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*Thursday, November 13, 2014*

## **Animal advocacy group files formal complaints against NS fur farmers**

*Violations of Fur Industry Act and Animal Protection Act reported to Department of Agriculture*

**HALIFAX** - Violations of provincial legislation by fur farmers in Nova Scotia were today reported to the Department of Agriculture by a national animal advocacy organization.

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (APFA) sent a letter outlining numerous instances of apparent pollution and animal welfare concerns – including photographs from public access roads and aerial footage – to the department that oversees the fur farm industry.

“The information we have compiled and forwarded to the Department of Agriculture shows clear and consistent problems with feces, urine and water pollution at and around fur farms,” says Michael Howie, APFA spokesperson. “Not only does the Department of Agriculture have the authority to investigate and enforce legislation regarding fur farms in Nova Scotia, but they have the responsibility, as well.”

These complaints are following the announcement of the Montreal SPCA to criminally charge a fur farm operator in Quebec earlier this week.

“The fur industry has long operated without true oversight and today remains hidden away from the public eye,” Howie says. “The weak legislation in place protects fur farmers – not fur-bearing animals, millions of whom are slaughtered for their skin every year in Canada. It is time for our elected officials to stand up and demand true investigation and enforcement of this inherently inhumane and ecologically damaging industry.”

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals launched their #MakeFurHistory campaign in partnership with the Montreal SPCA and LUSH Cosmetics earlier this month and revealed shocking footage illustrating deplorable conditions for fur farmed animals across the country.

“Canadians deserve to know the truth about the fur industry,” Howie adds. “And when they see what happens in the darkest cages in the darkest corners, they will undoubtedly choose to Make Fur History.”