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# **AFAC**

## **ALBERTA FARM ANIMAL CARE**

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**2009 Annual Report**

# AFAC's Strategic Plan

**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:

- Promote responsible, humane animal care within the livestock industry
- Monitor and contribute to issues and legislation that affect animal care and communicate with producers.
- Provide for greater public understanding with respect to producers commitment and dedication to provide humane care for their animals.
- Encourage and support practical and science based research relevant to animal care.
- Maintain and continue to strengthen AFAC in order to respond and react to member needs.



## AFAC Board Members

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

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 Cattle Feeders' Association\*  
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.  
Mack Rennie  
Maple Leaf Poultry  
Narwood Turkey Farms  
Nilsson Bros. Inc.  
Olymel  
Oyen Veterinarian Services  
J. Woods Livestock Services  
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

The last year has been a year of transition within AFAC. In April, Susan Church, the founder and manager of Alberta Farm Animal Care since 1993, retired. The Board hired Jim Haggins as 'Interim Manager' to work with the Board and Executive Committee in reviewing and working through AFAC governance principles, making some changes as deemed necessary and finally hiring a full time Executive Director of AFAC to strengthen our position in the industry into the future. We would like to thank the staff members and consultants working with us for their patience and understanding as we worked our way through this process.

The board is very pleased to welcome Lorna Baird as Executive Director of AFAC. Lorna started on February 1, 2010 and has been busy the last couple months familiarizing herself with AFAC policies and programs and using her expertise to continue the development of new and existing AFAC projects.

Last year we reported that we still had some work to do to fulfill some of the key priorities of our Strategic Priorities which were:

## 1. Establish and strengthen relationships with ARD and ALMA.

**Results:** Following the one year funding contract received in 2008, a new 3 year funding contract was signed late in 2009. This will provide AFAC with continued stability through June 30, 2012.

## 2. Re-establish a working relationship with the Alberta SPCA and other enforcement agencies.

**Results:** The AB SPCA and AFAC have worked together on several animal welfare cases in an attempt to resolve stressful situations. Some of these efforts have had very successful results.

## 3. Provide timely early intervention for livestock care, including the 'On Call Veterinarian' services

**Results:** With the assistance of the ABVMA, ARD and the SPCA, we expanded the 'On Call Veterinarian' program to 16 veterinarians based from Fairview to south of Lethbridge. This has improved efficiency of delivery of this valuable service to our livestock industries.

Considering the serious lack of forage in some parts of Alberta in 2009 due to the cool, dry spring and early summer and the high cost of supplemental nutrition, we expanded the winter animal care awareness campaign to start November 1 vs the historical January start date. We

felt this was necessary to warn producers that extra care and attention may be needed to properly care for our livestock that may be entering the winter in somewhat poorer condition than planned.

November weather cooperated after a rough October but our ALERT resource team handled more calls in December than ever before.

## 4. Ensure that industry and the Alberta Livestock Protection Network (ALPN) partners are well informed of livestock issues.

**Results:** Additional meetings in 2009 have raised 'partner' issues and provided some common ground in dealing with continuing situations. The benchmarking of compromised cattle at auction marts and processing plants is the latest task being discussed.

Our industry partners representing the beef, pork and sheep industries were hit with an Alberta government change in policy which mandates that all service charges/levies be made refundable. This policy takes effect in the next year and has caused some budget reductions within these organizations. We very much appreciate that these organizations, along with others represented on the board of directors, continue to strongly support AFAC through financial and 'In Kind' contributions.

The focus on animal welfare continues to be one of the key qualifiers in market access for our export products around the world and is of increasing importance to our domestic markets as well. In this next year, AFAC will be working with industry to strengthen the appeal of Alberta produced products in an effort to help secure new markets and expand existing ones.

This has been a year full of challenges and great opportunities. I would like to thank the board, the contractors and especially the staff for going above and beyond to work through challenges and seize opportunities as they presented themselves. I am very confident and excited that AFAC is moving forward in a positive direction.

Doug Sawyer



# Interim Manager's Report

When I was hired as interim manager at AFAC in May, there was a clear mandate for the board, management and staff to:

1. Take an internal look at the organization in cooperation with the board and executive committee
2. Consider some operational changes and present them to the board for approval
3. Advertise and hire a new, full time executive director by the end of January, 2010

Several governance changes were implemented by the board and they have successfully hired Lorna Baird to lead AFAC into the future.

Various projects moved forward, some were expanded based on need and others initiated. As Doug has outlined in his Chair's report, we've had our share of accomplishments in 2009.

