

Animal Protective Foundation  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **COLLINS PARK CANADA GEESE SUPPORT TAKES FLIGHT**

**Grass-roots SAVE THE GEESE group in Scotia gains public support for utilizing non-lethal Canada goose population management tactics**

**Scotia— Give Geese a chance! Representative James Tedisco and growing regional and national support are firmly behind ensuring that only effective, non-lethal humane methods are used to manage the geese population at Collins Park in Scotia, NY.**

The Scotia-based SAVE THE GEESE group will address the public-supported goal of ceasing the CO2 gassing of Collins Park geese by the Village of Scotia in a rally to be held at Collins Park on Saturday, May 27 at noon. In the past few weeks, the group's mission and objectives to ensure that only humane methods of eliminating the geese population are utilized by the village have gained support from elected officials, individuals and businesses in the area. Visibility for this worthy cause is gaining momentum with expanded regional, national and international outcry against the plan to gas the geese. **James Tedisco, NYS Assembly Republican leader**, has communicated his opposition to the village's current plan to **NY Wildlife Services State Director Richard Chipman** and the **NYS DEC Commissioner Denise Sheehan**. The Humane Society of the United States, the ASPCA, the New York State Humane Association along with locally-based Animal Protective Foundation in Scotia support the use of non-lethal methods and have communicated their position to the Scotia village officials. "We don't dispute the village's need to rid the park of the perceived nuisance of geese; we simply want an effective and humane method to be used – there's no sound fiscal or process-based reason to justify any other method" remarked Susan Bobinsky, Executive Director for the Scotia based APF.

George Sarris, federally licensed wildlife rehabilitator and renowned expert and educator on water fowl, shares, "Canada geese are amazing creatures; they mate for life, are very social,

and have been diminishing in population for the past 30 years, despite what the village officials in Scotia would lead you to believe.”

Research and expert testimony confirm that humane methods of eliminating large geese populations are the most cost-effective and have been proven to be the most successful. (Boston, Broome County (Binghamton), and many public venues on Long Island are just a few examples of successes in managing geese.) **US Senator Charles Schumer** has awarded over \$200,000 in federally funds to downstate municipalities to be used to manage geese population using non-lethal methods. There is also no scientific or fiscal evidence to support the use cruelly euthanizing the geese in a gas chamber; this method is not effective and will not provide the relief the city is looking for. Many locals are confused with the contradictory and misguided statements of the mayor and other city officials indicating that they are willing to use border collies or humane methods next year. This points to their acknowledgement that killing the geese may not manage the goose population and that they may be throwing away tax payer’s money and resources.

Call 374-3944, ext. 110 for further information.

The Animal Protective Foundation is a full-service, open access animal shelter. It is an independent, not-for-profit organization and receives no government support. It provides shelter and care for thousands of animals each year.