



Beef Industry Conference Workshop



Dr. Grandin at Livestock Care Conference



Horse Welfare Tour & Media Training



Food & U Days at U of A



CLT Train-the-Trainer

Alberta Farm Animal Care

2008

ANNUAL REPORT



afac.ab.ca

AFAC's Strategic Plan

How to effectively deliver on our mission and make a distinctive impact, relative to our resources

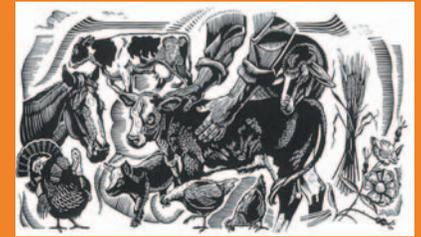
Vision: Livestock in Alberta are respected and well cared for.

Mission:

- ✓ AFAC will provide a coordinated approach for the livestock industry to work together to advance and promote responsible animal care.
- ✓ AFAC will be a collective voice for livestock welfare in Alberta.

Guiding Principles:

- ✓ Proper handling of animals in our care is a moral, social, ethical responsibility.
- ✓ Sound animal welfare practices and healthy animals may contribute significantly to improved production and industry sustainability.
- ✓ Strong, cooperative partnerships with industry in extension, research, legislative developments and enforcement are essential.
- ✓ As a diverse livestock industry organization, AFAC provides a collective voice and member groups are responsible to deliver industry specific programs on their own behalf.



Goals: see Annual Report headers

Strategic Priorities: see Chairman's report

AFAC Board Members

Alberta Auction Markets Association
Alberta Beef Producers
Alberta Chicken Producers
Alberta Egg Producers
Alberta Elk

Alberta Hatching Egg Producers
Alberta Lamb Producers
Alberta Milk
Alberta Pork
Alberta Turkey Producers

Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
University of Alberta
Western Stock Growers Association
Wild Rose Agricultural Producers
Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development

Active Members

Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies
Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association*
Alberta Equestrian Federation*
Alberta Poultry Hatchery Association
Bison Producers of Alberta
CDN/AB Livestock Research Trust Inc.

Calgary Stampede
Canadian Professional Rodeo Association
Edmonton Northlands
Feeders Association of Alberta Ltd.
Horse Racing Alberta

Lakeland College, Agricultural Science
North American Equine Ranching
Information Council, Inc.
Olds College, School of Animal Science
University of Calgary Veterinary Medicine

** Current Directors at Large on AFAC Board*

Associate Members

Alberta Goat Breeders Association
Alta Genetics Inc.
Ann de St. Remy
ATB Financial
Auburndale Elk Farm
Berdina Farms Ltd.
Bouvry Exports Calgary Ltd.
Calgary Cooperative Association Ltd.
Calico Beef Consulting
Canada Safeway Limited
Canadian Turkey Marketing Agency
Cargill Foods
Carmen Creek Gourmet Meats
Clearwater County
Copperhead Transport Ltd.
Crestomere Veterinary Services

Crossfield Ag Society
Elanco Animal Health
Highland Feeders Limited
L.E.D. Farms Ltd.
Lilydale Foods
Lilyfer Poultry Farms Ltd.
Maple Leaf Poultry
Narwood Turkey Farms
Nilsson Bros. Inc.
Olymel
Oyen Veterinarian Services
J. Woods Livestock Services
Rennie, Mack
Richter Farms Ltd.
Rockyview Animal Clinic Ltd.
Sheep River Veterinary Services

Shipwheel Cattle Feeders Ltd.
Southern Alberta Sheep Breeders Assoc.
Stettler Veterinary Clinic
Stockyards Veterinary Services Ltd.
Stolte Farms Ltd.
STS Farms Ltd.
Sundgaard Poultry Farm Ltd.
Sunterra Meats Ltd.
The Municipal District of Rocky View #44
United Farmers of Alberta
West Farm Underwriting (Co-operators Ins.)
Wildridge Elk Ventures Inc.
Willabend Angus Ranch Ltd.
Winter's Turkeys

Message from the Chair

Despite the economic pressures facing many of our livestock organizations and our producers, financial support for AFAC strengthened. Our member groups stepped up to the plate in 2008 to increase AFAC's operating budget and to support the on-call veterinary program, the ALERT line and horse welfare issue management. Action speaks louder than words, both by what we do to improve animal care and by our show of solidarity towards the value of collective efforts.

I am pleased to report that progress has been made to rekindle AFAC relations with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD). We were able to reestablish a one year grant for Livestock Welfare Extension. Deputy Minister, John Knapp's words at our April conference are worth repeating. He said, "Right now, when our livestock sector is going through a period of not just difficulty but great difficulty, we need the type of support that AFAC can bring. While a regulatory system is vital to the messaging about animal care and the standards of care, the work that the industry does through AFAC is supremely important as an educator and integrator across livestock sectors."

We still have some work to do and in our new Strategic Plan we identified some key strategic priorities. They are:

- ✓ Establish and strengthen relationships with ARD and ALMA.
- ✓ Reestablish working relationship with the Alberta SPCA and other enforcement agencies.
- ✓ Provide timely early intervention for livestock care, including the on-call veterinarian services.
- ✓ Ensure industry and ALPS partners are well informed of livestock

Manager's Report

This past year, the board developed a consolidated Strategic Plan. We had several project / program plans but not one overarching one. As AFAC board members said, "it was a simple cost effective process and a very worthwhile exercise. It is a powerful document and sets the tone for what AFAC is about and where it is going."

AFAC continues to drive improvements and innovation in animal care. Whether it is through the development of what is now a nationally recognized livestock hauler training program, the Livestock Transport Conference, humane handling guidelines or initiating the country's only on-call veterinary-supported response service, AFAC has demonstrated animal care is top of mind for farmers, handlers, haulers and processors. That is why when the horrible images of the Hallmark meat plant hit the US, we could stand up and show by our actions what we have in place to ensure responsible animal care. American agencies turned to us for our resources and programs.

The industry has made a collective effort to understand what the issues are. And, over the years there has been a remarkable shift in attitude. Our industry representatives are some of the most progressive in the world and we are prepared to take on the next big wave of challenges.

In order for us to maintain our leadership position, status quo is unacceptable. It's about continuous improvement. I predict another shift in production practices that will be more inclusive of all aspects of animal needs.

We factor in how animals function and feel but the next step is to look at the animal's ability to exhibit its natural behaviors. I think about how far we've come in some things – like increasing laying hen cage sizes. But, now we're looking to see if that's enough. Can the life of the bird and productivity be enhanced with more mobility, nesting boxes and perches?

That's the level of animal care we're going to be moving into. Uncertainty, yes, but well within the industry's capability if the current attention to

care issues and have industry participation in any problems / challenges related to livestock care.

Our board continually evaluates our programming and recognizes when some programs need greater public or national funds dedicated to them. The Certified Livestock Transport (CLT) program has outgrown AFAC's ability to fund its administration and we firmly believe that the veterinary services portion of our Livestock Care Response Service needs to be more securing funded by government. We are all judged by the actions of those few who neglect their livestock. We have proved that working towards early intervention and education to promote responsible animal care is an overarching benefit for the sustainability and marketing of Alberta's livestock industry.

I commend the many new animal welfare initiatives underway by our member groups. Some examples include: the dairy industry's project to reduce lameness, the broiler industry's project to improve bird welfare, the egg industry's attention to housing concerns, the horse groups' efforts to improve horse well being and the beef industry's transport project.

I am confident of the continued strength of AFAC given the collective leadership and commitment of Alberta's livestock industry and our management team.

Doug Sawyer, AFAC Chairman



animal welfare issues is sustained. Our industry funded research efforts demonstrate this.

It was noted on the AFAC article done on the California Proposition 2, that with respect to improving animal welfare, these types of ballot measures may be a bit short-sighted. Now that certain livestock housing conditions have been outlawed in California, farmers are left to come up with a solution for their farms that comply with legislation, try to reestablish their operation out-of-state or go out of business.

A more effective way to bring about change would be to allow producers to voluntarily phase-out practices that may compromise welfare so that the problem does not merely relocate. In Colorado, the pork industry voluntarily phased-out gestation crates without it having to go to the voters and thus could control the measures to be taken and the timeline.

Is it not time for Alberta industries to get ahead of this issue and drive change using the research we have available to us?

I am not an animal handling / behavior expert by any means. Luckily, I feed off the knowledge and enthusiasm of the team of AFAC contractors (thanks Pam, Ray, Mikki, Sharron, Jennifer, Tim and Jackie), my counterparts in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, industry staff, world wide contacts and our Alberta industry.

I am inspired by the people who have the strength to earn a living in this the livestock industry. There is a strong attitude of 'we can make this happen'. When I witness that dedication, that commitment, I can't help but be proud about what AFAC and the livestock industry has accomplished for livestock care in Alberta.

Respectfully submitted:

March 2009



2008 AFAC Program Highlights

GOAL 1:

Promote responsible, humane animal care within the livestock industry.

AFAC Member & Industry Contact

In 2008 AFAC, in partnership with the Canadian farm animal care groups, published two issues of **Livestock Welfare INSIGHTS**. These issues featured articles written by University of Guelph students, on the diverse nature of the research work in Canada. Articles were reprinted in industry and research publications.

We printed 11,000 copies that were distributed by the farm animal care groups across Canada. The web link was widely circulated.

AFAC's **Update** featured on farm security.

Over 230 livestock producers, students and other industry representatives attended the **Livestock Care Conference**. Speakers included Drs. Temple Grandin, Terry Whiting, Ed Pajor, John Webster and John Church and Dan Murphy. Their presentations generated excellent media coverage.

Industry Extension

AFAC attended 24 livestock industry meetings, conferences and workshops including:

- an international meat trading company,
- three customized presentations to agriculture students at Olds, Lethbridge and Lakeland colleges.
- a one-day 'Good Livestock Handling Pays' workshop that AFAC organized for the annual Beef Industry Conference.
- an ALERT workshop was held with Alberta Milk and other industry groups.

Humane Handling Guidelines

In July, AFAC and the Alberta Equine Welfare Group released the *Humane Handling Guidelines for Horses, standards for the care of unfit animals*.

AFAC and the swine, dairy, sheep, horse and beef industries continued to promote and distribute the humane handling guidelines. The guidelines are also an integral part of the Certified Livestock Transport training program.

Demand for the guidelines continues to grow. AFAC mailed out 1,069 beef guidelines, 487 dairy, 334 swine, 4,773 horse and 237 sheep in 2008. The horse, sheep and dairy guidelines are now available on AFAC's web site.

Matched Assistance

AFAC continues to offer matched assistance for the delivery of the **good livestock handling pays** message at industry workshops and conferences. **Thirteen groups** throughout rural



Alberta made use of this program and 475 individuals participated.

AFAC worked with Michelle Welsh to promote her *Cattle Health Care and Handling* course. The livestock industry recognizes that livestock health and welfare are vitally linked.

Industry Reports

AFAC, working with the Alberta Equine Welfare Group, developed and released the **Alberta Horse Report** which has been circulated and referenced widely throughout North America.

AFAC prepared an article for industry on the **November 4/08 California Proposition 2**, Standards for Confining Animals. This was used across Canada.

AFAC issued a report summarizing the presentations of the **Livestock Transportation Conference** held in Kansas City in February 2008.

Demand continues for the AFAC / Jennifer Woods report **An Analysis of Commercial Livestock Truck Accidents in Canada and the US**. The report has had a global reach.