I would like to specially recognize Sharron Johannesen for her dedication to AFAC in making sure project reports were submitted, day to day tasks handled and communications conducted to the best of our ability. During the busiest time of the year for AFAC, experienced some challenges and Sharron stepped up to ensure that things stayed on track.

In addition, our consultants who took on some extra work need to also be recognized. Ted Darling came on board to initiate the process of moving the Certified Livestock Transport program from a provincial to a national program; Jody Wacowich took on much of the organization of the 2010 Livestock Care Conference, and all the other consultants who continue to make AFAC programs and projects successful.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee for their guidance and support. It has truly been a pleasure working with this group of dedicated people who continually promote AFAC and its benefits to the livestock and poultry industries.

Jim Haggins



# 2009 AFAC Program Highlights

## AFAC Websites

AFAC.ab.ca averaged approximately 12,000 visits and over 10,000 downloads per month in 2009. The top downloads are the conference presentations and industry reports.

LivestockWelfare.com is a livestock welfare resource site funded by the Putting Animal Welfare on the Agenda program and managed by AFAC. It averaged 3,800 visits per month.

LivestockTransport.ca houses the Certified Livestock Transport training program and resources. It averaged 2,800 visits per month.

## Matched Assistance

AFAC continues to offer matched assistance for the delivery of the 'Good Livestock Handling Pays' and 'Cattle Health Care and Handling' messages at industry workshops and conferences. Three groups (300 individuals) in rural Alberta accessed the program in 2009.

## Research

A meeting was held with 16 research and industry representatives in an effort to start a process of identifying key overarching areas of research which would be applicable to several species. The process will continue with additional meetings being scheduled in 2010.

Funding to support projects ongoing or pending in 2009 include:

- Hoof Health: An Initiative to Reduce Lameness in Alberta Dairy Herds
- Development of Novel and Practical Pain Mitigation Strategies for Castration in Beef Cattle and Their Relationship to Stress, Performance and E. Coli
- Effect of Season, Transport Distance, Cattle Age and Loading Density on Trailer Microclimate, Cattle Welfare and Pathogen Shedding During Transport
- A Behavioural Assessment of the Welfare of Horses in Feedlots
- Alternative Management Options for Group Sow Housing Systems
- Pork Animal Care Quality Platform Protocols and Pilot Delivery

## Livestock Protection

The Alberta Livestock Protection Network (ALPN) was created in direct response to growing public and producer concern for an effective, accountable and coordinated province-wide program targeting animal care.

Members include ARD, CFIA, ASPCA, RCMP and LIS. A new charter was adopted and all members are dedicated to coordinating benchmarking of identified issues and reacting accordingly to the results obtained. Current considerations include benchmarking of compromised cattle moved through auction marts and packers.

## Animal Welfare Audits

AFAC provided support for PAACO training for prospective swine and beef auditors with Dr. Grandin.

## Livestock Welfare Extension & Communication

AFAC attended 15 livestock industry meetings, conferences and workshops including:

- presentations to U of A and Olds and Lakeland College students
- Dr. Temple Grandin made presentations at the U of C Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.
- Dr. Grandin also made a presentation to the Alberta Sheep Symposium
- a Livestock Emergency Response course and Mock Disaster training.

## Livestock Handling for Youth

Revisions to the 4-H LAW (Learning about Animal Welfare) program were completed and the Livestock Handling for Youth course was updated and one workshop was held.

## Humane Handling Resources

- Temple Grandin DVDs – AFAC's website features video clips from Dr. Grandin's handling and auditing DVD series. Canadian-based requests for purchase can be made to AFAC through links on the web page.
- Humane Handling Guidelines - Supplies of Humane Handling guidelines for swine and beef were virtually exhausted in 2009 while the availability of sheep and dairy were limited. Discussions are underway to reprint these sought after publications. Demand was somewhat offset for horse, dairy and sheep booklets as these are available electronically through the AFAC website.

## Industry Contact and Animal Care Issue Management

**Publications** – The Summer 2009 Update highlighted AFAC's program activities.

**Conferences** – AFAC hosted a Livestock Transport Conference and the Livestock Care Conference in 2009 and they were both well attended.

