

Nova Scotia SPCA
7 Scarfe Crt
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
B3B 1W4



For Immediate Release

Nova Scotia SPCA Establishes New International Pet Transport Program

Pets to travel in safe, comfortable advanced transport vehicle thanks to \$100,000 grant from Pet Valu

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia (August 26th, 2021) – The Nova Scotia SPCA has established a new international pet transport program. When space and resources allow, they will safely bring pets into Nova Scotia from approved shelters in the United States that struggle with homeless pet overpopulation. Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from Pet Valu through its Giving Back Project, the Nova Scotia SPCA has invested in an advanced animal transport vehicle custom designed for pet safety and comfort. The first international dog transport is happening on August 26th to celebrate International Dog Day.

Through its transport program, the Nova Scotia SPCA will raise and set high ethical standards and strict protocols that include but are not limited to the following: mandatory vaccinations, heartworm testing, veterinarian check prior to transport, behavioural requirements and evaluation, mandatory rest periods, strong and secure kennels, and veterinary care provided before and after the transport. The Nova Scotia SPCA will independently provide medical evaluations upon arrival, education and full disclosure to adopters, and ongoing support post-adoption.

“We are thankful for Pet Valu’s support so we can connect more pets with families who might not otherwise have the opportunity to find a home,” said Elizabeth Murphy, CEO of the Nova Scotia SPCA. “We are taking proper precautions for the health and safety of people and pets – both those being transported and those here in our province. Our safe transport methods will improve animal welfare, minimize risk, and maximize lifesaving capacity.”

“Pet Valu is committed to helping local animal rescues, shelters and charities in Canada and we are delighted to be able to support the Nova Scotia SPCA’s international pet transport program,” said Idan Driman, VP of Marketing, Pet Valu. “Pet overpopulation is a significant issue and thanks to the SPCA’s valuable work, more homeless pets will have the opportunity to find the right forever home.”

During certain times of the year, the Nova Scotia SPCA has noticed a sharp decline in the number of homeless pets in the province and often has a greater ability to help. They have offered assistance to many animal welfare organizations throughout Canada transporting and helping nearly 500 pets in the past two years. Although the Nova Scotia SPCA is launching an international pet transport program, the needs of local animals will always come first.

The Nova Scotia SPCA will follow all public health recommendations for essential travel including face masks, social distancing, sanitizing, and COVID-19 tests before and after the transport. SPCA staff members traveling will be double vaccinated and only exit the vehicle when necessary. To set the pets and future families up for success, adoption appointments will be booked once they have decompressed. Interested families can visit www.novascotiaspca.ca/adoptions to view all animals available for adoption.

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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

About Pet Valu

Pet Valu is Canada's leading retailer of pet food and pet-related supplies with over 600 corporate-owned or franchised locations across the country. For more than 40 years, Pet Valu has earned the trust and loyalty of pet parents by offering knowledgeable customer service, a premium product offering and engaging in-store services. Pet Valu's neighbourhood stores offer more than 7,000 competitively priced products, including a broad assortment of premium, super premium, holistic and award-winning proprietary brands. To learn more, please visit: www.petvalu.com.

Media Contact:

Nova Scotia SPCA

Taylor Mundy

Communications & Development Officer

902-222-0378

tmundy@spcans.ca

Pet Valu

Katherine Clark

Beacon Strategic Communications

416-453-3288

katherine@beaconcommunications.ca

Images and video available upon request.