



Canadian Association of Bovine Veterinarians /  
Association Canadienne des Vétérinaires Bovins  
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Warren Skippon, BSc, DVM  
c/o Canadian Veterinary Medical Association  
339, Rue Booth Street  
Ottawa, ONK1R 7K1

Dear Warren:

**Re: Proposed Changes to Meat Inspection Regulations**

The CABV/ACVB appreciates the opportunity to comment on proposed changes to meat inspection regulations. The board members had an opportunity to discuss this at our last board meeting and also sent in comments via email. The board members all agreed that they felt these changes were unnecessary and potentially damaging to public perception regarding food safety.

Most food animal veterinarians have access to provincially inspected plants that allow slaughter on farm once a veterinary ante-mortem inspection has occurred and then transportation to the plant. None of the board members could envision a reason for killing an animal on farm and then sending it to a federal slaughter plant instead of a provincial plant. We can see no benefit to the federally inspected plants of accepting these on-farm slaughters, and fully believe none of our federally inspected plants would actually accept these carcasses. Also, none of our local provincial plants have large enough capacity to warrant the costs of becoming federally inspected, even if regulations were loosened.

The larger concern is that this change in legislation has huge potential for poor public perception. Anything that is viewed to be compromising the safety and integrity of our food supply is a move in the wrong direction. Right or wrong, most consumers don't want to hear that an animal that is unfit to be loaded onto a trailer and transported to the plant would be allowed into our food supply.

Our board members were unanimous in the view that this change in legislation is completely unnecessary and may prove to be damaging because of the negative impacts on public perception.

Thank you for allowing us to provide our comments to the CVMA.

Kind regards,

Dr. Jean Baril  
President, CABV/ACVB

JC:pmm