

## Issue 24 June 2013

### Upcoming Meetings

#### **OLPC Membership Meetings**

- August 8, 2013
- October 11, 2013
- December 13, 2013

#### **OLPC Board Changes**

OLPC held its annual meeting on June 14, 2013. Gord Coukell was acclaimed as Chair. The Vice-Chair is elected by the Board and will be elected at their next meeting in July.

There were three new Directors elected by their respective sectors: Mike DeGroot replaces Richard Horne, John Groen fills the seat previously held by Harry Pelissero, and Steve Wolfgram replaces Doug Raven.

**Chair:** Gordon Coukell, Alcoma Farms

#### Term Expires 2015

**Major Livestock** – Mike DeGroot, Ontario Pork

**Poultry** – John Groen, Ontario Broiler Hatching Egg and Chick Commission

**Veterinarian Associations** – Steve Wolfgram, Ontario Swine Practitioners Association

#### Term Expires 2014

**Minor Livestock** – Jennifer Bullock, Ontario Livestock Alliance

**Agriculture and Food**

**Associations and Coalitions** – Susan Collier, Association of Ontario Chicken Processors

**Individual Agri-Businesses** – Ian Richardson, e-Biz Professionals

## **Poultry Simulation – June 2013**

The OLPC provided coordination support for a Poultry Foreign Animal Disease Workshop on June 13, 2013 in Guelph. Invitations were extended to a broad cross-section of the poultry industry including producers, veterinarians, feed and service suppliers, processors, and government; 90 individuals participated in the day.

The objective of the workshop was to improve the preparedness of the poultry industry for a foreign animal disease outbreak and to familiarize stakeholders with the Incident Command System which would be used during an emergency response.

The morning program consisted of a number of speakers and presentations. The topics were focused on government response in the event of a FAD in Ontario and what would be needed from the poultry industry.

The afternoon session focused around a tabletop disease exercise. Each table was assigned a role to play within the Incident Command System structure, e.g. Command, Information, Liaison, Finance, Operations, Planning, and Logistics. The role playing was designed to stimulate conversation among stakeholders regarding the necessary assets, vulnerabilities and response resources including personnel, skill sets, equipment and supplies.

The ratings and comments on the feedback sheets submitted by attendees were very good. Ninety percent of the respondents rated the day good to excellent regarding raising their awareness of emergency management within the context of a foreign animal disease. In response to the question regarding whether they heard or learned something at the workshop that they would consider implementing in their business or association activities, 60% replied in the affirmative.

## **Growing Forward 2 Biosecurity Workshops**

OMAF has approached OLPC about developing resources to be used in farmer biosecurity workshops under Growing Forward 2 similar to the materials used in the poultry workshops for GF1. The OSCIA will deliver the workshops in conjunction with the commodity groups and other technical resource people (e.g. veterinarians, veterinarian technicians, crop advisors, etc.). There will be train the trainer sessions for the facilitators. OLPC will be responsible for developing the material for use in the workshops. At this point, the number of workshops has not been determined but will be set in conjunction with the respective commodity associations. OLPC is in the process of signing an agreement with OMAF for this work.

## **Upcoming Guest Speakers**

There will be guest speakers at several upcoming OLPC membership meetings. On August 8<sup>th</sup>, Shannon Meadows will present the results of the Q-Fever Surveillance Project. Dr. Norm Willis will talk about the National Farmed Animal Council at the October 11<sup>th</sup> OLPC meeting. Dr. Martine Dubuc, the new OIE represent, will be speaking at the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The OLPC Board will be discussing holding the December meeting in a larger venue in anticipation that OLPC member organizations may wish to send additional representatives to hear Dr. Dubuc's presentation.

### **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.*