

Trainers workshop offered for Certified Livestock Transporter program

Calgary, Alta, April 26, 2007: A new "Training-the-Trainers" workshop offered May 17 at Olds College will train instructors to deliver the Certified Livestock Transporter (CLT) training program.

The CLT program is a comprehensive training course and support service for Canada's livestock transport sector. It focuses on the humane and safe relocation of livestock, including livestock transport regulatory requirements for Canada and the U.S.

The program was developed by Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC), a partnership of Alberta's major livestock groups, in conjunction with an extensive industry advisory group. CLT offers certified skills training to truckers, shippers and receivers, with core content for all species and breakout modules for beef, hogs, horses, sheep and poultry.

The program covers livestock handling, loading and biosecurity. It also includes instruction on recognizing and dealing with livestock not fit to be transported as well as emergency accident response.

"In Alberta alone, every day approximately 480 commercial livestock trucks are on the roads hauling cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, poultry, bison and elk," says AFAC manager Susan Church. "The CLT program supports the humane and safe transport of those animals. By providing skills certification, it also assists the livestock transportation industry in providing proof of competency."

Those interested in becoming a trainer for the CLT program can register for the Train-the-Trainers workshop at www.LivestockTransport.ca. A number of groups are already sending participants to the workshop, including feedlots, meat plants and trucking firms. Independent trainers are also welcome and a number have already registered.

Along with AFAC, funding support for the CLT program is provided by the Alberta Livestock Industry Development Fund, Alberta Agriculture and Food and by Putting Farm Animal Welfare on the Agenda – a project involving four provincial farm animal care groups and the National Farm Animal Care Council.

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