www.spca.bc.ca info@spca.bc.ca 1245 E. 7th Avenue, Vancouver V5T 1R1 Tel. 604.681.7271 / 1-800-665-1868 Fax. 604.681.7022 News and Features from the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Fighting animal cruelty one step at a time: the 2015 Scotiabank & BC SPCA *Paws for a Cause*

New Walk to Fight Animal Cruelty website launches

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Helping fight animal cruelty is as easy as taking a walk in the park.

The BC SPCA is inviting animal lovers throughout the province to register and fundraise for the annual Scotiabank & BC SPCA Paws for a Cause walk, being hosted in more than 30 B.C. communities throughout September and October (date may vary in some communities, check spca.bc.ca/walk for details). This year, the BC SPCA hopes to raise important funds to fight animal cruelty. In 2014, the BC SPCA conducted 8,849 new cruelty investigations. Funds raised through the Scotiabank & BC SPCA Paws for a Cause help the BC SPCA care for abused, injured and abandoned animals, and works to prevent cruelty before it occurs.

"This is an amazing opportunity to help the province's most vulnerable animals. Our life-saving work is primarily funded through individual donations. By participating and fundraising for the Scotiabank & BC SPCA Paws for a Cause, you are truly making a difference in the lives of animals in need." says Krista Constantineau, manager, fundraising events, BC SPCA. "And we are making it easy for participants to register and fundraise online, through personal fundraising pages, powerful online tools and fundraising tips – asking for a donation has never been easier!"

A non-profit organization, the BC SPCA relies mainly on donations from the public to help the province's injured, homeless, sick and abused animals. Registering early for the Scotiabank & BC SPCA Paws for a Cause has its advantages, such as an early-bird discount for those who sign up before June 30. "By signing up and collecting donations, you're not just helping thousands of animals in need of care throughout B.C.," says Constantineau. "You'll also enjoy a fun-filled day with activities for the whole family, including your four-legged friends."

Participants can join as an individual, a group or a corporate team. To help get you started, the BC SPCA has set up an easy, user-friendly website at spca.bc.ca/walk, where you can register, volunteer, find fundraising tips and tools, and learn more about how your participation ensures the BC SPCA can continue to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in B.C. The BC SPCA thanks our provincial sponsors: Scotiabank, CTV, Pawsitive FX, PwC, and TV Week.

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For more information: Krista Constantineau, manager, fundraising events, BC SPCA, 778-786-2632 or Lorie Chortyk, general manager, community relations, 604-647-1316.

The BC SPCA is a non-profit organization funded primarily by public donations. Our mission is to prevent cruelty and to promote the welfare of animals through a wide range of services, including cruelty investigations, emergency rescue and treatment, sheltering and adoption of homeless and abused animals, humane education, advocacy, farm animal welfare, spay/neuter programs, and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation.