

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER





Alberta Chicken Producers' Board and Staff Contact Information:

CHAIR: Jason Born **VICE-CHAIR:** David Hyink

DIRECTORS: Dennis Steinwand Rob van Diemen Wes Nanninga

PRODUCER REPRESENTATIVES If you have poultry matters which need attention, please contact your Producer Representative to bring them forward for discussion at the Industry Advisory Committee Meetings. These meetings are held twice a year, in the spring and in the fall.

LACOMBE TO LEDUC (LL)
LEDUC NORTH (LN)
CALGARY SOUTH (CS)
CALGARY TO LACOMBE (CL)

Arjan Spelt
Tara deVries
George Hofer
Sam Guenter

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Alberta Chicken Producers



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@ABChickenProducers

2021 CHAIR'S MESSAGE



2021 Chair's Message

Fellow Producers and Industry Partners,

As I reflect on this past year, I am amazed at the resiliency of our value chain despite the repeated use of the word “unprecedented” as it relates to the events of the past couple years. As we entered 2021, we were in the midst of the 2nd wave of the COVID-19 pandemic which continued to have a significant impact on our industry through the winter and spring. As summer arrived and more of the population was vaccinated and public health measures implemented to enable continuity of food service operations, food service demand picked up through the fall and continues to improve as we head into 2022. Retail demand remains strong for chicken and overall allocations into 2022 reflect growth over 2019 (or pre-pandemic) levels which is a positive step for our industry. I'd like to thank producers for their continuing efforts in mitigating the spread of COVID in your interactions with catching contractors, hatchery personnel, procurement staff, feed sales reps and on farm audit staff. I'd also like to thank processors for your continuing efforts to manage COVID challenges so Canadians continue to have access to fresh chicken at their local grocery stores.

A significant event this past year was the severe drought affecting Western Canada - I'm sure you have all witnessed these impacts as it relates to our rapidly escalating feed costs in Alberta. We have been monitoring this situation very carefully and will continue to work with our value chain partners to manage through these challenges in the weeks and months ahead. I'd specifically like to thank Alberta processors for their collaborative efforts in managing through this. Inflation is a real challenge in the coming year and food is no exception – we expect continued pressure on prices as input costs in our value chain remain elevated and work their way through to consumer prices. We believe chicken is relatively well positioned in this environment and consumers will continue to choose chicken as their preferred and trusted protein.

2021 included a full review of our Strategic Plan and priorities with our value chain partners. A new priority this year is Navigating the COVID-World: Emerging Stronger than ever. We are committing resources to understanding the market shifts and structural impacts that have occurred as a result of the pandemic, building strategic alignment and collaboration with our partners in Alberta and across the Western region which proved to be invaluable during the pandemic and will be more important than ever as we build the

chicken industry beyond the pandemic, and lastly a focus on risk management and lessons learned. This new focus is in addition to our continuing priorities of Building Public Trust and Championing a Strong, Effective and Unified Value Chain. If you have not had a chance to review our strategic plan, I would encourage you to do that as it gives you a great overview of our shared industry vision and where we are focusing our efforts for the next few years for our collective benefit.

In regards to live price, 2021 was a year of significant activity. In February, Chicken Farmers of Ontario (CFO) announced long awaited changes to Regulation 402. We spent a number of months analyzing the new COPF, meeting with CFO board and staff to discuss our questions and engaging external expertise to assist us in our analysis. After completing this extensive analysis in the fall of 2021, the Board determined that it was important to evaluate any differences between Alberta and Ontario feed and chick costs and engaged a 3rd party firm to assist us in that analysis – thank you to all who have participated in this process so far and if you are contacted, I encourage you to participate in support of our efforts to gather accurate data on feed and chick costs in Alberta. We continue to meet with processors and are working towards our collective objective to have a new long term MOU prior to the end of A174.

We are looking to 2022 with continued hope and optimism. Our industry remains healthy, demand is positive and improving and our society is learning to live with the effects of COVID. Adaptability is one of the key learnings from our experience managing through the pandemic – and a key success factor going forward. Our Board has been meeting in person regularly now and we are also meeting with industry partners both in person and in a hybrid format using the Zoom platform. We hope to be able to engage in a similar hybrid format at our upcoming AGM in March depending on COVID conditions and government requirements so please stay tuned for further information on that in the weeks ahead.

