

# APRIL NEWSLETTER





## Alberta Chicken Producers' Board and Staff Contact Information:

**CHAIR:** David Hyink    **VICE-CHAIR:** Rob van Diemen

**DIRECTORS:** Wes Nanninga, Ross Bezovie, Tara deVries

**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.

<b>LACOMBE TO LEDUC (LL)</b>	Arjan Spelt
<b>LEDUC NORTH (LN)</b>	Hinke Therrien
<b>CALGARY SOUTH (CS)</b>	Erwin Claassen
<b>CALGARY TO LACOMBE (CL)</b>	Anke Wierenga

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

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### **STAFF:**

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### **SUPPORT STAFF:** On-Contract Bookkeeper

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**OFFICE NUMBER TOLL FREE: 1-877-822-4425 OR 780-488-2125**



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## Avian Influenza Update

There are currently 57 active IPs and a total of 319 cases to-date in Canada. There are 19 active PCZs and 7.59 million birds impacted.

Total compensation to farmers for birds ordered destroyed is now at \$105.1 million.

The APIEMT will continue to send producer updates on an “as needed basis”.

- A surge in cases is expected to occur again this spring as large numbers of migratory birds carrying the virus make their way back to/through Alberta.
- The wild bird migratory season was a significant risk factor with most flock infections occurring in the spring and fall.
- The HPAI virus is passed primarily in feces and can survive in the environment for extended periods in the right conditions (cold and/or wet). A high viral load in the environment near your flock poses a significant risk.
- Many species of wild birds have been affected including snow geese, Canada geese, owls, hawks, ravens, magpies, cormorants, and grebes. Note that some may carry the virus while showing no signs.

**Good biosecurity and increased vigilance are still your best defense against HPAI.**

**Take a pro-active approach to protecting your flock:**

- Prepare for how you will manage your flock should HPAI cases surge during the coming spring migration.
- Available resources can be found on the APIEMT website
- Clean up all feed spills from around barns and grain-handling areas and remove other wild bird attractants.
- **Be mindful of the fact that HPAI virus may have over-wintered in your surrounding environment and may be present even before migratory birds arrive.**
- Report signs of illness and sudden deaths in your flock to your flock veterinarian and/or the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian (OCPV).

**Focus on biosecurity to prevent infection:**

- Prevent unauthorized entry to your barns and ensure everyone adheres to strict biosecurity protocols every time they enter.

**BENCHES AT THE BARN ENTRY:**  
AN IMPACTFUL BIOSECURITY ENHANCEMENT

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT BARN ENTRY DESIGNS, BUT THESE ARE THE BASIC STEPS FOR UTILIZING A BENCH AT THE ENTRY. ADAPT FOR YOUR BARN AS NEEDED.

1. Enter the anteroom and remove outerwear
2. Disinfect any supplies
3. For visitors, sign the visitors log
4. Sit down on the bench and remove your shoes - DO NOT touch your socks to the floor
5. Without touching your socks to the floor, swing your feet over the barrier and straight into your restricted area footwear
6. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer
7. Put on your barn-specific clothing and you're ready for the barn!

**2-zone barn entry**

The diagram illustrates a 2-zone barn entry. It shows an exterior area leading to a bench. The bench is a barrier that separates the exterior area from the interior area. The interior area is further divided into a barn (restricted area) and a barn clothes area. The diagram also shows a controlled access zone, exterior entrance, outdoor clothing, visitor logbook, hand sanitizer, sink, and garbage. A note indicates that the bench should touch the floor and both walls for complete separation. The source is cited as EOCMA.

\*Bench touching the floor and both walls for complete separation Source: EOCMA.

SPRING 2023

- Only use clean, barn specific footwear when entering the barn.
- Consider making alternate plans for what would normally have been outdoor birds to reduce the chances of direct contact between your flock and wild birds (or wild bird feces).
- This is especially important for ducks and geese (**ducks are dangerous in that they start to shed virus before showing clinical signs**) – consider improving biosecurity for these birds and do not allow staff managing these birds to access other commercial poultry barns.
- Deter migratory and local birds from around your barns and dugouts. Consider measures such as fencing around dugouts and adding bird-scarers such as clumps of mylar (foiled- plastic) tied to poles or wires.
- For organic producers, strongly consider restricting access to the outdoors. Given current conditions, outdoor access may jeopardize the health of your birds.