Euthanasia Training

This AFAC / ABVMA program began in late 2007. A draft of the foundation document went to ABVMA for input. ARD Education and Training staff are working with us to develop training materials.

Livestock Handling Extension

AFAC distributed 34 copies of Dr. Temple Grandin's handling and auditing DVDs. Requests came from producers, CFIA, education and industry organizations. AFAC's web site features video clips from Dr. Grandin's DVD series.

Livestock Handling for Youth

AFAC began revising the following youth programs:

- **4-H LAW (Learning about Animal Welfare)** program that was originally developed by AFAC in 1996.
- **Livestock Handling of Youth** course is being updated and will be released in 2009.

Animal Welfare Audits

AFAC worked with industry to complete the final steps to certification of the PAACO animal welfare auditor training for three Alberta auditors. The auditors shadowed Dr. Temple Grandin in three federally inspected meat plants last spring.



Livestock Protection

The AFAC board decided to cease any further efforts to keep the Alberta Livestock Protection System (ALPS) going and took a leadership role by inviting enforcement personnel to the table to address specific areas needing a team approach to improvement.

The marketing of unfit livestock is an area that still needs to be addressed. AFAC continues to monitor cull cow, horse and pig problems in Alberta. Contacts have been made with other provinces to see how they are handling the situation at auction markets. AFAC is planning a workshop on the subject in 2009.

Horse Welfare

AFAC formulated a strategy for the FACs groups and horse industry groups across Canada to be prepared and participate in speaking collectively and with a unified voice to horse welfare issues and horse meat plant concerns.

We set up the **Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada**, created a web site, coordinated a national two-day media training session and provided the Canadian embassy in Washington with the facts. Industry contributed \$30,000 towards this initiative.



Livestock Emergency Response Course

AFAC sponsored training sessions for the new Red Deer and central Hwy 2 corridor livestock response team.



Be Aware. Animal Care is Everyone's Responsibility

AFAC developed an ALERT awareness campaign for fall 2007 / winter 2008. This campaign featuring a series of 12 news lines with audio clips that were distributed throughout Alberta. The news lines focused on basic livestock care in winter, including swath grazing, winter watering, herd segregation and proper transport of livestock.

This campaign is running again this winter. Posters and magnets were distributed to Alberta Transportation, auction markets, RCMP detachments, 4-H clubs and at livestock industry events.

Thanks to members groups like ABVMA and the Grey Wooded Forage Association, who featured the campaign in their newsletters.



Certified Livestock Transport (CLT) Training Program

Last year was a banner growth year for the CLT program. There were 37 training sessions with over 300 people achieving certification, including livestock haulers, dispatchers and handlers. The one poultry session included the emergency response course as well. As was the original intent of the CLT advisory group, the program was expanded to include handlers at auction markets and meat plants.

AFAC, partnering with Lethbridge College, held a train-the-trainer session in January. Twenty-two people were trained to deliver the program. The majority of these trainers will be conducting in-house training.

At the request of Fairview College, Mikki Shatosky, CLT program coordinator, and Ken McDonald, an experienced trainer, trained 3 people to deliver the program through the college.

The demand for the program increased last year due to the adoption of the program by companies across Canada.

- Cor Van Raay Farms adopted CLT as part of their standard operating procedures for shipping and receiving.
- National Cattle Feeders' Association passed a motion encouraging all livestock haulers to complete the CLT.

- Maple Leaf requires all drivers to have CLT or TQA.
- Canada Gold Beef Program made CLT a mandatory component of its protocol.

Arrangements have been made to translate the CLT materials to french on request from Quebec livestock groups.

AFAC began organizing a North American livestock transport conference for early 2009.

Speakers from North America, Australia and the UK were lined up to speak on global initiatives, training, audit systems, science, regulations and raising the profile of livestock transportation in the value chain. A round table to discuss North American livestock transport training needs and a CLT trainer workshop are also planned.

Due to the national demand for CLT, a new business model is needed. AFAC wants to engage national funders and still keep CLT an industry driven program that satisfies buyers and regulatory proof of competency needs. A consultant has been hired to develop this much needed model.



Livestock Care Response Plan

The successful **on-call veterinary services program** will continue for one more season as the industry contributed \$50,500. The funds were raised with an understanding that ARD and the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency (ALMA) need to provide future support. Since 2003, Alberta's livestock industries, the Alberta SPCA, ALIDF and DLFOA have invested over \$350,000 in this service.

AFAC developed a plan for a new regional approach for continuation of this valuable service.

AFAC's on-call veterinarian, Dr. Ray Fenton has responded to over 190 cases since October 2003. He has made more than 200 farm visits.

The **ALERT Line** received 359 calls in 2008. Of these, 205 were information calls, 131 were deemed to be cases and 23 were repeat calls on existing cases. Dr. Fenton assisted with 43 cases and AFAC's volunteer resource team members handled the remaining cases. Severe cases, cases with dead animals and cases that involve less than 10 horses were referred to the Alberta SPCA.

In most cases, the ALERT team achieved willing change to improve animal care. AFAC only participates with the consent of the owner.

The ALERT dispatcher noted an increase in calls from the Ag Info Line, fieldmen, firemen, RCMP, meat inspectors, veterinarian clinics, weigh scales, gov't staff. Top concerns were snow as a water source, lack of shelter, poor feed for winter grazing, poor feed quality, cold weather transportation and neglected animals due to absentee owners.

2008 ALERT Line Summary

Beef	52	Bison	6
Dairy	5	Elk	3
Horses	58	Other	4
Pigs	2	Sheep	1

TOTAL Cases 131

Information Calls 205

Repeat calls on existing cases 23

2007 ALERT Line Summary

TOTAL Cases 115

Information Calls 192

Repeat calls on existing cases 16



Goal 2:

Engage in discussion with the public about today's animal agriculture.

AFAC Web sites

AFAC.ab.ca averaged 22,350 visits per month and over 6,800 downloads. Top downloads are reports and humane handling guidelines. The 'Concerned about animal welfare' section responds to media and activist campaigns.

LivestockWelfare.com is a livestock welfare resource site funded by the *Putting Animal Welfare on the Agenda* program and managed by AFAC. It averaged 3,500 visits per month.

LivestockTransport.ca houses the **Certified Livestock Transport** training program and resources. It averaged 2,900 visits per month.

Each site is designed for specific audience and all sites are linked.

Urban Public Interaction

1. Targeted Events

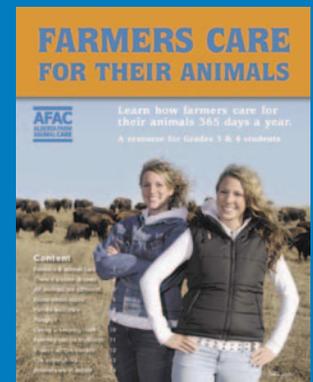
- ✓ AFAC attended **City Slickers** in Stony Plain, **Aggie Days** in Calgary and **Food and U Days** at the University of Alberta. These events enable us to connect directly with teachers, students and the urban public.

2. Teacher / Student Resources

- ✓ AFAC revised the elementary student booklet, first developed in 1997.
- ✓ AFAC reached out to teachers at the Teachers Ag Expo, hosted by the Calgary Stampede Aggie Days Committee, the Career Technology Studies curriculum planning meeting and by advertising in the *Alberta Teachers Association News*.
- ✓ AFAC distributed 1,961 hard copies of the elementary student booklet and 8 junior / senior high packages. The jr / sr high resource was downloaded 460 times. The guide for elementary teachers was downloaded 550 times. 3,036 rulers and 128 copies of the *Farmers care for their Animals* DVD were distributed.

