

Email: info@defendhorsescanada.org
 Web: www.defendhorsescanada.org
 Blog: <http://canadianhorsedefencecoalition.wordpress.com/>
 We're on Facebook too

A CALL TO END HORSE SLAUGHTER IN CANADA

Our mission is to work collectively with individuals and groups to help protect equines in Canada from slaughter and the export of live equines for slaughter by raising public awareness through education, and helping to achieve the enactment of legislation that will ban these practices in Canada.

In October 2011, NDP MP Alex Atamanenko re-introduced a bill to end horse slaughter in Canada. The new proposed legislation is Bill C-322, an Act to amend the Health of Animals Act and the Meat Inspection Act, thus prohibiting the importation or exportation of horses for slaughter for human consumption.

Statistics from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada show over 82,175 horses died in Canadian slaughterhouses in 2012. This translates to over 1,580 horses every week who meet their sad fate in Canadian slaughterhouses. There are currently 4 federally licensed plants operating in Canada (2 in Alberta and 2 in Quebec).

70% of the horses slaughtered were brought in from the U.S. Horse slaughter closed in the U.S. in 2007, but exports still continue. U.S. citizens fought hard to close the industry, but until legislation is passed to stop exports, horses will continue to be shipped to Canada and Mexico. A market for horse meat for human consumption exists in Europe and Asia, however, the majority of Canadians do not support it. An Ipsos-Reid poll revealed that nearly 2/3 of Canadians do not believe in killing horses for human consumption.



Horses in Canadian slaughterhouse holding pens.



Contact your Member of Parliament:

<http://webinfo.parl.gc.ca/MembersOfParliament/MainMPsCompleterList.aspx?TimePeriod=Current&Language=E>

Send emails and letters, then follow up by phone. Gather signatures on the petition available on the CHDC website. Plan to meet your MP to discuss why they should support Bill C-322. Remind them that drugs which are prohibited for use during the life of any animal destined for the human food supply are routinely being administered to horses. Mr. Atamanenko states, "It is irresponsible of Canada to allow the sale of meat from horses that have not been raised according to the food safety practices required for all other animals. For example, there is the issue of phenylbutazone. Bute is a known carcinogen that is banned from use in any animal entering the food chain."

Also contact Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the federal agencies responsible for horse slaughter in Canada, as well as members of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food.

Hon. Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Email: Ritz.G@parl.gc.ca
 Website: <http://www.gerryritzmp.com/>
 Tel: 613-995-7080; Fax: 613-996-8472

Mr. George Da Pont, President, Canadian Food Inspection Agency

1400 Merivale Rd., Tower 1, Floor 6, Ottawa, ON K1A 0Y9
 Email: George.DaPont@inspection.gc.ca
 Web: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/eng/1297964599443/1297965645317>
 Tel: 613-773-6000; Fax: 613-773-6060

Dr. Ian Alexander, Chief Veterinary Officer for Canada, CFIA

Email: Ian.Alexander@inspection.gc.ca
 Web: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/eng/1297964599443/1297965645317>
 Tel: 613-773-7472; Fax 613-228-6637

Dr. Martine Dubuc, Chief Food Safety Officer, CFIA

Email: Martine.Dubuc@inspection.gc.ca
 Web: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/eng/1297964599443/1297965645317>
 Tel: 613-773-5722; Fax 613-773-5797

Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food

Email: AGRI@parl.gc.ca
<http://www.parl.gc.ca/CommitteeBusiness/CommitteeContact.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&Parl=41&Ses=1>
 Tel: 613-947-6732



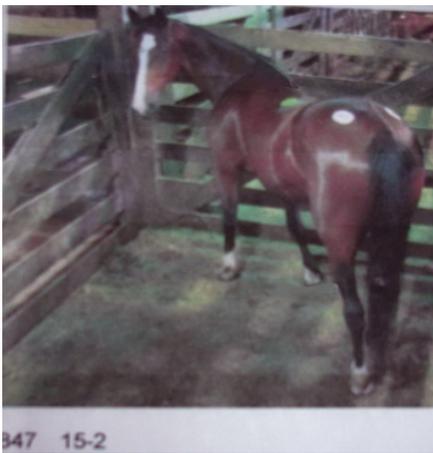
Clydesdale in Quebec slaughterhouse kill box



Ontario kill buyer feedlot.