### Communications to industry -

- reported on the Winnipeg Humane Society, HSUS, PETA meeting about ending confinement practices
- interviewed for a Global TV report regarding horse processing in Canada
- reviewed the revisions to the Criminal Code and updated contacts
- responded to petition regarding horses for processing and/or human consumption (Dave Tilson, MP for Dufferin-Caledon).
- communicated a concern regarding the loss of an AB Special Prosecutor who was able to focus on animal welfare cases
- communicated to the University of Alberta the importance of the Livestock Ethology and Animal Welfare position to animal welfare research and teaching in Alberta and requested that the position be refilled even though strict budgetary guidelines had been implemented.
- worked with the equine industry to connect with federal ministers, members of parliament and the CDN Ambassador to the U.S. regarding the welfare of horses being transported to Canada.
- liaised with the RCMP regarding stray horses in central Alberta.
- responded with facts to concerned member of equine industry group re horse processing in Canada.
- worked with ARD and the pork industry, to develop a protocol to deal with the consequences of hog farm operations in economic crisis

## Winter Preparedness

Previously, we have prepared radio segments for Jim Fisher's Newline starting in January. These short clips caution producers to be aware of animals losing condition throughout the winter and provide advice from various livestock specialists as to how to deal with certain issues that might arise. Due to the combined challenges of extended grazing and drought conditions in many parts of the province during the fall of 2009, the Winter Preparedness radio messages were launched again in November to help reduce the threat of increased animal welfare issues. These radio clips are also made available to AFAC's media contacts. Eleven (11) Newlines were distributed in 2009.



# Livestock Care Response Plan

On Call Veterinarian (OCV) Service - With the assistance of the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA), Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development – Livestock Welfare Unit (AARD), the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), and the RCMP, an introductory training day was held in October for additional veterinarians to join our ALERT Resource Team and On Call Veterinarian program. We now have veterinarians willing to work on our behalf from Fairview to south of Lethbridge dealing with animal welfare issues called in to our ALERT Line (1-800-506-2273), the Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development line at 310-FARM (3276) or the ASPCA call line (1-800-455-9003).

Since 2003, Alberta's livestock industries, the Alberta SPCA, ALIDF and DLFOA (now ALMA) have invested over \$450,000 in this service. Many thanks to livestock industry contributors and to ALMA

AFAC's On Call Veterinarians have responded to over 230 cases since October, 2003. They have made more than 210 farm visits.

ALERT - There were over 1,600 calls handled by the ALERT dispatchers in 2009. On call veterinarians assisted with 47 cases and AFAC's volunteer resource team members handled the remaining cases. Severe 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 that the majority of calls come from the general public but also from producers, fieldmen, firemen, RCMP, meat inspectors, veterinary clinics, weigh scale staff (during periods of extreme cold), government staff and truckers. Top concerns were about animals on overgrazed pastures through the summer and fall and going into winter in thin condition. Water and shelter availability were also significant concerns reported by callers.

## 2009 ALERT Line Summary

Beef	91	Bison	3
Dairy	2	Elk	1
Horses	75	Other	7
Pigs	7	Sheep	2
<b>TOTAL Cases</b>	<b>188</b>		
<b>Information Calls</b>	<b>184</b>		
<b>Repeat calls on existing cases</b>	<b>28</b>		

## 2008 ALERT Line Summary

<b>TOTAL Cases</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>Information Calls</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Repeat calls on existing cases</b>	<b>23</b>



# Glossary

AAFC	Agriculture and Agri Food Canada
AAMA	Alberta Auction Markets Association
ABP	Alberta Beef Producers
ABVMA	Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
ACFA	Alberta Cattle Feeders Association
ACP	Alberta Chicken Producers
AEP	Alberta Egg Producers
AE	Alberta Elk
AFAC	Alberta Farm Animal Care
AHEP	Alberta Hatching Egg Producers
AL	Alberta Lamb
ALIDF	Alberta Livestock Industry Development Fund
ALMA	Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency
AM	Alberta Milk
AP	Alberta Pork
APA	Animal Protection Act of Alberta
ASGPS	Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security
ATP	Alberta Turkey Producers
ARD	Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
CCAC	Canadian Council on Animal Care
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CFHS	Canadian Federation of Humane Societies
CLT	Certified Livestock Transport
CVMA	Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
DLFOA	Diversified Livestock Fund of Alberta
HSUS	Humane Society of the United States
HWAC	Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada
LIS	Livestock Identification Services
NFACC	National Farm Animal Care Council
PETA	People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
RSD	Regulatory Services Division
SRD	Sustainable Resource Development
TQA	Trucker Quality Assurance
U of A	University of Alberta
UBC	University of British Columbia
U of CVM	University of Calgary, Veterinary Medicine Faculty
U of S	University of Saskatchewan
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

# Certified Livestock Transport (CLT) Training Program

In 2009 the CLT program continued to grow, both within and beyond Alberta's borders. It was also a year of strategic planning as AFAC and NFACC worked toward a national consensus regarding the future of CLT as a Canada-wide program.