In closing, this is my final Christmas message as Chair of the ACP Board and I wanted to share what an honor it has been for me to serve as a Director for the past 9 years. I have enjoyed every minute of my experience working with our wonderful team of Board and Staff members and have appreciated all of your support and words of encouragement over the years.

Thank you to my fellow Directors for your leadership and support this year. Thank you, ACP staff for your continued excellence in serving our industry and adapting to continuing change. Thank you to our value chain partners including Processors, Hatcheries & AHEP for your collaboration this past year. And thank you producers for your dedication to our collective industry, ensuring that Canadians continue to have access to high quality Canadian chicken each and every day. I wish you all a great Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year!

Jason Born, Chair
Alberta Chicken Producers

2021 Regional Meeting & 2022 AGM

Thank you to all who attended our Regional Meeting on October 28th. We appreciate producers' support and understanding as we once again adapted our format and held our meeting virtually to respond to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and accommodate as many participants as possible. For those who were unable to join the meeting and have not yet viewed the recording, it can be accessed on our website by [clicking here](#).

We are currently planning our 2022 Annual General Meeting, which will be held on March 1, 2022. The meeting will be held at the Cambridge Hotel in Red Deer in accordance with Alberta Health Guidelines; and a virtual meeting option will be available for those unable to attend in-person.

We look forward to connecting with our producers and industry partners and hope you will be able to join us! More details and information regarding the AGM will come in the early new year.

2022 Director and Producer Representative Elections

Board Director Position:

As a requirement in ACP's Plan Regulation, a Director must stand down from serving on the ACP Board after serving three consecutive three-year terms. At our 2022 AGM our Chair, Jason Born, will be reaching the end of his nine-year tenure and will be retiring from the ACP Board. With Jason reaching the end of his term there will be one position on the ACP Board open for election at the 2022 AGM.

Producer Representative Positions:

As well, ACP's Producer Representatives, which are elected annually at the AGM, are required to stand down from serving in this role after three consecutive years in the position. At our 2022 AGM, three of our Producer Representatives representing Calgary South, Calgary to Lacombe, and Lacombe to Leduc will be reaching the end of their three years of serving in this role, and new candidates for these Regions will be required.

If you are interested in taking on more of a leadership role in the industry as a Producer Representative or Director on the Board, please feel free to contact any one of our Directors, or our Executive Director, Karen Kirkwood, and we will be more than happy to speak with you about these roles and address any questions you may have.

Important Reminders for Producers

Cold Weather Conditions

With winter upon us, we remind all producers to ensure birds are dry prior to loading.

Producers must be vigilant in their barn management practices to mitigate the risks associated with barns and birds becoming wet prior to transport. We remind producers to ensure you are balancing heat and ventilation requirements to ensure your birds are dry during load out.

Should wet conditions exist on your premise, contact your Processor immediately to provide as much time as possible to address and correct any issues prior to shipment.

[Click here](#) for a reference sheet outlining Management Practices in Winter Weather Conditions to assist in maintaining optimal barn conditions.

Best Practice

A friendly reminder that with the colder Alberta winter temperatures, it's always best practice to regularly test your generator systems. The potential loss of a generator failure could be devastating.

New Requirement in Alberta's Humane Catching and Transportation Manual

As presented at the Fall Regional Meeting, our working group of ACP, catchers, transporters and processors conducted its annual review of the Manual, and hand washing and toilet facilities were the primary focus of discussion. While there are already standard requirements for hand washing facilities in the Manual, toilet facilities are important to our industry partners and warranted attention.

We recognize that the majority of our farms currently have facilities available and that a one size fits all approach is not practical as farms vary in age and geography. Considering this, the Manual has been updated with ***several new requirements***.

The first is for Producers to provide a private, clean, well-maintained toilet or privy, that can be locked and is equipped with toilet paper and readily accessible to catchers on the premise. This means the facility meets the following 6 principles:

1. Readily accessible on the premise and clearly identified to catchers— meaning catchers know where the facilities are and have quick access to them when needed
2. Private: enclosed facility that provides user with dignity
3. Equipped: stocked with toilet paper; soap / toweling and / or hand sanitizer
4. Clean: sanitary
5. Well-maintained: safe to use and access; also lends to cleanliness and privacy, and that it
6. Meets the needs of all crew members.

