



THE FEDERATION OF SPCAs AND HUMANE SOCIETIES
FÉDÉRATION DES SOCIÉTÉS D'ASSISTANCE AUX ANIMAUX



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau

Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
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Mr. Paul MacKinnon

President
Canadian Food Inspection Agency
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Dr. Mary-Jane Ireland

Chief Veterinary Officer
Canadian Food Inspection Agency
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September 24, 2024

Dear Prime Minister, Mr. MacKinnon and Dr. Ireland,

Humane Canada is the federation of Humane Societies and SPCAs. We represent 54 members from every province and two territories, from rural and urban environments. Our Members are the organizations that Canadians depend upon, not only to care for abused and abandoned animals, but also to advocate for greater care and protection of animals and to provide community resources, research, and humane education. Humane Societies and SPCAs are among the oldest and most trusted social institutions in the country with more than 150 years of service.

We are opposed to the live export of horses overseas for slaughter and have witnessed on Bill C-355 at the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food. We have been disappointed by the CFIA's lack of adequate data and tracking of the horses shipped overseas for slaughter.

Recently, through Access to Information requests, the Japanese government has confirmed that in the last year (May 2023 to June 2024) 21 Canadian horses died on route to Japan or shortly after landing and many others were injured. Animal Justice received official documents from the Japanese government, originally obtained by a local organization, which lists dehydration, stress, pneumonia, compression and even miscarriages as the cause of these deaths. This



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contradicts CFIA reports which indicate only 5 horse deaths related to air shipments to Japan since 2013.

Given the scope of horse injury and death and the lack of adequate oversight and monitoring on behalf of Canada, we ask for an immediate, permanent termination of all live exports of horses from Canada by air for slaughter.

Furthermore, we ask that the CFIA undertake a swift and thorough investigation into the discrepancies between Canada's data and Japan's data and release a public report reflective of the accurate number of injuries and deaths and the number of times the transportation regulations were violated.

We appreciate a prompt response and request a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Barbara Cartwright
CEO

About Humane Canada

Humane Canada, formerly known as the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, is the only national organization representing humane societies and SPCAs in Canada. We drive positive, progressive change to end animal cruelty, improve animal protection and promote the humane treatment of all animals.

Humane Canada has worked alongside government and the agriculture sector for more than 40 years to improve animal welfare standards on farm, in transit and at slaughter. We advocate for sound, animal welfare science informed, standards of care and when necessary for the end to practices that cannot be made humane.

Humane Canada Member Organizations

Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society	Guelph Humane Society	Ottawa Humane Society
Alliston and District Humane Society	Hamilton Burlington SPCA	Prince Edward Island Humane Society
Animatch	Happy Valley Goose Bay SPCA	Regina Cat Rescue
Association of Animal Shelter Administrators of Ontario	Humane Society Dawson	Regina Humane Society
BC SPCA	Humane Society Hastings Prince Edward	Saskatchewan SPCA
Burin Peninsula SPCA	Humane Society Kawartha Lakes	Saskatoon SPCA
Burlington Humane Society	Humane Society London & Middlesex	Sault Ste. Marie & District SPCA
Calgary Humane Society	Humane Society of Greater Niagara	Société protectrice des animaux de Québec
Canadian Association for Humane Trapping	Medicine Hat SPCA	Southwest Coast SPCA
Central Alberta Humane Society	Miramichi SPCA	SPA de l'Estrie
Charlotte County SPCA Inc.	Moose Jaw Humane Society	SPCA de L'Outaouais
Cochrane & Area Humane Society	Montreal SPCA	St. Johns SPCA
Edmonton Humane Society	New Brunswick SPCA	The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo & Stratford Perth
Exploits Valley SPCA	Northwest Territories SPCA	Thunder Bay and District Humane Society
Fort McMurray SPCA	Nova Scotia SPCA	Toronto Humane Society
Fredericton SPCA	Oakville & Milton Humane Society	Victoria Humane Society
Gander & Area SPCA	Ontario SPCA & Humane Society	Windsor Essex County Humane Society
Georgian Triangle Humane Society	Oromocto & Area SPCA	Winnipeg Humane Society