reduce pet homelessness in Eastern Canada”

Thanks to PetSmart Charities of Canada’s past support of the Nova Scotia SPCA, each subsidized spay/neuter procedure will include a complimentary microchip and basic vaccines at no extra charge. The Nova Scotia SPCA hopes that this low-income spay/neuter program will not only help animals and families in need, but the community at large. Owners requiring spay/neuter assistance are invited to apply now online at: [www.novascotiaspca.ca/fixmypet](http://www.novascotiaspca.ca/fixmypet)



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**About the Nova Scotia SPCA:**

The Nova Scotia SPCA 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 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. To learn more visit [www.petsmartcharities.ca](http://www.petsmartcharities.ca)

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