## 2023 Annual General Meeting

Alberta Chicken Producers' 56th Annual General Meeting was held on February 28, 2023, and two positions on the Board of Directors were open for election:

- Dennis Steinwand completed his third three-year term and was required to step down from the Board as per Alberta Chicken Producers' Plan Regulation
- David Hyink completed his first three-year term and allowed his name to stand for re-election

Alberta Chicken Producers congratulates both David Hyink and Tara deVries on their election to the Board, and we are pleased to introduce Tara by way of the appended biography (see below).

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our retiring Director, Dennis Steinwand, for his outstanding leadership and contributions to our industry over his nine-year tenure on the Board.

### Chair, Vice-Chair & CFC Roles:

Following the Annual General Meeting, the Board held an Organizational Meeting to elect the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and the CFC Director and Alternate positions.

- David Hyink, elected Chair
- Rob van Diemen, elected Vice Chair
- Rob van Diemen, elected CFC Director
- Ross Bezovie, elected CFC Alternate



Congratulations David Hyink for your re-election to the ACP Board of Directors as Board Chair!



## Alberta Chicken Producers' Producer Representatives

Congratulations as well to our Producer Representatives for 2023-24:

- Hinke Therrien, representing the Leduc North Region
- Arjan Spelt, representing the Leduc to Lacombe Region
- Erwin Claassen, representing the Calgary South Region
- Anke Wierenga, representing the Lacombe to Calgary Region

We also extend our thanks and deep appreciation to our past Producer Representatives, Tara deVries, Adrian Tobler and Bruce Baerg. We are grateful for the insights and valued contributions they made in their roles.

### New Alberta Chicken Producers' Director: Tara deVries

*Wife/Mother/Grandmother/Passionate Farmer*

Although, she wasn't raised on a farm, Tara's experience in agriculture spans over 30 years, first in dairy, then cattle and now chicken (23 years).

In 2011, Tara's first husband lost his battle with cancer. During this difficult time, she was faced with the choice to stop farming or forge ahead. Her passion for agriculture persisted and with the encouragement from her father-in-law, the support of her church family, and neighbouring farmers she persevered.

Today, alongside her husband Darren, they farm near Devon, Alberta.

Over the last few years Tara has served Alberta Chicken Producers in the role of Producer Representative for Leduc North. During this time Tara completed ACP governance training.



*"I am very passionate of the fact that if we don't tell our story someone else will... and we know that it won't always be the correct story. Being out in the community has given me the opportunity to firsthand correct some of the myths around our industry. And hopefully our story gets spread just a little more with each encounter."*

Family plays a huge part in Tara's life and when she isn't busy volunteering at agriculture education events, hosting a farm tour, helping to create videos to counter myths, or tending to her flock, Tara spends time with her three children, their spouses and her and Darren's eight grandchildren.

Tara is eager to delve into serving producers and working with the Board and Staff to continue to better our industry.

[Click here for the ACP Board Directory](#)

## **Thank you to those who have served our industry!**

Former Director, Dennis Steinwand alongside his wife Jacquie, accepts a gift from Executive Director, Karen Kirkwood and Chair, David Hyink to commemorate Dennis' nine years serving the ACP Board. Thank you Dennis!



Outgoing ACP Executive Director, Karen Kirkwood accepts a gift from Alberta Hatching Egg Producers' Chair, Jeff Notenbomer and General Manager, Bob Smook.





Outgoing ACP Executive Director, Karen Kirkwood, her husband Dave, daughter Alice, and son Darwin, accept gifts from Alberta Chicken Producers' Chair, David Hyink.

Thank you Karen for your years of service and leadership!

