



107 3030 13th AVE S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1B 1E3

15 FEB 2017

Honorable Lawrence MacAulay, P.C, MP
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food Canada
1341 Baseline Road, Ottawa, ONT K1A 0C5

via email minister_ministre@agr.gc.ca
Canada Post
Fax 1-613-773-1081

RE: Bills C-322 and C-571

The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada (HWAC) was formed and federally incorporated in 2008 as a result of concern the equine industry et al in Canada was not adequately informed on matters of health and welfare of Canadian Equine and the general sustainability of the total Canadian equine industry.

HWAC statement of purpose: **"The communication of accurate information related to the Canadian horse industry to horse owners and the general public"** (www.horsewelfare.ca)

HWAC has received a copy of correspondence submitted to the office of the Honorable Lawrence MacAulay, P.C, MP from the Canadian Quarter Horse Association (CQHA). HWAC concurs and endorses the communication submitted by Wayne Burwash DVM on behalf of CQHA.

Further to the information from Dr. Burwash it can be confirmed the result of the United States ban on equine slaughter has resulted in the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) feeding tens of thousands of horses that have been gathered from government lands at costs to the US Government of tens of thousands of dollars per month. These "unwanted" horses having been loose, wild and / or feral have devastated the flora and fauna of some government lands. Follow this link to review flabbergasting facts and issues summarized effectively up to 14 Sep 2016. Further review of BLM facts and issues will reveal that in 2007 (closing of US horse slaughter) inventory and statistics would be a small fraction of current recorded statistics (www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/history_and_facts/quick_facts.html).

HWAC very much respects the scientific and technical references of Dr. Burwash. Please note and be aware regrettably that those of us involved in the horse industry whether for financial gain, sport, recreation or challenge are not as vociferous as some well financed animal activists who relate to objections of animal / livestock activities without basis of fact and which activities are emotionally founded and designed to generally misinform the public.

HWAC would respectfully request that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, HWAC, Equestrian Canada, CQHA and other national equine related interests commence advanced collaboration to inform and educate the general public and the total equine interests in Canada with respect to factual equine health, welfare and industry information. We must continue to express pride in the state of the equine sector of the livestock industry.

The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada hereby rejects and opposes the intent of Bills C-322 and C-571 we reiterate our endorsement of the statements and issues presented by Dr. Burwash on behalf Canadian Quarter Horse Association.


Respectfully submitted, **Bill desBarres**

Wm. H.L (Bill) desBarres, Chair Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada
