
For Immediate Release

June 25, 2019

New Pet Safekeeping Program Established To Help Victims Of Violence

Mount Pearl, NL – The City of Mount Pearl, Iris Kirby House, the St. John’s Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding today to work together on a Pet Safekeeping Program. The Program will provide immediate support and assistance to the pet(s) belonging to victims of intimate partner violence who are leaving an abusive situation.

“Many people choose to stay in an abusive relationship out of fear that their partner will hurt or neglect their beloved pets” said Mayor Dave Aker, City of Mount Pearl. “This program helps remove that fear. Emergency shelters are unable to accommodate pets, so through this program, we will work to take care of victim’s pets, so they can take care of themselves.”

Each partner of the Pet Safekeeping Program will play an active role in the support and protection of victim’s pets. Full details of the roles and responsibilities are outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

“This is about removing barriers for victims and survivors of intimate partner violence. Pets are an important part of our families and knowing that they are safe when leaving an abusive situation is crucial” said Police Chief Joe Boland of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary. “We remain focused on building trusting relationships with victims and survivors of intimate partner violence, and the Pet Safekeeping Program is a valuable part of the circle of care in this effort.”

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Related information

Memorandum of Understanding: Pet Safekeeping Program

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