

Nova Scotia SPCA Provincial Office
7 Scarfe Court
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
B3B 1W4



Date: Wednesday, October 5, 2022
For Immediate Release

Sentenced Woman Prohibited from Owning Animals for 10 Years

East Hants, Nova Scotia – Belinda Singer, 42, from Noel, has been sentenced for animal cruelty under the *Animal Protection Act* of Nova Scotia. Singer was convicted in Shubenacadie Provincial Court on September 15, 2022, for one count of permitting an animal to be in distress, contrary to Section 26 (2) of the *Animal Protection Act* of Nova Scotia. The sentencing on September 15, 2022, included a ten-year prohibition from owning animals and a \$500 fine.

On July 17, 2022, the Nova Scotia SPCA Enforcement team received an emergency complaint about abandoned animals and a deceased dog in a home. Upon entering the residence, officers found one dog and one cat that needed veterinary care. A second dog was found deceased in a crate. Both the cat and dog were seized, and the remains of the deceased dog were taken to the Department of Agriculture’s Animal Health Laboratory for a necropsy. The necropsy determined that the cause of death was likely dehydration and emaciation due to malnutrition.

Chief Provincial Inspector Jo-Anne Landsburg of the SPCA Enforcement team wants to remind Nova Scotians that there is support available to pet owners. “All our Nova Scotia SPCA animal shelters have pet pantries with free food and kitty litter that can be accessed by everyone. There are no fees to surrender pets into our care. The SPCA is here to work with you so that no animal is left behind.”

The Nova Scotia SPCA has a zero-tolerance policy for animal cruelty and neglect. All concerns and complaints submitted to the SPCA are kept confidential. You can report acts of cruelty by calling the SPCA toll-free at 1-888-703-7722, e-mailing animals@spscans.ca, or filling out an online form at www.novascotiaspca.ca/reportcruelty.

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About the Nova Scotia SPCA Enforcement Team

The Nova Scotia SPCA Enforcement Team is a province-wide agency vested with the authority from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice, to provide enforcement under the

Animal Protection Act and sections of the Criminal Code, to investigate, and where necessary, lay charges, conduct animal seizures, or issue orders to persons suspected of animal cruelty and neglect. The Nova Scotia SPCA Enforcement Team employs Special Constables appointed under the *Police Act* of Nova Scotia.

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, approximately 15,000 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.

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Jo-Anne Landsburg, Chief Provincial Inspector, Nova Scotia SPCA