



National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC)

NFACC is a collaborative partnership of diverse stakeholders created in 2005 to share information and work together on farm animal care and welfare. It is the national lead for farm animal care issues in Canada.

NFACC works to:

- Uphold a credible, science-based approach for the development of Codes of Practice for the care and handling of farm animals.
- Promote a standard approach for the development of animal care assessment programs.
- Facilitate information sharing and communication on farm animal care and welfare issues.
- Provide a link between government and other partners regarding farm animal care and welfare developments domestically and internationally.

NFACC's partner organizations accept the use of animals by humans. The partners represent national associations and / or provincial groups where no national association exists.

NFACC functions on a consensus-based model of decision making. As such, all partners of the Council have an obligation to support the decisions and positions of NFACC.

*"Responsible livestock care is important to everyone, from the animals themselves to producers and consumers."
E. Asnong, Quebec pork producer*



... working together for responsible farm animal care

Farm Animal Care Matters

Through NFACC, governments, farmed animal industries, the veterinary community, the humane movement and other allied groups have a unique partnership. NFACC provides a means for achieving practical solutions to address the interests of its partners, domestic and export markets, governments and the Canadian public.

NFACC upholds processes that assist Canada's farm animal sectors and associated businesses to remain competitive, profitable and demonstrate social responsibility.

The Council has made significant strides in bringing together the whole value chain to develop science-based approaches to farm animal care.



Creating value as part of a unique Canadian style

Discussion and consensus building forum

NFACC provides a forum that:

- Collaboratively addresses farm animal welfare issues that individual organizations could not easily do on their own.
- Offers a vehicle for all stakeholders to participate and have a voice.
- Provides a forum for open dialogue that builds understanding and consensus between divergent positions.
- Provides information that allows partners to stay on top of animal welfare issues at a national level.

"Practical solutions that address farm animal welfare concerns require a commitment from everyone to work together for progress and success." Geoff Urton, Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (BC SPCA)

Codes of Practice for the care and handling of farm animals

NFACC's Code development process ensures credibility through scientific rigour, collaboration of all key stakeholders and consistency of approach.

The Codes are national guidelines for the care and handling of the different species of farm animals. They promote sound management and welfare practices through recommendations and requirements for housing, management, transportation, processing and other animal husbandry practices.

The Codes represent a national understanding of animal care requirements and recommended best practices. They have been prepared with the input and support of scientific experts and by consensus of diverse groups involved or interested in farm animal care and welfare. Some Canadian provinces reference the Codes of Practice within their provincial animal welfare legislation. Animal care assessment programs are based on the Codes.



Dairy Code of Practice Development Committee

Animal Care Assessment Model (ACAM)

Animal welfare audit, verification program or animal care assessment tool — regardless of the label, the goal is to measure animal welfare at some point in the production system, providing assurances that animals are humanely treated.

The aim of a national ACAM is to provide a template for developing animal care assessment programs. The model will provide credibility and consistency for animal care assessment programs developed in Canada. It will also provide a basis for communicating how programs are developed.

NFACC will have an ACAM in place by 2014.

NFACC's Partners

- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Canadian Food Inspection Agency Portfolio
- Canada Mink Breeders Association
- Canada's research community
- Canadian Bison Association
- Canadian Cattlemen's Association
- Canadian Federation of Agriculture
- Canadian Federation of Humane Societies
- Canadian Hatching Egg Producers
- Canadian Meat Council
- Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council
- Canadian Pork Council
- Canadian Restaurant and Food Services Association
- Canadian Sheep Federation
- Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
- Chicken Farmers of Canada
- Coalition of Provincial SPCA's responsible for animal welfare law enforcement (BC, SK, ON)
- Dairy Farmers of Canada
- Egg Farmers of Canada
- Equine Canada
- Ontario Trucking Association
- Provincial Agriculture Departments
- Provincial Farm Animal Care Councils (OFAC, FACS, AFAC, BCFACC)
- Turkey Farmers of Canada

Questions can be addressed to:

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