

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



Date: April 5, 2023
For Immediate Release

Woman Convicted and Fined for Selling Animals Without Nova Scotia Veterinarian Certificates of Health

Kentville, Nova Scotia – Gertruda Steiner, 45, of Kings County, has been convicted on 11 counts of selling dogs without veterinary certificates of health under section 26(6) of the *Animal Protection Act of Nova Scotia*. Steiner received a \$50.00 fine for each count totaling \$550.

On May 14th, 2022, the Nova Scotia SPCA received a complaint that golden retriever puppies were being sold without a veterinary certificate of health. In addition, many of the puppies were sick with a commonly known Parvovirus resulting in some families having to euthanize their new puppy.

During the SPCA's investigation, several people came forward that claimed they received a sick puppy from Steiner and did not receive a veterinary certificate of health. It is illegal in Nova Scotia to sell a cat or dog without a certificate of health from a veterinarian. The Nova Scotia SPCA encourages potential adopters to visit www.yournextpet.ca to learn what to expect, what questions to ask, and what to look for when picking up your new pet.

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

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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, more than 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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