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## **Communities Flocking to Backyard Chicken Workshops** *AFAC renews small flock webinar series*

CALGARY, May 13, 2021 – As urban and rural communities alike trade restaurants for coops and crowds for flocks, AFAC is excited to announce new sessions for its 2021 backyard chicken webinar series featuring hen expert Cassandra Kirkpatrick. Running from spring to fall, workshops cover a wide range of material that includes: coop design, breeds and flock behaviour, home care versus vet care and more. Registrants can expect to learn about bylaws and costs as well as obtain the certification needed to own backyard chickens in some municipalities.

The renewed interest in small flocks inspired programs that provide individuals with the tools and knowledge to care for their hens and provide the highest standards of animal welfare.

Facilitator Cassandra Kirkpatrick shares, “I love teaching people about caring for the birds because there’s a lot more to it than you might think. It’s very fulfilling when I get to see how they put everything they learn into practice.”

Fostering an inclusive and engaging atmosphere, the webinar series benefits both new hen owners and poultry veterans. The first hour of each session dives into the intricacies of each topic and wraps-up with a 30-minute Q & A period for personalized help. Upcoming sessions run from 7 to 8: 30 p.m. MST:

- May 18 and 20 – Coop Building and Breed Selection
- June 15 and 17 – First Aid
- July 20 and July 22 – Home Care vs Vet Care
- Monthly – “Questions from the Coop” sessions at 7 p.m.

Hosted on Zoom, registrants can benefit from live interaction and receive access to the workshop recording for later viewing. More information can be found on the AFAC website at: <https://www.afac.ab.ca/resources/urban-hen/>

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### **About AFAC:**

Founded and funded by Alberta livestock sector in 1993, Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) provides a unified voice for the livestock sector. AFAC promotes best practices in livestock care by working collaboratively towards continual improvement in responsible livestock care. AFAC engages the public to build trust through transparency. For more information visit [www.afac.ab.ca](http://www.afac.ab.ca).

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