TALKING POINTS

- Horses have not traditionally been raised for human consumption in North America. Horse meat products are likely to contain prohibited substances such as Phenylbutazone. CFIA list of drugs not permitted: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/meavia/man/ch17/annexee.shtml#e5>. Ontario Min. of Agriculture Horse Health Risk Data: http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/facts/info_pheny.htm
- Horses are companion animals and working partners and are considered to be man's second best friend. Many Canadians believe that this industry must be abolished on humane grounds. 64% of Canadians do not support it. The horse slaughter process itself is not humane euthanasia. It is a predatory business that sustains a culture of cruelty to horses.
- The CHDC has compelling evidence of horse cruelty and suffering as a result of rough handling and poor slaughter practices at 4 Canadian horse slaughter plants, all of which can be viewed on our web site.
- Dr. Nicholas Dodman, an expert in animal behaviour and anesthesiology at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine said this of our 2011 "Pasture to Plate" report: "...my final conclusion, after reviewing 150-plus horse slaughtered in this series of videos, is that the process was disgusting to me, terrifying for most of the horses and, in many cases, horribly inhumane." Also, Dr. Debi Zimmermann, DVM in Alberta, stated upon viewing footage from Bouvry Exports (AB) and Viande Richelieu (QC) in April 2010: "I conclude that the wary and flighty nature of the horse, coupled with the poorly designed kill plant systems currently in place at Bouvry Exports and Viande Richelieu, results in unacceptable levels of suffering endured by horses (both in number of horses and degree of suffering), and poses inherent dangers to plant personnel."
- The Federal Health of Animals Act is not enforced, which would protect sick, pregnant and unfit horses, and prohibit overcrowding, as well, the Recommended Code of Practice for Care and Handling of Farm Animals: Transportation of Horses is not enforced.
- The CFIA does not enforce their own weak rules that slaughter bound horses must not be transported for longer than 36 hours straight and must be provided with feed, water and rest at required intervals. Double deck trailers are still allowed, and horses shipped in crowded trailers over long distances often arrive injured, sometimes fatally.



Horses Slaughtered in Canada 2006 - 2013

Statistics provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
January	3824	3788	7181	8492	7361	7306	6983	5863
February	3685	5144	8089	8083	6562	5821	5805	5768
March	4495	5660	9972	8776	8326	8167	9414	5531
April	4106	5243	8957	7184	7442	7244	7477	
May	4835	5373	10034	7617	6921	7326	7030	
June	4482	6179	11580	8420	7809	8234	8702	
July	3934	4225	8604	5375	6710	5027	5015	
August	3789	6493	7774	6599	5371	7129	5284	
September	4584	9618	12251	10195	9636	9588	7428	
October	4328	8855	8945	7964	8094	8098	6043	
November	4364	9090	8881	7442	7876	7841	5950	
December	3816	9945	10796	7799	6922	7567	7044	
YEAR TOTAL	50242	79613	113064	93946	89030	89348	82175	17162

Horses Imported from the US to Canada for Slaughter 2006 - 2013

Statistics provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and USDA

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
January	1798	2049	3450	5735	4615	4747	5589	4422
February	1367	2319	2943	4895	3951	3722	5024	3407
March	1958	2422	3510	5033	4568	5877	5522	3115
April	1912	2851	4190	4511	4753	4928	5620	
May	1794	3118	3870	4213	4151	5744	6099	
June	1846	2335	3251	3737	4115	4618	5000	
July	1835	2398	2587	3016	4064	3269	3832	
August	2162	3072	3505	3660	4208	5769	4787	
September	2231	2907	4409	4903	5420	5490	5283	
October	1903	3283	3299	4627	5153	5164	4913	
November	1660	3017	3370	4122	5282	5892	4746	
December	1243	2681	3934	3953	3554	4523	3397	
YEAR TOTAL	21709	32452	42318	52405	53834	59743	59812	10944
	43.2%	40.8%	37.4%	55.8%	60.5%	67.0%	72.8%	63.8%

Of all horses slaughtered in Canada annually, this is the percentage that are from the US by year

These tables show the number of horses slaughtered in Canada from 2006 to March 2013.

The table on left shows the total number of horses slaughtered in Canadian slaughterhouses. The table on the right shows the number of horses brought in from the U.S. to Canadian slaughterhouses.