3. Public Messaging

- ✓ The ALIDF sponsored *What's on Your Plate?* media campaign enables the livestock industry to stand together and deliver the message that we care for our animals and the environment. These articles are featured in the Calgary Herald and Edmonton Journal. Six of these articles featured farm animal welfare. They are posted at afac.ab.ca.
- ✓ We sent out 810 *Farm Animals: Who Cares?* booklets that targets the urban public. It is available online as well.



Goal 3:

Monitor & participate in issues and legislation that affect animal care.

Issue Management

The Alberta Equine Welfare Group (AFAC coordinated) addressed the rapid influx of US horses into AB and SK, being transported under unacceptable conditions. The *Alberta Horse Welfare Report* was completed and presented to Equine Canada and at a USDA meeting in Washington.

Activists groups campaigned to ban laying hen cage systems. Municipal and city councils, hospitals and colleges were targeted. Alberta Egg Producers initiated an outreach program, reassuring decision makers that egg farmers are responsible care-givers for their hens.

Negative headlines continued to erode consumer trust in agriculture. AFAC prepared speaking notes and media messages in response to:

- California meat plant (Hallmark) video released showing graphic **inhumane treatment of dairy cows** (HSUS)
- Humane **treatment of horses in Canada** (Canadian Horse Defense Coalition, Vancouver)
- Humane **transportation** is a priority (Canadian Farm Animal Coalition)
- **Long haul transport** with a focus on Alberta pigs going to Hawaii (WSPA in Calgary)
- **Humane treatment of horses** in Canada (CBC coverage & Animals' Angels investigative report)

- Humane treatment of **livestock at auction markets** (HSUS)
- **General animal care** speaking notes and quotes, livestock producers are caring for their animals (SPCA cases)
- **Responsible and humane production** for turkeys (PETA)

AFAC informed industry on:

- PEW report on industrialized agriculture
- Animal Defense League - report on animal protection laws
- California's Proposition 2, Standards for confining animals

Media Relations

AFAC sent out nine media releases in 2008:

1. Be Aware: animal care is everyone's responsibility
2. Canada's horse industry supports the CFIA
3. Livestock Transport Conference announced
4. Practices and laws in place to humanely transport horses
5. Humane Handling Guidelines for Horses now available
6. Top animal welfare experts highlight record Livestock Care Conference
7. Livestock care leaders honored with Awards of Distinction
8. Humane treatment of horses is a top priority
9. Animal welfare during transportation a priority

Goal 4:

Encourage research relevant to animal care.

Livestock Welfare Research

AFAC supports research / tech transfer projects on animal husbandry practices, disease detection, invasive procedures and housing. AFAC reviewed these new research projects for possible funding:

- Effect of Stress on Respiratory Vaccine Efficacy in High Risk Calves
- A Behavioural Assessment of the Welfare of Horses in Feedlots
- Genes Involved in the Predisposition to Dark Cutting Beef
- Effects of Stress and Increased Catecholamine Release on Shedding and Mitigation of E. coli O157:H7 in Finishing Beef Feedlot Cattle
- Evaluation of Three Different Methods of Analgesia for Pain Relief During Castration in Horses
- The Relationship Between Hoof Fat Pad Characteristics and the Body Condition of Lactating Cows on Dairy Farms in Alberta
- Restriction of Broiler Breeder Body Composition
- Development of Novel and Practical Pain Mitigation Strategies for Castration in Beef Cattle and their Relationship to Stress, Performance and E. coli
- Reducing Stress and Improving Recovery From Handling During Loading and Transport of Market Pigs



- Effect of Season, Transport Distance, Cattle Age and Loading Density on Trailer Microclimate, Cattle Welfare and Pathogen Shedding During Transport

Projects completed or ongoing from 2007:

- ✓ Benchmarking study of current transport practices in the Alberta beef industry (AAFC)
- ✓ Ante-mortem stressors affect on broiler meat value (U of A)
- ✓ Engineering, animal welfare & meat quality considerations of broiler transportation in a heated & ventilated vehicle (U of S)
- ✓ Treatment of Chicken Osteoporosis (U of A)
- ✓ Dairy Cattle Welfare Project (UBC)
- ✓ Fertility Decline in Broilers (U of A)

Working with the Putting Animal Welfare on the Agenda project, an up-to-date listing of farm animal welfare research projects is on LivestockWelfare.com.

