



Welcome

Our monthly e-newsletter will give you a quick look at what's kept us busy in the last month and what's coming up. If there's information you would like to see included or if you have any questions about our activities, please let us know!

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As I write this, I am in a very spring-like, but flooded, Ottawa having left behind a blizzard and many inches of snow this past weekend in Alberta! Oh Canada.

the only livestock welfare association in Canada, I take seriously the opportunity to represent Alberta and to be involved with NFACC at this level, to be part of the discussions about the critical role the Codes of Practice play for the industry, and to build public trust and understanding. So much of what we do at AFAC stems from the work being done by and with the national organization. Take a look at their [website](#) to see what has been accomplished by NFACC and for information on upcoming projects. It is a program that we should all be very proud of.

After a short vacation in April I am ready for a busy May that will include outreach to primary schools, veterinarian technicians and work with our partners to develop projects that will further our work on extension and public trust. We are also looking at broadening our scope and building partnerships in new regions and with others further along the value chain. I hope to have more to tell you on this work in the next few months.

Operationally we are starting the process of streamlining the business of AFAC - this will keep us busy over the next few months but is the best thing for the organization and its members, and it may improve our ability

We have our Advisory Council Meeting in Leduc on May 27th - the primary topic is biosecurity and we will touch on a number of topics including the PEDv cases over the last few months and African Swine Fever concerns. More information is below and details will be coming shortly. If you are a member, this session is free and includes lunch. I hope you will join us!

[Annemarie Pedersen](#)

Kristen H's Update

Congratulations to our Marketing and Membership Manager, Kristen Hall and Oscar Anderson on their new baby, Brooke Savannah Anderson born April 10, 2019! Kristen will be on maternity leave for the next year and we wish her and her family all the best!

We will be posting for a position to cover Kristen's maternity leave in the next few weeks!



Kristen L's Update

April was kicked off by Calgary and Lethbridge Aggie Days during the first couple weeks of the month in their respective cities. We love to be at these events because it's such a friendly atmosphere in which to speak with people of all ages about animal welfare. We had some fantastic volunteers help us out - a huge thank you to them all!

We have also been hard at work planning for the next Advisory Council meeting

during the meeting. See the details below.

I had the opportunity to speak to a fantastic group representing the Emergency Social Services Network of Alberta (North Central region) in April in Beaumont. This was a great chance to promote the Emergency Livestock Handling Equipment Trailers, our ALERT line, and the Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue workshop!

The end of April brought us to Red Deer for the Mane Event where we met some amazing and passionate horse owners. We then headed off to Amazing Ag in Edmonton, which is one of our favourite educational events of the year!

May is shaping up to be an exciting month with lots happening so stay tuned on our social media and website to find out what's coming up next!

[Kristen Lepp](#)

Melissa's Update

April started off with Aggie Days at the Stampede grounds. From April 3rd to 5th, we met with grade three to six students and the weekend was open to the public. Days were spent playing our five freedoms game with the kids and answering questions about how producers care for their animals. This year was the first Date Night for Aggie Days, an adults-only event of games, food, drinks, and fun! The event was well received and I look forward to next year.

We're happy to add bison to the "Considering the Codes" series. The series aims to break down individual sections of the NFACC Codes of Practice, by species, for easier understanding by producers as well as easier uptake and implementation of any changes that need to occur on farm. Included in the bison materials are one-page sheets on branding, calving, dehorning, euthanasia, and nutritional disorders associated with high energy feeding. The one-page sheets can be found under "[Considering the Bison Code](#)". I am currently researching for our next inclusion in the series. Please let me know if there is a topic/species you would like to see added to this extension series. You can reach me at melissa@afac.ab.ca



Calgary Aggie Days 2019

I am presenting at the 2019 Young Farm Workers Safety Training Workshop in Olds and the Agriculture Education Symposium in Edmonton. The Olds presentation is geared towards the trailers and the ALERT Line, while the Edmonton presentation will be focused more generally on animal welfare in Alberta.

I am very excited to be attending the on-farm PAACO Beef Feedlot Welfare Auditor Course on May 15th and 16th in Lethbridge. If you are interested in the course, find more information [here](#).

We are collaborating with industry stakeholders on future events and hope to share those with you in the near future.

The Livestock Welfare Engagement Project extension, communication and education proposal is currently being revised and will be re-submitted for evaluation. I will be sharing the results of that project at our upcoming Advisory Council meeting on May 27 in Leduc, Alta. - hope to see you there!

[Melissa Moggy](#)

ALERT Line

There have been 18 calls in the month of April on the ALERT Line. Eight of these calls were passed to the SPCA because of how extreme they were or if we didn't have volunteers in the area, Two calls were considered unfounded, five calls have been resolved, and three calls are still pending.

Cases:

- 7 horse related calls
- 8 beef cattle related calls
- 1 sheep
- 1 dog
- 1 assorted

Common Concerns were thin animals, lack of feed, and livestock at large.

Just a reminder that if you see livestock on a major road or highway please call your local RCMP detachment as they are a human safety hazard. Dead animals or cases of extreme neglect or distress, please call the Alberta SPCA. For animal care concerns, questions, or to access an Emergency Livestock Handling Equipment Trailer you can call the ALERT Line at 1-800-506-2273.

If in doubt about who to call, check out the [infographic](#) and further details on our website.



Upcoming industry events

[PACCO Training](#)

- May 15 & 16, 2019
- Lethbridge, AB

[Advisory Council Meeting](#)

- May 27, 2019
- Leduc, AB

[Alberta Farm Writers Association](#)

- Vermilion, AB

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING



May 27, 2019

10:00am

Best Western Plus Edmonton Airport Hotel

Cost:

Free to AFAC Members (with code)

\$25 for non-members

Join us for our first Advisory Council meeting of 2019 where we will be focusing on biosecurity in the livestock industry in Alberta. The day will include presentations by various sectors and a panel discussion on current issues and best practices, networking and lunch.

There will also be an update on our Livestock Welfare Engagement Project and an opportunity for feedback from AFAC members.

This is a free event for AFAC Members (with code) and the cost is \$25 for non-members.

<https://www.afac.ab.ca/programs-and-events/advisory-council/>

[Check out our blog](#)

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