

# Poultry Risk Management Avian Influenza

November 2009

Volume 1, Number 1

## Project Objectives:

- design a shared risk management program to improve A.I. compensation
- develop a model that evaluates the risks of Avian Influenza
- industry consultation

## Links

[www.bcegg.com](http://www.bcegg.com)

[www.bcbhec.com](http://www.bcbhec.com)

[www.bcturkey.com](http://www.bcturkey.com)

[www.bcchicken.ca](http://www.bcchicken.ca)

## For More Information

Contact your Board Manager

## What's Going On?

After the 2004 Avian Influenza outbreak, the Risk Analysis Steering Committee, made up of the industry and government expertise, completed a risk assessment of the BC poultry industry. This work was followed up by formation of the Risk Mitigation Steering Committee (RMSC). RMSC is tasked with developing and guiding implementation of a strategy which will reduce the risk of an AI outbreak and buffer the financial impacts on producers should one occur.

A priority mandate of the RMSC is to design a shared risk management program to improve Avian Influenza compensation for BC poultry producers to address the gaps in current government compensation programs.

## What's the Plan?

Currently, the RMSC has contracted BMS Group (an insurance broker from the UK) and CMI (a company dedicated to risk assessment and analysis) to develop a model specifically for BC for evaluating the amount of risk from Avian Influenza. This model can be used as a foundation for a shared risk management program, as well as provide the BC poultry industry with the capability to make more informed decisions toward reducing disease risk and further developing risk management strategies. Such a program will supplement the current Health of Animals compensation. The Federal/Provincial Business Risk Management suite of programs will remain in place.

The shared risk management program will build on and integrate with all the bio-security, emergency response and surveillance work that the industry and governments have implemented. The work of BC producers to prevent and reduce the impact of disease spread is expected to have a very positive impact. A team of current inspection staff from all Boards will begin data collection to supplement existing information over the next two months.

## What Can You Do?

As an industry, it is important that we all work together for the good of the common goal – a working model of a compensation program in the event of a contagious disease outbreak that is suited to the specific needs of the BC poultry industry. You will be contacted by phone by the Board inspectors to gather information. A sample of producers will receive on farm visits to confirm the accuracy of the data collected shortly after the phone survey is completed. Accurate information is essential for the loss modelling process to evaluate the risk.

**When the phone rings and one of the project's data collectors asks for your time to answer questions, please give them your full support. This project has significant potential to reduce your risk from disease and enhance your financial protection should AI reappear. Thank you!**

Funding provided by:

