



CANADIAN LIVESTOCK RECORDS CORPORATION

2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, Canada K1V 0M7
Tel. (613)731-7110 Fax/Télécopie (613)731-0704
Internet: www.clrc.ca e-mail: clrc@clrc.ca

SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ENREGISTREMENT DES ANIMAUX



March 8, 2014

To: All Member Associations:

As you may know, Canadian Livestock Records Corporation and other animal associations exist under provisions within the Animal Pedigree Act (section 35). Whether your association utilizes CLRC for registry services, you provide your own registry or you use the services of another association, we feel discussions at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada regarding the Act are a concern to all associations and their members. It is our understanding that some individuals within Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada are proposing repealing the Animal Pedigree Act. We feel this is both misguided and short sighted.

The Animal Pedigree Act is good legislation that provides a framework for pedigreed animal associations to exist. Associations are able to provide the highest standard of registry services, which brings worldwide recognition to Canadian animals. The Act is an extremely low cost act to administer and allows the animal industry to operate in a very efficient manner while maintaining the highest of standards. It accomplishes what Agriculture and Agri-Food's Canada Brand program sets out to do, that is to "gain a competitive advantage and distinguish yourself internationally and at home."

Whether it be bison, cattle, dogs, donkeys, foxes, goats, horses, llamas, alpacas, sheep or swine, a Canadian pedigree is held in high regard around the world due to the high standards set out in the Animal Pedigree Act. Repealing the Act would adversely affect the international recognition of Canadian Pedigrees of all species and would certainly take away the Canadian advantage and reputation for breed integrity recognized worldwide. This is a reputation that has taken decades of hard work to establish.

A few of the many expected negative impacts resulting from losing the Act are: 1) loss of small and rare breeds, 2) loss of international markets, 3) fragmentation of existing breed associations, 4) dilution of genetics, and 5) loss of guidance in managing breed genetics. The loss of the Act would require associations to incorporate under Industry Canada.

The Animal Pedigree Act currently prevents more than one association to represent and keep registry services for a breed. In other countries multiple registries have negatively impacted many breeds.

At this time, we do not have any additional information on when or how the Act could be repealed and we have been advised to seek answers directly from the Minister of Agriculture. We recommend that your association also contact the Minister of Agriculture, your Member of Parliament, and others in the industry, to advise of the importance of maintaining the Animal Pedigree Act.

Sincerely

General Manager

On behalf of the CLRC Board of Directors

Contact Information:

Hon. Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
1341 Baseline Rd./ Tower 7, Floor 9, Room 149, Ottawa ON K1A 0C5

Hon. Maxime Bernier, Minister of State (Agriculture)
1341 Baseline Rd. Tower 7, Ottawa ON K1A 0C5

Suzanne Vinet, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
1341 Baseline Rd., Tower 7, Room 147, Floor 9, Ottawa ON K1A 0C5

Hon. Thomas Mulcair, Leader of the Opposition,
House of Commons, Centre Block, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Justin Trudeau MP, Leader of the Liberal Party
House of Commons, Centre Block, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

House of Commons Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food
6th Floor, 131 Queen St. House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry
The Setae of Canada, Ottawa ON K1A 0A4