## 2023 Poultry Research Funding Update

Alberta Chicken Producers directly supports research relevant to our sector through cash and in-kind contributions. As a member of the Agricultural Funding Consortium, we are able to leverage our research dollars through funding partnerships. The following projects were approved for funding at the March, 2023 ACP board meeting:

**Proposal 2023F127R - A multicomponent plant-derived vaccine for poultry salmonellosis.** *Dr. Joenel Alcantara, University of Calgary*

**Proposal 2022N020R - Expanding opportunities for Western Canadian faba bean (*Vicia Faba*) as a feedstuff for broiler chickens and laying hens.** *Dr. Doug Korver, University of Alberta*

**Proposal 2023F135R - Use of oral probiotics to enhance immune response against infectious bronchitis in broiler chickens.** *Dr. Faizal Careem, University of Calgary*



**Proposal 2023F287R - Bioactive glucosamine-derived caramels to increase bone and gut health in broiler chickens. Dr. Doug Korver, University of Alberta**

In addition to this, there are several research proposals under review or in development based on Avian Influenza. Stay tuned for more updates for when projects have been successfully funded.

## **Alberta Chicken Producers' Staff Announcements**

Alberta Chicken Producers (ACP) extends our heartfelt congratulations to Caitlin Kaiser, our Administrative and Producer Services Coordinator, her husband William and son Emmett, on the newest member of the Kaiser family! Ezekiel Kaiser was born April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 weighing in at 6 lbs and 7 oz.

In the days before welcoming baby Ezekiel, Caitlin set us up for continued success and a smooth transition for effective coverage during her time away. Caitlin will be on maternity leave effective immediately. We are grateful for her dedication and wish her and her family continued blessings, happiness and good health.



ACP is also pleased to welcome Sheila Rai to our team. Sheila commenced training with Caitlin on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be assuming the Administrative and Producer Services Coordinator role during Caitlin's maternity leave.

Sheila is no stranger to the poultry industry. She spent several years as a Business Analyst for Maple Leaf Poultry. Sheila holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business from the University of Alberta and has had the opportunity to work in a wide assortment of industries including technology, service and the provincial sector.

Sheila is married with two children and is excited to come begin this journey with ACP. She is always game for a good morning walk/hike and a delicious café to explore so if you know of a good one make sure to let her know!

Please join us in extending our best wishes to Caitlin and welcoming Sheila to her new role with ACP.



## Alberta Chamber of Commerce Hosts Annual Political Action Day Event and MLA Dinner



Premier Danielle Smith provided an update on the UCP plans leading into the 2023 election. Following her speech, she opened the floor to questions from the audience.

The event provided a great opportunity to engage with elected officials and spread industry awareness. Alberta Chicken Producers' Executive Director, Geoff Brown, Director, Tara deVries and Manager of Public Affairs and Strategic Partnerships, Maria Leslie participated.

Photographed on the right:  
Alberta Chicken Producers' Executive Director, Geoff Brown, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Nate Horner and ACP Director, Tara deVries.



## Alberta Chicken Featured at Edmonton Oil Kings Game

On Sunday, February 26, 2022, as part of the Alberta Chicken Producers' and Edmonton Oilers Entertainment Group, pilot 1-year partnership, chicken was featured at a home game.

Fans enjoyed chicken trivia that highlighted ACP's key messages, participated in the chicken dance and were sent home with a squishy chicken and spice package.

The game provided a great opportunity for brand exposure to a key target demographic - young families.



## Volunteers Educate Students and Consumers at Calgary Stampede Aggie Days

The Calgary Stampede Aggie Days kicked off on April 19, 2023 and our volunteers were ready to field farming questions!

Throughout the week our farmers engaged with over 2500 Calgary and area students. On the weekend a pancake breakfast was hosted and the general public was invited to learn about agriculture.

Our booth featured live chicks - **THANK YOU Lethbridge Hatchery!** As well, this year we showed off a new chick pen and accompanying graphics that encourage attendees to learn more via our website.

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:

George Hofer, Grace Hofer and Barbara Gross  
Mark Oostenbrug and Rachel Voth

Nieske and Henk Schuur  
Anke, John, Avery, Indy and Evan Wierenga









## Alberta Chicken Producers Pilot a New Partnership

*What do chicken farmers, a dietitian and a former Edmonton Oiler have in common?*

**Care for Community**

**Alberta Chicken Farmers Team up with Former Edmonton Oiler and Registered Dietitian to Fuel Families and Face-Off Against Hunger!**

We are excited to be kicking off a new partnership (one year pilot) with former Edmonton Oiler, Jason Strudwick and Registered Dietitian, Emily Mardell to engage Alberta's youth in nutritional education and to face-off against community hunger!