The Board has identified a **deadline of September 30, 2022** to provide time for producers to meet this Standard. If you are unsure if your current facility or your plans for a future facility meet these principles, feel free to discuss with your catching crew, processor or our office staff.

Other new requirements in the manual include:

For Catchers:

- Respect and use the facility properly
- And leave the facility in at least as good of condition as at arrival (which includes cleaning up messes)

For Processors:

- Ensure requirements are consistent; prevent provisions for Catching and Loading from becoming a competitive issue
- Assist in addressing concerns or issues that may arise, including facilities not being provided and catching crew not leaving facility in good condition; and
- Support the industry in implementing new standards (collaborating, communicating, etc.)

We encourage you to review the fully updated version of [Alberta's Humane Catching & Transportation Manual](#) that is available on our website.

Amendment to Leasing of Quota Policy

At its December 3, 2021 Board meeting, the Board approved an amendment to ACP's Leasing of Quota Policy that incorporates into the Policy the process undertaken by the Board to evaluate the Policy's effectiveness. Each year the Board reviews Alberta's production performance and assesses the effectiveness of the Leasing of Quota Policy against several metrics; and the new Section 10 of the Policy "*Policy Evaluation*", formalizes and incorporates this current practice into Policy.

The amended Policy is attached with the newsletter for reference and is also contained in the [ACP Operations Policy Manual](#) on our website. If you have any questions about the amendment to the Policy, please contact our Executive Director, Karen Kirkwood.

Marketing Regulation Amendment and Bylaw Development Process

Building from the strong support and mandate received from producers at our 2021 AGM for the development of bylaws for ACP, our team had started to work with the staff at Alberta Agricultural Products Marketing Council on drafting our bylaws, building from those developed by other similar commodities. This work will continue over the next several months and, once finalized, producers will be consulted on the proposed bylaws and corresponding changes to our Plan Regulation.

As well, a high priority for the Alberta Government is Red Tape Reduction, and a goal has been set to reduce Alberta's regulations by one-third. ACP has significantly contributed to this goal by reducing the red tape count in our Marketing Regulation by 48%!

Removing the details of ACP's Organic Lease, Specialty Chicken, Market Development Lease and Direct Marketing Lease Programs from the Marketing Regulation while maintaining the authority for the Board to establish and regulate these types of programs in the Regulation has eliminated unnecessary duplication between Regulation and Policy, maintains the same level of regulation and oversight over these programs as currently exists, and maintains a thorough consultation process with producers to amend these programs as and if required. The amended Marketing Regulation was approved by Marketing Council this past fall and is published on our website [here](#).

Poultry Green Certificate Program in Action:

Locally Training the Poultry Staff of Tomorrow

What happens when you invite an eclectic group of academics and industry professionals, an exceptional teacher and seven intrepid kids from a hamlet in the middle of Alberta to launch the first Poultry Green Certificate Program in Dewberry? Magic. [Click here](#) to read the story of a pipedream turned to reality and how the amazing collaborations impacted not only the students and the school but all who reached out to inspire this Project of the Heart.



Upcoming Meetings and Events

January 20: Board Meeting
 January 27: Western Boards Meeting
 February 10: Board Meeting
 February 28: Western Poultry Conference
 March 1: Annual General Meeting
 March 3: Board Organizational Meeting and Director Orientation
 March 9: Board Meeting
 March 10: Board Meeting

Classifieds

WANTED

Broiler Quota
 Call Erwin 403-635-1720

Broiler Quota
 Call 780-608-0397

10,000 Units of Broiler Quota
 Call Ryan - 403 505 7345

2000 Quota Lease Units
 Long Term Basis
 Price Negotiable
 Call Ron Hamilton @ 587-322-1773

7000 Units of Broiler Quota
 Call 780-308-8001

Purchase or Lease 4000 Units of Broiler Quota
 Call Sam 403-443-9495

7500 Units of Broiler Quota
 Call Wietse 780-781-1994

Market Stats

