



CANADIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COALITION

Interim Activity Report – Fall 2015

The following document briefly outlines some of the activities that the Canadian Animal Health Coalition is currently undertaking.

Projects

Animal Welfare Code-related Projects:

- i. “The Market Relevant Codes and Communication Leadership” is on schedule and budget. The Poultry (Meat) Code public comment period (PCP) runs from October 5 to December 4. The Poultry (Layer) Code Development Committee (CDC) met September 22 and 23 and their PCP is expected to start in March, 2016. The Veal CDC met July 22 and 23; the Bison CDC on September 19 and 20; and the Rabbit CDC on September 1 and 2.
- ii. “Providing Market Assurance via a National Assurance System Model” was partially approved by AAFC. Discussions continue with AAFC to clearly define work plan and financial elements. The Contribution Agreement has been completed and forwarded for sign-off. Initial work plan activities have commenced.
- iii. The Transport Code project application continues to be developed by Jackie Wepruk, with inputs from cross-sectoral stakeholders. Phase one will establish a clear foundation and common understanding from which the complexities of the transport process can be addressed, including a Scientific Committee’s report, a jurisdictional review to clarify the roles and interactions between authorities, and an environmental scan of initiatives underway.

A new Communications and Administrative Technical Assistant, Ina Eriksson of Bowden, Alberta, has been hired and is currently being trained by Jackie Wepruk and Ina’s predecessor, Mikki Shatosky.

“Building Capacity for Emergency Management in Canada's Livestock Industry” proposal:

This project application was completed by Matt Taylor, Dr. Ed Empringham, Leisa Albers and Ron Barker and forwarded to AAFC on October 20. Proposed project activities include:

- Scan and evaluation of current status of EM tools in Canada’s livestock industry
- Provincial and regional awareness workshops
- Commodity-specific association level plan and on-farm producer level guidelines
- Testing and revising plans and guidelines through provincial and regional simulations
- Finalising plans and guidelines
- All commodity provincial and regional workshops
- Support the national strategy and action plans for critical infrastructure



This project, if approved, would commence in early 2016.

Programs

Certified Livestock Transport Program

Courses

There remains keen interest in Poultry CLT with a significant increase in new entries into CLT. The poultry module in the past was underutilized. 2014-15 will see about 800 new certifications in CLT for Poultry across Canada.

Alberta will also be undertaking coordinated delivery of Poultry CLT in 2016 to offset driver fees (as was done in Quebec and Ontario).



Alberta continues to teach Hog and Cattle CLT on a regular basis.

BC, through the Farm Animal Care committee at the BC Agriculture Council, is looking more closely at CLT with a view to access funding to offset course fees for drivers.

Quebec is beginning to show more interest in Hog CLT. They have been a strong TQA province, but the Canadian focus of CLT is becoming more important in training. Hopefully we will see a move to CLT certified hog haulers in Quebec.

CLT instructors

The CAHC will be training two new instructors for Ontario. There is need for this as Farm & Food Care Ontario, through their Impact program, would like to deliver Cattle CLT in the same way they made Poultry CLT possible earlier this year.

CMC & CPEPC Technical Symposium

Geraldine Auston made a presentation on the CLT program at the CMC & CPEPC Technical Symposium (October 1 & 2). We had excellent feedback and lots of interest in the program, immediately resulting in 22 poultry drivers being trained in Saskatchewan on November 21. There was also a high degree of interest in the online course development and its launch.

Online course development

Joel Sotomayor and Geraldine Auston continue to work on getting the online program set-up for testing. We are now procuring videos and images. Content needs to be reviewed for narration and a script developed. We are on "crunch time" as we hope to have all the elements available by the end of January. This would allow for testing and refining in February and March. The goal is to have the courses available online for driver certification for April 1, 2016.

Other Activities

Secretariat Services

The CAHC continues to provide secretariat services to the National Farm Animal Care Council and the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council and continues to consider offering this service to other organizations.

In its role as Secretariat for the NFAHW Council, the CAHC has been active in preparing for their annual Forum being held in Ottawa in late November.



Carl Block Award

Each year, the CAHC recognizes a leader in the Canadian Farmed Animal Health System by the presentation of the Carl Block Award. Nominations were received in the fall and a review committee met to discuss the nominees. The committee made their decision and the worthy recipient will be presented with the Carl Block Award at the CAHC Appreciation Evening being held in conjunction with the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council's Forum in Ottawa.

For More information on the CAHC:

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