

Upcoming Meetings

OLPC Membership Meetings

- April 12, 2013
- June 14, 2013
- August 8, 2013
- October 11, 2013
- December 13, 2013

OLPC Membership and Board

There are currently 27 regular members, three associate members and six ex-officio members including livestock and poultry groups, farm service, feed, processing and veterinary organizations.

The OLPC Board consists of seven directors representing six sector groups and a Chair elected by the membership. The Vice-Chair is elected by the Board.

Chair: Gordon Coukell, Alcoma Farms

Two-year Term – Expires 2013

Major Livestock – Richard Horne,

Ontario Cattlemen's Association

Poultry – Harry Pelissero, Egg

Farmers of Ontario

Veterinarian Associations –

Doug Raven, Ontario Veterinary

Medical Association

Three-year Term – Expires 2014

Minor Livestock – Jennifer

Bullock, Ontario Livestock Alliance

Agriculture and Food

Associations and Coalitions –

Susan Collier, Association of

Ontario Chicken Processors and

OLPC Vice-Chair

Individual Agri-Businesses – Ian

Richardson, e-Biz Professionals

Highlights of OLPC Activities 2012–2013

A Year in Review

Leeds– Grenville Municipal Emergency Management Session

On June 1, 2012 the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville hosted a livestock disease emergency response workshop for local municipalities and emergency response workers. The OLPC, OMAF, CFIA, Ministry of Health and Long-term Care, and the County of Wellington were invited to give presentations in the morning focusing on agricultural emergency response. In the afternoon, the participants worked through a Foot and Mouth Disease table top scenario. There were approximately 125 people in attendance.

Mass Carcass Disposal Project

This project focused on using pilot project materials produced by Alberta Agriculture and CFIA in 2008 as a model from which to develop an Ontario Emergency Carcass Disposal Planning Guide and Workbook for municipalities. Mass carcass disposal has been raised as an unresolved issue by the agriculture sector for several years and now municipalities are becoming aware of the challenges with which they might be faced.

Large-scale emergency livestock or poultry disposal may be necessary for a number of reasons including floods, fires, tornados, equipment and infrastructure failure, and/or animal disease outbreaks. Being prepared to respond in a timely, efficient and environmentally suitable manner is crucial to protect human, livestock and wildlife health.

OMAF, CFIA and Ministry of Environment staff provided input and assisted in reviewing the draft material. Six municipalities who have been involved in other OLPC emergency response activities were asked if they would like to pilot the resource and all six were quite eager to do so. They were: City of Kingston, County of Wellington, Perth County, City of Kawartha Lakes, United Counties of Leeds & Grenville, and Niagara Region.

Small Ruminant Foreign Animal Disease Workshop

Forty-two people attended the Small Ruminant Foreign Animal Disease Workshop on October 16, 2012 which was organized by OLPC with the support of the OMAF and the Animal Health Lab at the University of Guelph.

The goal of the workshop was to improve the preparedness of the small ruminant industry for a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak. It also helped participants develop a better understanding of what CFIA, OMAF and the Animal Health Lab will do if there is a FAD in Ontario and what is expected/needed from the small ruminant industry.

Based on the feedback sheet results, everyone found it to be a very beneficial day which helped them to gain a better understanding of what government agencies will do and also what is expected from the small ruminant industry by way of a response. A workshop summary report was sent to everyone who attended the day or who was invited but unable to attend.

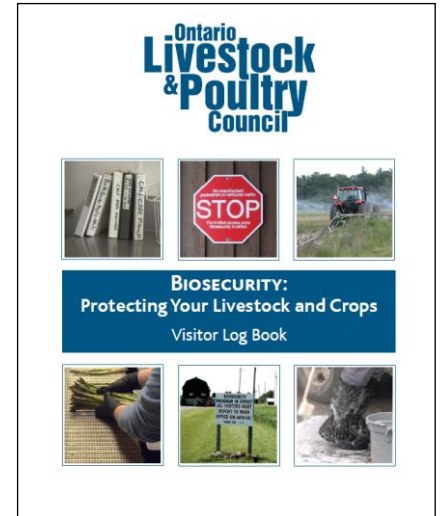
On-Farm Biosecurity Resources

The OLPC, with funding support provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food developed some generic biosecurity materials for producers to use when considering and applying biosecurity practices on farm. The resources will also assist commodities get ready to implement their specific national biosecurity standards when available.

The free biosecurity resources which are available from OLPC include:

- Generic on-farm biosecurity guides – one for livestock and one for crops
- Biosecurity video
- Posters explaining biosecurity to employees and visitors
- Biosecurity signs
- Visitor log books

Copies of these items can be viewed on or downloaded from our website www.ontlpc.ca and hard copies may be ordered from the OLPC office.



Incident Command System Training

The OLPC, with the support of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the University of Guelph, held a one-day workshop on March 5, 2013 on the Incident Command System (ICS) in the context of an agricultural emergency response. Forty people attended the session.

The federal, provincial and municipal governments in Ontario follow the Incident Command System (ICS) for emergency management so it is important for all participants in the response to be familiar with ICS in order to manage the emergency in an efficient and coordinated manner. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- explain the concepts of ICS,
- outline the roles and responsibilities of government and agricultural stakeholders within a provincial response, and,
- improve the preparedness of the agriculture industry to respond to an emergency.

As a next step, participating stakeholder groups were urged to explore implementing an ICS emergency response structure within their respective organizations. Each attendee was to take back and explain to their relevant organization the information provided at this workshop.

Poultry Simulation – June 2013

The OLPC has been asked by OMAF, the Animal Health Lab and the Feather Board Command Centre to provide coordination support for a June 2013 poultry simulation. The poultry simulation will emphasize the use of the Incident Command System in responding to a poultry disease outbreak.

Our Mission

Provide a forum to facilitate the development and coordination of an Ontario strategy to deal with foreign animal disease and other transmissible livestock and poultry diseases.