

Putting Farm  
Animal Welfare  
on the Agenda  
in Canada

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## SPEAKER PROGRAM PUTS FARM ANIMAL WELFARE ON THE AGENDA

(October 26, 2007) Animal care organizations across Canada are proud to provide the Farm Animal Welfare Speakers Bureau for a second year. This program will help raise awareness of farm animal welfare and responsible management in agriculture.

The program is a nation-wide partnership between Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC), Manitoba Farm Animal Council (MFAC), the Ontario Farm Animal Council (OFAC), and the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan (FACS). "We think it's crucial to put farm animal welfare on the agenda in this country," said Adele Buettner, FACS Executive Director.

Comprised of the four farm animal care groups, the Farm Animal Welfare Speakers Bureau (FAWSB) will sponsor all or a portion of the costs to bring high-quality animal welfare presenters to conferences and workshops. The partners are hoping that individuals and groups across Canada will take advantage of this new program to bring animal welfare speakers to their conferences and seminars and educate people in the livestock and poultry industries on the importance of responsible animal management.

Dr. Claude Mason is a Manitoba veterinarian and innovator, and is one of about 30 speakers being promoted in the program. "Training, procedures and empowerment are all essential to help people working in the industry assess situations and do what's right for the animal," said Dr. Mason.

The program is being coordinated on behalf of the group by Adele Buettner of the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan. "In agriculture, we're committed to ensuring our animals are well cared for and investing in research to look for ways to improve," Buettner said. "It's time to spread the word."

For more information about how FAWSB can help with your program, call your respective provincial FACs group or Adele at (306) 249.3227, or see details on the website at [www.livestockwelfare.com](http://www.livestockwelfare.com)

This is a collective outcome partnership with the Agricultural Adaptation Council in Ontario, the Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council, the Agriculture Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (formerly SCCD) and the Alberta Agriculture and Food Council. Funding for this project was provided in part through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Program.

-30-

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