*"As a registered dietitian and nutrition coach at Strudwick Hockey Camp, I am thrilled to share my passion for helping young athletes build pro habits both on and off the ice."*

*In order to perform at your best, it's essential to refuel, rehydrate, and repair your body after every game and practice.*

*That's why I'm so excited to bring a top-line of sports nutrition activities and services to camp. From the "PowerFuel" station, where athletes can fuel-up with energizing snacks and nutrition tips, to the performance nutrition recipes, I'm here to help young athletes achieve their full potential.*

*One of the best ways to recover like a pro is to make sure you're refueling with nutrient-rich foods. This means incorporating plenty of fruits and vegetables, lean protein like fresh Canadian chicken and whole grains into your meals. And don't forget to hydrate, hydrate, hydrate! Staying properly hydrated is key to maximizing performance and recovery."*

- Emily Mardell, Registered Dietitian

Alberta Chicken Producers (ACP) will be participating in the Strudwick Hockey Camps throughout the spring and summer of 2023. In addition, ACP will also be partnering with Jason and Emily to engage hockey players and families in supporting their community by participating in the "Face-Off Against Hunger" food drive. Hockey camp participants and minor hockey teams in the Edmonton area will have the opportunity to contribute to their local food bank and win a team practice experience with former Edmonton Oiler, Jason Strudwick!

The campaign/partnership website will be live in the coming weeks. Stay tuned to our social media for updates!

## **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

May 9-10: CFC Meetings and Spring Lobby Day

May 13: Stollery Teddy Bear Fun Fest

May 30: Board Meeting

May 31: Industry Advisory Committee Meeting

June 13: CFC Meetings

July 5: Board Meeting

July 6 – 17: Calgary Stampede

August 14 – 16: CFC Summer Meeting

August 30: Board Meeting

October 3-4: ACP Strategic Planning

November 7-9: Regional Meetings (Lethbridge - 7, Red Deer - 8, Edmonton - 9)

# A-183 Allocation

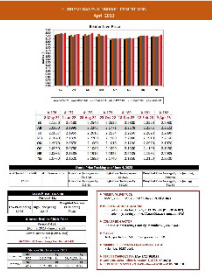
On March 22, 2023 Chicken Farmers of Canada set allocation for A-183

The national allocation for Period A-183 was set at 4.0% over adjusted base. Under the national allocation formula, Alberta’s A-183 allocation is 4.51% over adjusted base.

Alberta’s allocation for A-183, starts on June 4, 2023 and ends on July 29, 2023

Domestic Allocation (live kgs)	30,185,955
Market Development (live kgs)	100,000
Specialty Allocation (live kgs)	8,000
Total Allocation (live kgs)	30,293,955
Percentage of Utilization	100.51%

PERIOD	CFC Sets Allocation
A-182 (April 9 - June 3, 2023)	17-Jan-23
A-183 (June 4-July 29, 2023)	22-Mar-23
A-184 (July 30-September 23, 2023)	10-May-23
A-185 (September 24-November 18, 2023)	13-Jun-23
A-186 (November 19, 2023-January 13, 2024)	13-Jun-23
A-187 (January 14-March 9, 2024)	10-Oct-23
A-188 (March 10-May 4, 2024)	10-Oct-23
A-189 (May 5-June 29, 2024)	30-Jan-24
A-190 (June 30-August 24, 2024)	30-Jan-24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Future ‘Allocation’ dates are published in our Newsletter so that producers can be aware when the next unallocated Period is being set.</li><li>• The dates assist producers in determining how to provide the required notice to transfer quota, change processors, or to have discussions with processors with respect to Market Development allotments.</li></ul>	



# Market Stats

[Click here for Current Rates and Market Conditions](#)



# Classifieds

## FOR SALE:

### Fancom barn computers for sale

- 1 man computer F38
- 1 feed computer F42
- 1 bird scale computer F47
- 1 web link box
- 2 winch motors
- 1 norsol vm-1 circulation fan controller
- 4 pura fire heaters

Contact Pete - 403 331 4963



## WANTED:

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

2000 Quota Units  
Call Leonard Entz  
403-915-5343

Broiler Quota  
Call 780-608-0397

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

10,000 Quota Units  
Call Dan Hofer  
780-878-4208

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