CLT staff and instructors organized and delivered 92 courses in 2009, and the number of CLT trained and certified drivers and handlers is now approaching 1,000. Most of these are Alberta-based, but courses were also held in all provinces from Alberta to Quebec.

Course materials continue to be developed and updated, and new instructors trained. Highlights include the translation of all CLT modules into French, a Train-the-Trainer session in Quebec, and a major re-write of the poultry module with the cooperation of the poultry industry. British Columbia is now planning their first Train the Trainer course.

Another example of the growing interest in livestock transport training is the hiring of a Livestock Transportation Specialist by Ontario Farm Animal Care (OFAC). In a three-year project which began in 2009, Dave O'Rourke will work closely with Ontario's livestock and poultry industries to provide CLT and TQA training and certification.

In January 2009 AFAC and NFACC hosted a Livestock Transport Conference in Calgary. With more than 120 people in attendance, experts from Canada, the US and the UK stressed the importance of training and certifying farm

animal transport drivers and handlers. The next day, an international round-table discussion pondered CLT's role in the future of livestock transport training in Canada and North America.

Driven by the reality that CLT is rapidly outgrowing AFAC's limited financial and human resources, and encouraged by the overall consensus coming out of the Calgary conference, our National CLT Project team has been working toward the objective of expanding and reorganizing CLT from its Alberta base into a national program. In June AFAC and NFACC organized a teleconference of national-level stakeholder organizations. From this discussion it became clear that while there is solid support for this initiative, long term project funding will be required.

In September, NFACC's board of directors unanimously agreed to partner with AFAC for the purposes of this project. This provides not only a much-needed national perspective, but also confirms the support of livestock and poultry organizations at the national level.

In October, the Alberta Livestock & Meat Agency (ALMA) approved funding to sustain the current CLT program and to support the initiative to move CLT to the national level. As the year drew to a close, our project team was in the final stages of preparing a comprehensive proposal for funding under the federal AgriFlexibility program. While it is impossible to predict the future we are hopeful for a positive response, as the proposal has broad-based support from industry and government stakeholders across the country.



## Horse Welfare

The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada (HWAC) objective is to promote humane handling of horses throughout all of their life stages. As an AFAC supported venture, HWAC continues to analyze and disseminate information on horse welfare issues and horse meat processing concerns across North America.

In 2009, HWAC monitored and provided input to horse welfare research, slaughter regulations and CFIA's Equine Information Document. AFAC and

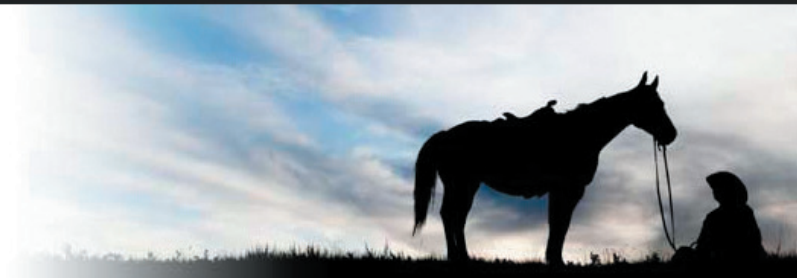
HWAC participated in the Global TV production on horse processing and provided the University of Calgary with background information in preparation for a Maclean's Magazine article on horse processing in Canada. A media release was developed to assist horse owners prepare for the upcoming winter.

The successful HWAC website averaged more than 1,000 visits per month in 2009. Visit [horsewelfare.ca](http://horsewelfare.ca) for more details on the horse welfare communication initiative including: the handling guidelines, an animal welfare assessment tool for horses, the horse hauling course and the Caregiver's Guide to Rehabilitating Neglected Horses.

## Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada

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Promoting the humane  
handling of horses throughout  
all of their life stages.



# National Farm Animal Care Council Update

The National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) works to build and implement processes that facilitate Canada's agriculture industries in addressing farm animal care, and coordinate information sharing between governments, industry and other interested stakeholders.

## Goals Achieved in 2009

**Codes of Practice** - A new Code of Practice development process and Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle were finalized and approved in March of 2009. Both have been recognized as major achievements that will position Canada well for the future. Details of the new Code of Practice development process and the new Dairy Code can be found on NFACC's website ([www.nfacc.ca](http://www.nfacc.ca)).

**Communication and Information Sharing** - NFACC Information Updates are circulated amongst NFACC members and are accessible from NFACC's website ([www.nfacc.ca](http://www.nfacc.ca)).

