

APRIL

Newsletter





Alberta Chicken Producers' Board and Staff Contact Information:

CHAIR: David Hyink **VICE-CHAIR:** Ross Bezovie

DIRECTORS: Wes Nanninga, Rob van Diemen, 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.

LACOMBE TO LEDUC (LL)	Arjan Spelt
LEDUC NORTH (LN)	Hinke Therrien
CALGARY SOUTH (CS)	Byron Ference
CALGARY TO LACOMBE (CL)	Bruce Baerg

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

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SUPPORT STAFF: On-Contract Bookkeeper

Wendy Telcs 780-438-0272 wtelcs@chicken.ab.ca

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



Update from the Executive Director



It's been a beautiful spring in central Alberta and the quick start to the year with the rush of the AGM, organizational meetings, committee formation is starting to shift to regular operations and execution on our annual workplan. I marked my second year with Alberta Chicken Producers (ACP) at the end of February and feel very fortunate to be working alongside a talented and hard-working Board and Staff who are proud to represent the Alberta chicken sector.

The start of 2025 has been one of uncertainty, driven by a charged political environment both at home and abroad. The threat of U.S. tariffs has been a major focus over the last couple of months, and while our sector is not impacted as directly by these threats as commodity groups reliant on export to the U.S., there are many indirect consequences that affect domestic chicken production. ACP has been active in working alongside Chicken Farmers of Canada in providing feedback to the federal government on U.S. imports that are critical to chicken production as they refine their retaliatory tariff list.

Government relations have been a major focus throughout this time. Our Alberta government has been quite vocal in the face of U.S. tariff threats, and our efforts in establishing a good working relationship with our Ministry have served us well, particularly when the topic of supply management is raised. We appreciated the greetings shared by Agriculture Minister RJ Sigurdson to kick off this year's AGM, where he expressed his commitment to support our farmers and our market.

With supply management getting more press in recent months, there has been increased communication and collaboration with the Alberta SM5 (chicken, hatching egg, turkey, table egg and dairy) to ensure we are part of the conversation with our elected officials. The SM5 was honoured to secure a meeting with Premier Danielle Smith, along with Minister RJ Sigurdson, to ensure we are part of the conversation when discussions around supply management arise. We believe the meeting went well and were pleased with the level of engagement and discussion from Premier Smith.

The other area of focus for ACP has been on our supply chain, with a focus on achieving one hundred per cent utilization of our provincial allocation. The national base adjustment for 2025 saw more kilograms shifted to the summer months to meet the demand for fresh chicken during barbeque season. While this represents a great opportunity for Alberta producers, it also creates challenges related to grower space and barn capacity, particularly during the A-196 and A-197 growing periods. We are seeing very positive

indicators that could significantly increase allocations, suggesting it is a good time for Alberta producers to expand chicken-growing capacity to meet increasing market demand.

As you will be aware, the second challenge to Alberta achieving one hundred per cent utilization will involve chick supply. ACP has been very active in working with our value chain partners to address both import and domestic hatching egg supply. U.S. import supply has become very tight, due to HPAI affecting a large U.S. breeder, so ACP is working closely with both Alberta Hatching Egg Producers (AHEP) and our hatcheries in an attempt to increase domestic hatching egg supply. We were pleased to learn earlier this week that AHEP has increased their allocation factor (production factor) from 108% to 112%, effective June 16, which is hoped to eventually put Alberta in a position of lowering breeder flock life and provide additional buffer to our hatching egg supply in the face of tight U.S. imports. Additional measures to encourage more hatching egg supply include Canadian Hatching Egg Producers' decision to increase their overproduction sleeve by 10% for 2025 and 6% for 2026. ACP will remain committed to working with our value chain partners on addressing chick supply going forward to meet the growing demand for chicken.

We have a lot of meaningful work ahead of us in 2025 and are looking forward to an exciting year in the Alberta chicken sector. We feel very fortunate to be a part of a growing sector that looks to provide many opportunities for our producers in the future!

With that, I would like to wish you a wonderful summer and hope to connect with many of you at some point throughout the year.

All the best,

Geoff Brown

Executive Director

Alberta Chicken Producers



Buying local is easy!

Look for the "Raised by a Canadian Farmer" and "Alberta Chicken" logos at your local grocery store.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Alberta Chicken Producers' 59th Annual General Meeting

Alberta Chicken Producers (ACP) held its 59th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at the Red Deer Resort & Casino.



On February 24, 2025, the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, RJ Sigurdson, delivered greetings at the Alberta Poultry Industry Reception, connecting with our farmers and industry partners.

2025 Elections:

Congratulations to Ross Bezovie who was re-elected to the ACP Board of Directors for his second three-year term.



2025 Board of Directors



David Hyink
Chair



Ross Bezovie
Vice-Chair



Tara deVries
Director



Rob Van Diemen
Director



Wes Nanninga
Director

2025 Producer Representatives:

- Byron Ference - Calgary South Rep
- Bruce Baerg - Calgary to Lacombe Rep
- Arjan Spelt - Lacombe to Leduc
- Hinke Therrien - Leduc North

Thank you to our outgoing Producer Representative Anke Wierenga for her contributions to the sector.

Staff Milestones



We also had the privilege of celebrating some incredible milestones within our team. Congratulations to Vera Ward on 30 years of service with Alberta Chicken Producers and Rob Renema on 10 years of service—your dedication and contributions are truly valued!

Annual General Meeting Resolution Results

At our 59th Annual General Meeting, producers voted on the following resolutions.

Resolution #1: Marketing Regulation Changes Vote

“Be it resolved that the membership of the Alberta Chicken Producers approves the proposed changes to the Alberta Chicken Producers Marketing Regulation as presented.”

Voting results:

- 97.9% In Favour
- 2.1% Opposed

Resolution #2: HPAI Reimbursement & Emergency Reserve Funding Vote

“Whereas the Alberta Chicken Producers (ACP) have implemented a formal procedure for producer reimbursement of expenses not covered by CFIA compensation, and that existing ACP Financial Policy defines allowable use of the ACP Emergency Reserve Fund, be it resolved that the membership of the Alberta Chicken Producers approve an increased cap for our Emergency Reserve Fund (ERF) of \$3 million dollars plus one month of operating expenses, and implements a \$0.0015/kg increase in ACP service charge which will be added to the Alberta minimum live price, until such time that the ERF equals \$3 million dollars, at which time the \$0.0015/kg levy will be discontinued.”

Voting results:

- 86% In Favour
- 14% Opposed

Canadian Chicken Farmers Support Government Commitment to Address Spent Fowl Fraud

March 21, 2025

OTTAWA – Chicken Farmers of Canada (CFC) is encouraged by the recent statement from the Government of Canada, demonstrating a strong commitment to tackling the fraudulent importation of broiler meat mislabeled as spent fowl. The dedication to enhancing collaboration between industry and enforcement agencies marks a positive step toward protecting the integrity of Canada's chicken supply and safeguarding the livelihoods of Canadian chicken farmers.

Spent fowl refers to egg-laying hens that are processed for meat at the end of their production cycle. Unlike broiler chicken meat, imports of spent fowl are not subject to the same import controls, allowing unlimited quantities into Canada. As a result, this has given some importers the opportunity to fraudulently mislabel broiler meat as spent fowl in order to circumvent Canada's customs tariff. [CLICK HERE TO READ FULL PRESS RELEASE](#)



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Canadian chicken farmers have long advocated for decisive measures to address this issue, which has resulted in significant economic impacts. At its peak, fraudulent imports of spent fowl cost Canada 1,400 jobs, \$105 million in economic contributions, \$35 million in taxes, and at least \$66 million in government revenue annually.

The Government of Canada has expressed its intention to collaborate with industry partners and enforcement agencies, including the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), to develop an action plan aimed at improving detection, enforcing compliance, and leveling the playing field.

CFC expects this commitment will lead to the implementation of DNA testing to distinguish between broiler meat and spent fowl meat—an essential step to stopping illegal imports. Research funded by Chicken DNA of Canada, in collaboration with Trent University, has already developed a reliable DNA test to accurately differentiate between the two types of meat.

“Canadian chicken farmers appreciate the government's commitment to making spent fowl fraud a priority,” said Tim Klomparek, Chair of Chicken Farmers of Canada. “We are confident that the government's dedication to collaboration and decisive action will lead to the implementation of DNA testing as a means of enforcement. This will be a critical step forward

180 - 3610 DUNDAS STREET WEST, OTTAWA, ON K1M 1Y4
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Alberta Chicken Producers Participate in the Calgary Co-op Grape Escape

Alberta Chicken Producers once again participated in the Calgary Co-op Grape Escape event, held last week on March 21–22 in Calgary, Alberta. With more than 5,300 Calgarians in attendance, the event was a fantastic opportunity to connect with consumers and share information about Alberta’s chicken industry.

A big thank-you goes out to our partners at Maple Leaf for inviting us to join them in their booth, and to our incredible volunteers—Claudine, Jen, George, and Gary—for their time and energy.

Throughout the evening, guests enjoyed delicious chicken samples and received coupons provided by Maple Leaf.



Volunteers engaged attendees with fun trivia and meaningful conversations about how chicken is raised in Alberta. Feedback from the team was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the value of in-person engagement and consumer education.

Events like Grape Escape help us build public trust and showcase the care and commitment Alberta’s chicken farmers bring to the table.



Chicken Farmers of Canada Releases Federal Election Package for Farmers

Election Date: Monday, April 28, 2025

The farmer election package includes:

1. Federal election messaging
2. Election advice and tips
3. Farmer template letter
4. Ridings to watch for (as of March 2025)
5. Supply management backgrounder leave-behind

To access the documents mentioned, please visit the **Producer Only Portal of the Alberta Chicken Producers' website**. If you have any questions or would like support in hosting a farm tour or meeting with an elected official, please reach out to Maria Leslie at mleslie@chicken.ab.ca.

Olympians Visit Alberta Chicken Farm

On Wednesday, April 9, 2025, the Therrien family welcomed Swimming Canada athletes and Olympians to their farm as part of a special partnership initiative with Chicken Farmers of Canada. The visit gave the athletes a firsthand look at what it takes to raise Canadian chicken and offered a valuable opportunity to share our sectors story.

Swimmers included Emma O’Croinin, Blake Tierney, Reid Maxwell, Sophie Angus, Ingrid Wilm, Apollo Hess, Yuri Kasil, Finlay Knox, and Nicholas Bennett — all of whom took time to learn about our on-farm practices, animal care standards, and the pride Alberta farmers take in producing safe, high-quality food.



THANK YOU -- to Marc, Hinke, Annelies, Natalie, and Emilie for hosting and showcasing what Canadian chicken farming is all about!

Alberta Chicken Producers at Calgary Stampede Aggie Days 2025

Aggie Days 2025 brought the Calgary Stampede Grounds to life once again, and we were excited to be part of the action. Throughout the week, our dedicated farmer volunteers were onsite engaging with students and teachers from across the Calgary region—answering questions, sharing how Alberta chicken is raised, and helping build meaningful connections between the farm and the classroom.

The energy continued into the weekend as Aggie Days welcomed the public to the Nutrien Western Event Centre. With hands-on displays and interactive learning opportunities, attendees explored the vital role agriculture plays in their everyday lives and met the people behind the food they enjoy.

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our volunteers: Brianna, Grace and George Hofer, Larry Hofer, Mark Oostenbrug, Rachel Voth, and Jack and Danielle Bruning. Thank you for generously sharing your time and stories. Your commitment to education and transparency helps build trust and understanding between consumers and Alberta's farm families.



Wing Wednesday 2025: Supporting Vulnerable Albertans Through Our Good Neighbours Program

On April 2, 2025, Alberta Chicken Producers was proud to sponsor Wing Wednesday 2025 in support of Edmonton Meals on Wheels.

Hosted at Halley's Club in the Starlight Casino, the evening brought together members of the business community for a lively night of fundraising, food, and connection. Now in its third year, this event continues to grow in energy and impact, raising vital funds that go directly toward providing nutritious meals for vulnerable Albertans—including seniors, individuals with limited mobility, and others facing food insecurity.

We partnered with Maple Leaf Foods to sponsor the wings, and ACP Director Wes Nanninga attended on our behalf to connect with attendees and show our ongoing commitment to the cause. The event featured delicious appetizers and drinks, a live DJ, a silent auction, and entertaining on-stage appearances by Rob Christie, Daintre Christensen (Global News), Sharon Yeo (Only Here for the Food), and Karen Thibault (Equipment Sales & Service).

