

# FPAW report to NFAHWC National Meeting



**MIKE DRAPER  
LCSA COORDINATOR  
OMAF AND MRA**

**RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL FARM ANIMAL  
WELFARE SYSTEM FOR CANADA REPORT**

**DEC 3, 2013 OTTAWA**

# FPAW: Federal Provincial Animal Welfare



- FPAW is an ad hoc group of volunteers from each province, CFIA (transport and humane slaughter) and AAFC
- Members of the group are technical specialists involved in some aspect of animal welfare as part of their formal work plan
- Some of the FPAW members are also members of the CCVO

# Members are technical experts



- Slaughter welfare specialists (5)
- Veterinarians (10)
- Chief Veterinarians (3)
- Humane Transport specialist (9)
- Animal Welfare Policy writer (12)
- Animal welfare auditor/inspector (7)
- Enforcement officers (boots on the ground) (5)
- Agriculture policy specialist (2)
- De-population specialist (2)

**NB: these are rough estimates, most members have more than one role and fit in multiple categories.**

# Our Mandate



- FPAW was created to promote and facilitate communication between Provinces and Federal Regulators (discussions of shared concerns and approaches)
- Rotating provincial chairs

# FPAW: structural organization



- The group meets roughly 9 times a year by telephone
- Formal reporting structure: none
- Formal communication channels: none
- Budget and allocated resources: none
- This situation is both a strength (because the committee is flexible) and a potential weakness



## FPAW supports the recommendations NFAHWC



- FPAW is well positioned to provide expertise from a regulatory perspective
- FPAW has had some recent success working through and with the CCVO coordinating committee, e.g., slaughter without stunning project

# Recommendations



- As the NFAHWC report points out, FPAW is in a position to positively impact, and provide continuity of approach to animal welfare across Canada.
- NFAHWC recommendations:
  - Recognition of the work of the committee FPAW
  - A formal reporting structure or line of communication
  - A formal review and revision of the FPAW mandate
  - Committed support/Resources
    - ✦ Organization and administrative services (dedicated staff, rotating between provinces and federal government)

# Pros/Cons of a Formal Reporting Structure



## Pros:

- Can manage projects in a more timely manner
- All levels of government would be able to consult with FPAW

## Cons:

- Formalization of the FPAW may limit member involvement
- Formalization of the FPAW may limit its ability to respond to issues, e.g., is access to funding/support = loss of flexibility?



# Going forward.....



- A dedicated, independent secretariat would be beneficial
- Need to ensure continued national perspective of FPAW
- Provincial input and participation is essential
  - FPAW Chair should be a provincial representative
  - Continued participation and representation of all provinces and territories is important