



Horse Welfare Alliance ***Canada***

For Immediate Release:

Canada's horse industry supports the Canadian Food Inspection Agency

October 23, 2008 – The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada applauds the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) continued efforts and success in promoting animal welfare in Canada. "Contrary to the opinion of animal activist groups, our work with the CFIA has displayed first hand the CFIA's knowledge and empathy for horse welfare in Canada," said Bill desBarres, chair of the Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada (www.horsewelfare.ca).

The CFIA played an integral role in the development of the industry's ethical code of practice for the humane handling of horses. "Our industry meets regularly with representatives from the CFIA to discuss ways to ensure Canada's horses are being treated humanely at all stages of their lives," says desBarres. "I am constantly impressed with CFIA's commitment to animal welfare and their professional approach to ensuring all animal welfare regulations are enforced."

The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada has written a letter to the Auditor General of Canada to show its support for the CFIA and to verify the CFIA's record of promoting animal welfare in Canada. The Alliance is also encouraging other industry associations, horse organizations and horse owners to show their support for the CFIA by sending their own messages to the Auditor General.

Humane treatment of horses by people who own them or who provide care is paramount for our industry. In partnership with the federal and provincial governments and horse organizations at all levels across Canada, the Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada works to ensure standards of humane treatment are implemented and maintained. There is no priority higher than ensuring the well-being of our horses.

For more information, contact: Bill desBarres at 403-526-1070 www.horsewelfare.ca

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