

# NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 30 MAY 2017, 11:00AM



## SPCA hosts its first ever Animal Welfare Youth Leadership Camp

**Singapore, 26 May 2017** – The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) will be hosting its inaugural Animal Welfare Youth Leadership Camp on 30 and 31 May 2017, targeted at youth leaders from upper secondary schools, polytechnics, and junior colleges, with the aim of inspiring the next generation, to be leaders in animal welfare.

The two-day-one-night camp aims to not only inspire youth, but to empower and equip them with knowledge in key areas that are directly applicable to animal welfare, such as public policy, law, ethics and science. The students will be exposed to the following animal welfare issues :

1. Animals kept as pets
2. Animals in the wild
3. Animals in agriculture
4. Animals used for research
5. Animals in entertainment

The camp provides a unique opportunity for youth to engage in lively discussions and interactive workshops that will get them thinking more deeply about animal welfare. Participants will be asked to apply their new found knowledge to propose solutions to pressing and current animal welfare issues.

Germaine Lim, 16 years old, of Mayflower Secondary School, who has an interest in learning more about '*Animals in the Wild*' believes that the subject requires more attention and enforcement, especially with the decreasing number of endangered species in the wild, due to poaching, environmental pollution and other human related activities.

Minister for Social and Family Development, Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, will be a guest speaker at the camp. Participants will have the opportunity to engage and to ask the Minister about his perspectives and experience in public policy, law, ethics and science.

Other speakers include :

- Alvin See; Assistant Professor of Law, Singapore Management University, will be sharing on animal protection law in Singapore
- Ms Anbarasi Boopal; Deputy Chief Executive, ACRES Singapore, who will be speaking on the illegal wildlife trade
- Darren Tay; first Singaporean to win the 2016 World Championship of Public Speaking will be imparting his skills on public speaking
- Ms Veron Lau; Cat Welfare Society, who will be imparting her knowledge on community cat issues

Dr Jaipal Singh Gill, Executive Director of the SPCA said, "This is the first time that the SPCA is conducting such a special focus camp and the response has been encouraging. While we work on the animal welfare issues we face today, we want to also think about the future, by engaging the next generation and getting them involved in our cause. Youth bring with them fresh perspectives and skill sets that can take our movement to the next level. We are excited to share our knowledge and experience with the participants and learn from them as well."

~ End ~

For more information, please contact:

Melanie Lee (Ms)  
Communications Officer  
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)  
Tel: +65 62875355 ext. 12  
E-mail: [communications@spca.org.sg](mailto:communications@spca.org.sg)

**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>