

Date: August 22, 2019

For Immediate Release



### **DARTMOUTH PAIR CHARGED WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY**

**Dartmouth, Nova Scotia** – A 28-year-old man and a 29-year-old woman from Dartmouth have been charged with six counts of animal cruelty under the Criminal Code.

Nathan Conrad and Carley Rushton were charged in July 2019 for causing unnecessary pain and suffering or injury to an animal contrary to section 445.1.1 (a) and for abandoning an animal in distress or willfully neglecting or failing to provide suitable and adequate food, water, shelter and care for it contrary to section 445 (1) (b) of the Criminal Code.

In June 2019, the Nova Scotia SPCA received a complaint that tenants of a home had not been seen at a residence for a long period of time and there were animals still living inside. After investigation, the SPCA secured a search warrant and entered the home. One dog, two bearded dragons and fish were removed from the property – all in serious medical condition.

Conrad and Rushton were served summons and were scheduled to appear in Dartmouth Provincial Court on August 22, 2019. An appeal with the Animal Welfare Board was not filed and the animals remained in the custody of the SPCA. The dog, one of the bearded dragons and the fish have been rehomed. The remaining reptile is still receiving medical care.

The Nova Scotia SPCA urges you to report acts of animal cruelty by contacting the confidential toll-free hotline at 1-888-703-7722.

Proudly open-admission and no-kill, the Nova Scotia SPCA operates on a policy of zero tolerance for animal cruelty. Their shelters provide medical care, rehabilitation, spay and neuter services and re-homing opportunities for thousands of animals in Nova Scotia every year.

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