

**For immediate release**



**PRESS RELEASE**

6 June 2011

**FIRST-EVER PUBLIC FORUM ON ANIMAL WELFARE POLICIES AND  
END OF CULLING OF CATS IN CHONG PANG**

SINGAPORE, 6 June 2011 – ACRES is delighted to announce that the first-ever Public Forum on Animal Welfare Policies will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and we are inviting members of the public to join us at this landmark event.

Over the years, there has been much concern about animal welfare issues in Singapore. There has been increasing media coverage on these issues and members of the public have voiced their concerns through emails to AVA, on newspaper forums, blogs and on Facebook.

Organised by ACRES in collaboration with Chong Pang grassroots and with the support of Minister K Shanmugam, the first-ever Public Forum on Animal Welfare Policies, gives the public the opportunity to be engaged, it give the public the opportunity to voice their concerns and it gives the public the opportunity to help shape animal welfare policies in Singapore.

“I am happy that ACRES has launched this project. Our community is very happy to support and partner ACRES in this project. I hope it will help bring about a better consciousness of the way animals should be treated.” said Mr. K Shanmugam, Minister for Law and Foreign Affairs and MP for Nee Soon GRC.

Minister Khaw Boon Wan will be taking over as the new Minister for National Development. Through the forum, we want to hear the public’s constructive criticisms, their feedback and possible solutions to pressing animal welfare issues in Singapore. ACRES then propose to take up the issues with MND.

“ACRES will present all the concerns raised during the forum and we are confident that by working together and with your help and support, we can achieve a better world for the animals and our community” said Mr. Louis Ng, Executive Director of ACRES.

**At the forum, Minister Shanmugam will launch the Chong Pang Animal Welfare Programme. The programme includes the end of the culling of cats in the Chong Pang constituency and the launch of a humane cat management programme. The public will play an active and vital role in the programme, working closely with the Town Council, ACRES and Cat Welfare Society. More details about the programme will be provided during the forum.**

**Event Details**

Date : 18th June 2011 (Saturday)

Time : 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Venue : Chong Pang Community Club Hall, 21 Yishun Ring Road, Singapore 768677

<http://www.street-directory.com/singpost/singpost.cgi?postalcode=768677>

**Members of the media are invited to attend the forum. Please confirm your interest by 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011. For more information, the media contact details can be found below.**

**Contact:**

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**Notes to editors**

- Photos of animals are available on request.
- ACRES is a pioneering Singapore-based charity and Institution of Public Character, founded by Singaporeans in 2001 with the aim of promoting animal welfare.
- Cat Welfare Society is a charity whose aim is to improve the welfare of community cats in Singapore. All community cats deserve our compassion and protection, and we believe that there are humane, effective ways to control their population -- that is, through sterilisation instead of destruction.

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Animal Concerns Research & Education Society