AFAC Timeline

1988-1991

1988-91

- OFAC, MFAC & FACS formed

1990

- Uniform forms ad hoc committee for industry to address issues jointly

1992

- Alberta Agriculture sponsors 'Livestock Issues Coalition' meeting. Issues include: animal welfare, food safety / animal health and environment
- Industry meets & agrees value in coalition, strength in number & need for a more effective voice for animal agriculture
- Industry decides to focus on animal welfare & calls group Alberta Foundation for Animal Stewardship

1993-1995

- Name changes to Alberta Foundation for Animal Care & by-laws established
- Perspectives newsletter launched
- Active & associate members join AFAC
- Horned Cattle Trust Fund monies directed to AFAC
- Animal Care ALERT Line started
- Livestock Transportation Review completed
- Dr. Jeff Goodwin tells us at the AGM "While it is essential to tell our side of the story, the focus should be less on a positive public perception and more on an accurate one"

1996-1999

- 4-H Learning About Animal Welfare launched
- Alberta Livestock Protection System (ALPS) set up
- Livestock Care Conference series started
- Elementary student / teacher resources completed
- Name change to Alberta Farm Animal Care
- Cattle & pig hauling courses launched
- Issue reports & INSIGHTS started

2000-2002

- McDonald's adds animal welfare to QA protocols
- AFAC Research fund initiated
- AFAC Awards of Distinction started
- ALIDF supports AFAC's Communication Plan
- Livestock Care Response Plan put in place due to drought

2003

- BSE case in Alberta - US border closes to cattle, sheep & bison
- Grades 7-12 student / teacher resource completed
- Livestock care consulting veterinarian Dr. R Fenton joins the AFAC team
- Swine humane handling guidelines completed

2004

- AFAC & ABVMA co-sponsor Dr. Grandin to speak in Fairview, Vermilion & Lethbridge
- Dairy humane handling guidelines completed
- Horse Welfare in Alberta report / brochure released
- PMU contracts ended
- Do we still need AFAC? review completed
- Begin distributing Dr. Grandin handling DVDs
- Handle with Care cards developed (horse & cattle)
- Alberta Canada Livestock Research Partnership initiated
- AFAC received 2nd research fund installment

2005

- International Animal Transportation meeting in Calgary
- US border re-opens to cattle, sheep & bison
- Livestock transport training program underway with industry advisory team
- Beef & sheep humane handling guidelines completed
- Funding received for Livestock Care consulting veterinarian
- Animal Protection Act & Regulations revised
- AFAC manager receives Humane Care award from CVMA
- National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) launched

2006

- What's on Your Plate? consumer messaging started
- Animal Protection Act (APA) & Regulations revisions enacted
- Downer Benchmarking Study completed
- Review of Humane Transport Regs coordinated
- Putting Farm Animal Welfare on the Agenda joint project begins
- Use of monetary fines for APA reviewed

2007

- Launched Certified Livestock Transporter (CLT) training program & support services. 58 trainers and 88 truckers trained
- Be Prepared for Winter program launched with radio, news lines & posters
- Beef Cattle Transportation benchmarking survey underway
- Beef, dairy, swine, sheep humane handling guidelines reprinted
- The Alberta Equine Welfare Group is established
- Euthanasia training program started with ABVMA

2008

- Livestock Care Conference - record attendance
- Alberta Horse Welfare Report & horse humane handling guideline completed
- Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada formed
- CLT - over 300 drivers trained
- Livestock Transport Conference planned
- *Farmers Care for their Animals* booklet revised