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For Immediate Release



PRESS RELEASE: 35 Dogs and Puppies Seized from Puppy Mill

Halifax, Nova Scotia (December 10, 2019) – Following a lengthy investigation by the Nova Scotia SPCA 35 dogs and puppies have been seized from a puppy mill near Wolfville. SPCA officers executed the warrant today accompanied by RCMP. All animals have been removed from the puppy mill and transported to specialized SPCA intake facilities for medical treatment and shelter.

As of 9:50 AM this morning, Nova Scotia SPCA animal protection officers, accompanied by a shelter and veterinary staff took charge of the animals. “We are triaging the animals to assess their health, and determine which individuals require urgent care,” says Jo-Anne Landsburg, Chief Provincial Inspector at the Nova Scotia SPCA. “Seized animals have been transported to a secure intake facility, where they will receive the care they require. Given the number of animals involved this is an extremely complex operation.”

A seizure of this magnitude requires the mobilization of a Nova Scotia SPCA staff, the expertise of veterinarians, as well as coordination with our network of shelters to ensure optimal living conditions adapted to the needs of all the animals removed from the premises. “An operation like this is would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of our SPCA staff and volunteers,” said Elizabeth Murphy, Nova Scotia SPCA CEO.

Nova Scotia SPCA enforcement has been working the case since September 2019. It began in response to a report of mistreatment made by visitors to the puppy mill. The SPCA issued compliance orders for several significant problems regarding the psychological and physical state of the animals and their unsanitary living conditions. Animal protection officers subsequently visited with an expert on animal psychology. With the evidence gathered the Nova Scotia SPCA was able to obtain a search warrant allowing them to enter the dwelling where many of the dogs were being kept. This intervention, combined with additional investigation findings, led to the seizure announced today. Charges are pending. This is one of the largest puppy mill seizures in the history of the Nova Scotia SPCA.

Providing for the medical treatment, shelter, care, and feeding of 29 dogs and 6 puppies will be a significant expense for the Nova Scotia SPCA. Typically, the Nova Scotia SPCA would intake less than 4 dogs in one day. Animal-lovers who want to help sponsor a dog or support the

rehabilitation of the animals are invited to make a donation at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/44936> or text "SPCA" to 4-10-10 to donate \$20.

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About the Nova Scotia SPCA

Proudly 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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