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Date: February 27, 2020
For Immediate Release

Local Thrift Store Contributes More Than \$50K to Cape Breton SPCA

Community invests \$42,000 into caring for homeless animals

(Sydney, NS) – In the first full year of operation, the Sydney SPCA Thrift Store contributed \$54,765 to the Cape Breton SPCA.

Cape Breton Development Officer, Ryan Toomey said opening the Thrift Store has doubled the amount of funding available for animal care and shelter operations. “The success of the SPCA Thrift Store is because the community rallies around the idea of helping animals,” says Toomey. “With 100% of the net proceeds supporting local pets, it’s shopping you can feel good about.” In 2019 the community – through the Thrift Store and donations – funded \$101K of the \$473K required to respond to animals in need in Cape Breton.

As the only animal shelter on the Island, the Cape Breton SPCA is a safe-haven for nearly 1,200 homeless animals per year and provides support services to over 150 communities. The SPCA rescues animals from abuse, abandonment and neglect, provides safe shelter, healthy food, medical care, and rehabilitation before finding them a loving family of their own.

People in need can turn to the SPCA to care for their pet when they are no longer able, for low-cost spay/neuter services, to be reunited with their lost pets, to humanely address feral cat colonies on the Island in partnership with rescue groups, and to find the perfect new family member.

The work of the SPCA shelter, hospital and Thrift Store is made possible by a network of staff and volunteers. The contributions of volunteers maximizes profits in the Thrift Store and reduces costs in the shelter.

Because of community support, next month the Cape Breton SPCA will repair and refinish the floors and walls in the dog area. The \$42,000 project will be funded by the Thrift Store along with a \$16,000 contribution from the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. “Rejuvenating this entire section of the shelter will provide dogs with a healthier more

comfortable experience while they're with us," says Toomey. "It's going to make a huge difference to the dogs in our care."

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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. Our shelters provide medical care, rehabilitation, spay and neuter services and rehoming opportunities for thousands of animals in Nova Scotia every year without operational funding from government.

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