

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



SPCA announces Dr. Jaipal Singh Gill as Acting Executive Director

Singapore, 7 January 2016 – The Management Committee of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) today announced the appointment of Dr. Jaipal Singh Gill as the Acting Executive Director.

“Members of the Board and staff join me in welcoming Jaipal back to the SPCA as the Acting Executive Director. Jaipal brings a strong knowledge and experience of animal welfare, engaging leadership, and innovative ideas about how to take the SPCA into the future,” said Carla Barker, SPCA’s chairman.

Jaipal comes with strong credentials, possessing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from the University of Melbourne in Australia, an Honours degree in Animal Science (University of Melbourne), and a Bachelor of Science (Life Sciences) with a concentration in Biology, from National University of Singapore (NUS). He worked previously with the SPCA starting out as Inspector in 2008 and returning as Operations Manager from 2010 to 2011, before heading to Melbourne to embark on his veterinary studies.

With leadership roles at University of Melbourne where he was President for Veterinary Students for Animal Welfare for two consecutive years, Jaipal is a recognised leader and strategic thinker. At NUS, Jaipal was the founder and President of the Students’ Animal Welfare Group, where he helped organise the first Animal Welfare Symposium in Singapore.¹

More recently, as part of the DVM programme, Jaipal has undertaken work experience with various animal welfare organisations such as the World Animal Protection (Bangkok, Thailand), Soi Dog Foundation (Phuket, Thailand), Animal Aid Unlimited (Rajasthan, India), and Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (Singapore).

Together with researchers from the National University of Singapore and the University of Melbourne, Jaipal is currently conducting a first of its kind national study on pet care and pet ownership in Singapore (www.petcarestudy.org). The study, in three parts,

seeks to better understand how owners care for their pets and identify ways to improve companion animal welfare in Singapore.

Jaipal said he is thrilled to be returning to the SPCA and working with the team as the organisation prepares to move from its existing location at Mount Vernon to its new premises at Sungei Tengah in early 2016. “Building on the tremendous work done by SPCA and my predecessors, my immediate goals are to strengthen our current services such as adoptions, rescue work and cruelty investigations. Animals are such an important part of society so I am excited to introduce new innovative projects to improve animal welfare.”

Jaipal took up his new duties on 1 January 2016 and replaces Corinne Fong, who left for personal reasons after serving as Executive Director since 2011.

Photo attached:



Caption: Dr. Jaipal Singh Gill with ten-year old Ida who has been with the SPCA since March 2008 and is awaiting a home.

Photo credit: SPCA Singapore

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For more information, please contact:

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About *Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)*

The SPCA is a registered animal welfare charity and its two main objectives are to promote kindness to animals and to prevent cruelty to animals. Relying mainly on donations from the public and fundraising, the Society provides various animal welfare services including a 24-hour emergency service, cruelty investigation, an adoption programme, an education programme for schools and organisations, a sterilisation programme for community animals, running an animal shelter and supporting quarantine for unwanted, abused and abandoned animals. For more information, visit <http://www.spca.org.sg>

¹ In 2008, ACRES, together with NTU Animal Lovers Society, NUS Students' Animal Welfare Group and People for Animal Welfare (SMU) organised and held the Singapore Animal Welfare Symposium (SAWS) - the first ever animal welfare symposium in Singapore. The Symposium also saw the launch of the first Animal Protectors Grant for those who have ideas to help animals to act on their passion and be able to improve animals' lives.