Why Meals on Wheels?

Everyone deserves access to safe, healthy, and nourishing food. Meals on Wheels delivers just that—day in and day out—to Albertans in need. Our support for this organization reflects our broader commitment to giving back to our communities and being good neighbours both on and off the farm.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Stollery Children's Hospital Teddy Bear Fun Fest



**MAY 10,
2025
EDMONTON**
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -
MINIMUM OF 8

Calgary Stampede

JULY 4-13, 2025

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (4-6 PER DAY):
FULL DAY OR HALF DAY SHIFTS AVAILABLE**



All eligible volunteers who participate in Alberta Chicken Producers' volunteer events will receive the benefits of the Volunteer Recognition Program.

**Email Maria
to sign-up!**



SCAN HERE



Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- April 17: Board Meeting
- May 10: Stollery Teddy Bear Fun Fest – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- May 23-24: Aggie Days Mountain View
- May 27: Board Meeting
- May 28: IAC Meeting
- July 10: Board Meeting
- July 4-13: Calgary Stampede - **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- August 26-28: Strategic Planning

Chicken Farmers of Canada Sets Allocation for A-196

On February 5, 2025, Chicken Farmers of Canada set the allocation for Period A-196.

The national allocation for Period A-196 was set at 2.0% over adjusted base.

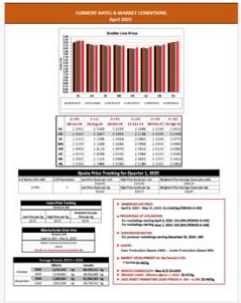
Under the national allocation formula, which defaults to Pro-Rata if there is no growth, Alberta's A-196 allocation is 2.69% over adjusted base.

Alberta's allocation for A-196 will run from June 1, 2025, to July 26, 2025.

Domestic Allocation (live kgs)	30,814,067
Market Development (live kgs)	150,000
Specialty Allocation (live kgs)	0
Total Allocation (live kgs)	30,964,067
Percentage of Utilization	103.30%

PERIOD	CFC Sets Allocation
A-193 (December 15, 2023-February 8, 2025)	10-Sep-24
A-194 (February 9-April 5, 2025)	06-Nov-24
A-195 (April 6-May 31, 2025)	10-Dec-24
A-196 (June 1-July 26, 2025)	05-Feb-25
A-197 (July 27-Sept 20, 2025)	30-Apr-25
A-198 (Sept 21-Nov 15, 2025)	17-Jun-25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future 'Allocation' dates are published in our Newsletter so that producers can be aware when the next unallocated Period is being set. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	

Markets Stats



[Click here for April Market Stats](#)

Classifieds

WANTED:

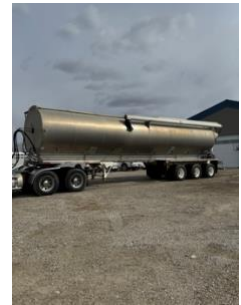
7000 Units of Broiler Quota
Call 780-308-8001

WANTED:

Broiler Quota Wanted
Call Peter @ 403-392-5230

FOR SALE:

2001 Wallinga feed trailer Fresh
New paint 3 years ago
New brakes and suspension at same time
\$45,000 or best offer
Call Jeff - 403-505-0289



FOR SALE:

450' +/- Choretime Feeders
180' Big Dutchman Feeders
300' Chain Feeder
Ziggity Waterlines
Contact Sid
(250)793-9597

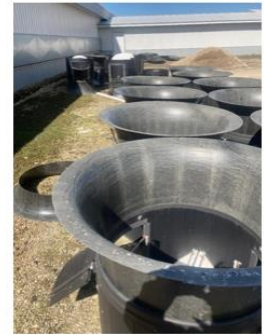


FOR SALE:

Exhaust Flaps

Contact: Dan - dsnhofer@gmail.com

780-878-4208



FOR SALE:

Agri Alert 9600 Complete System

- Excellent condition, only issue is main board can no longer charge back-up battery
- Comes with Secondary control box key pad, 3 x TP 800, battery box and DC Electric Box
- All in working condition, we upgraded to Agri Alert 128
- Asking \$2000 obo

Contact: Marc 780-887-0351



FOR SALE

Chicken Mortality Wagons

Contact: Caleb 780-699-1223