NFACC meets twice per year, with each meeting including expert speakers on varied topics relevant to farm animal welfare. In 2009, speakers included:

Dr. David Fraser, University of British Columbia, internationally renowned expert in farm animal welfare

Dr. Terry Whiting, Manitoba Agriculture and Food, respected and published expert on the challenges of killing animals surplus to market (i.e. "welfare slaughter")

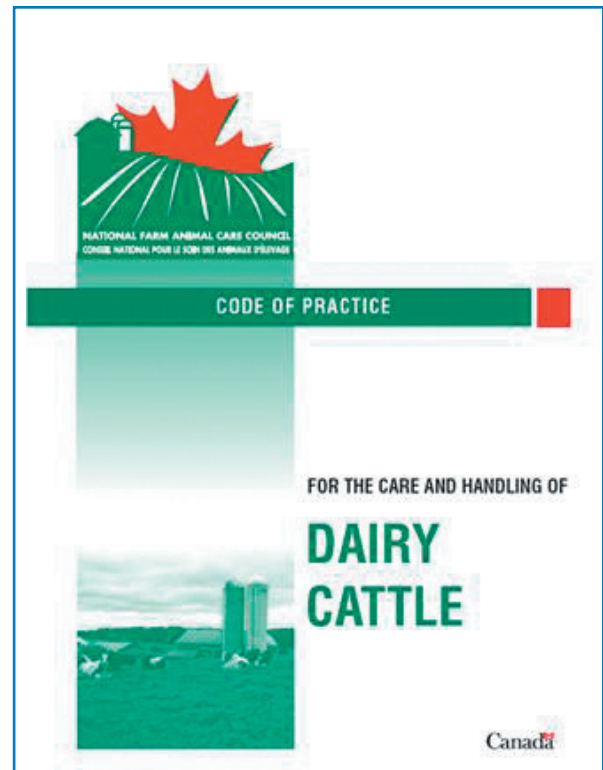
Dr. Gordon Doonan, CFIA, leader of the consultative process around proposed changes to Canada's Health of Animals regulations with regard to transportation

**Animal Care Assessment Model (ACAM)** - Several commodity organizations are working on, or have developed assessment programs to provide assurances relative to farm animal care standards. NFACC has developed a draft ACAM as a tool to aid in the development of future animal care assessment programs. The draft ACAM provides a template of elements that should be considered when developing such a program. The aim is to ensure a credible and consistent approach for programs developed in Canada, allowing for consistent messaging relative to Canada's approach on farm animal care assessment.

Consultation on the draft ACAM will be undertaken in 2010.

## Moving Forward in 2010

NFACC has received approval in principle for the project, Addressing domestic and international market expectations relative to farm animal



welfare, submitted to AAFC's Agri-Flexibility funding program. A steering committee has been established to finalize the work plan and provide active guidance and support throughout the project. NFACC's Chair and Coordinator will participate on the Steering Committee, along with representatives from AAFC and CFIA.

The project covers:

- Updating Codes of Practice (including beef cattle, pig, equine & mink)
- Finalizing an animal care assessment model
- Promoting Canada's approach to farm animal care and fostering alliances
- Identifying gaps and mitigating risks relative to animal welfare in the event of market collapse (i.e. welfare slaughter)
- A contribution agreement is anticipated to be in place by March, 2010

## Organizations represented on the NFACC in 2009:

Canadian Pork Council  
Canadian Meat Council  
Canadian Hatching Egg Producers  
Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council  
Provincial Farm Animal Councils  
Canadian Federation of Agriculture  
Canadian Turkey Marketing Agency  
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association  
Canadian Federation of Humane Societies  
Canadian Cattlemen's Association  
Canadian Restaurant and Food Services Association  
Canadian Sheep Federation

Coalition of SPCA's responsible for animal welfare enforcement (BC, SK, ON)  
Ontario Trucking Association, Livestock Haulers Division  
Canadian Bison Association  
Equine Canada  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Portfolio (AAFC & CFIA)  
Dairy Farmers of Canada  
Researcher – Research Branch AAFC  
Provincial Agriculture Departments  
Chicken Farmers of Canada  
Egg Farmers of Canada  
Canada Mink Breeders Association



# AFAC Timeline

## 1988-1991

- OFAC, MFAC & FACS formed
- 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

## 2009

- Livestock Transport Conference held in Calgary
- Livestock Care Conference - Susan Church announced retirement
- Jim Haggins stepped in as Interim Manager
- On-Call Vet program (ALERT Line) expanded
- CLT - Total # livestock transporters & handlers: 975
- Alberta Livestock Protection Network (ALPN) established
- Livestock Emergency Response Video created & distributed

