



MEDIA RELEASE

An Opportunity for Trucking Companies to Reduce Losses, Injuries and Accidents

For Immediate Release

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The Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan (FACS) is providing trucking firms access to the Certified Livestock Transporter (CLT) program that focuses on the humane and safe transportation of livestock.

The course, which is facilitated by FACS' certified CLT instructor Ken McDonald, provides educational standards and recognition for people involved in transporting and handling livestock, including truckers, shippers and receivers.

Given that FACS represents the livestock industry in advancing responsible animal welfare and handling practices, it is fitting that Saskatchewan joins other provinces in offering the CLT program, according to FACS Executive Director Adele Buettner.

The first CLT course in Saskatchewan took place at Heartland Livestock Services in Regina on April 12.

"The course was well received and initiated informative discussions among the 11 participants. This is a great course that gives students more confidence and insight into dealing with some of the day-to-day difficulties that they may encounter," Mr. McDonald said.

With core content for transporting beef, hogs, horses, sheep and poultry; the CLT program covers handling, loading, biosecurity and emergency accident response, as well as guidelines for dealing with animals not fit for transport.

Mr. Kyle Favel of Favel Transportation Inc. of Regina attended the course, and said it is "a must", especially for young drivers.

"With the average age of drivers increasing, there are more inexperienced drivers and handlers entering the business. Having a driver go through this course and having the CLT material in the truck for easy reference, ensures drivers make good decisions every time," Mr. Favel said.

Ms. Buettner urges other Saskatchewan companies involved in transporting livestock to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure personnel are knowledgeable and qualified.

"This course is of particular interest to proactive individuals and companies keen to elevate their level of professionalism and the quality of animal care in their livestock transporting businesses," Ms. Buettner noted.

The CLT course, which was developed by Alberta Farm Animal Care in collaboration with an Industry Advisory Group, addresses Canadian laws, trucking and weather conditions and specific meat plant needs, as well as policies regarding compromised animals.

To arrange for a CLT course, contact Mr. Ken McDonald at 306-695-0121, fax: 306-695-3927, email: ken.mcdonald@sasktel.net, or check the FACS website at www.facs.sk.ca or www.supremeauctions.ca.

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