

Nova Scotia SPCA  
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Date: October 19, 2020  
For Immediate Release

## Nova Scotia SPCA and PetSmart Charities® of Canada Help Pet Owners in Crisis

**Dartmouth, Nova Scotia** – The Nova Scotia SPCA has received a \$58,000 grant from PetSmart Charities of Canada to help keep more pets and families together. This grant allows the Nova Scotia SPCA to expand the Paws & Support program and launch a free pet pantry at all 6 SPCA animal shelters throughout the province. The organization is proud to extend these services to pet owners who have exhausted options in Nova Scotia.

Paws & Support is a free program for cats, dogs, and critters while pet parents are seeking short-term in-hospital treatment or transitioning out of domestic violence relationships. Pets live with trained temporary foster families and are reunited once their owner is in a healthy, safe space.

The SPCA Pet Pantry is a new pet food and litter bank. The Nova Scotia SPCA will provide temporary assistance to families in crisis who are unable to afford pet food or litter. Pet guardians in financial need can arrange for contactless pick-up at SPCA shelters in Nova Scotia.

“Pets are family,” said Elizabeth Murphy, CEO of the Nova Scotia SPCA. “We hope these free programs will help keep more pets in loving homes. Thanks to the generosity of PetSmart Charities of Canada, pet parents facing hardship will have support and comfort when they need it most.”

“We remain committed to providing funding to support pets and their people throughout the pandemic,” said Dani LaGiglia, regional relationship manager at PetSmart Charities of Canada. “Through organizations like the Nova Scotia SPCA, communities across the province will receive vital resources that will keep pets and people together in this time of uncertainty.”

For safety, the Nova Scotia SPCA continues to operate by appointment only. To participate in the Paws & Support program, e-mail [pawssupport@spcans.ca](mailto:pawssupport@spcans.ca). To access the SPCA Pet Pantry, visit [www.novascotiaspca.ca/petpantry](http://www.novascotiaspca.ca/petpantry) or call toll-free 1-844-835-4798. Supplies and space in the programs are limited.

## About the Nova Scotia SPCA

Proudly following no-kill principles, the Nova Scotia SPCA is a registered charity that helps companion animals in need. Every year, more than 16,000 pets are helped through animal rescue, progressive programs, and rehoming opportunities. They do not receive any government funding for their shelters, so the SPCA relies on community support to help care for local pets in need. To learn more visit [www.novascotiaspca.ca](http://www.novascotiaspca.ca)

## 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 30,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities of Canada also provides grant funding to registered Canadian charities aligned with its mission. 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 \$21.7 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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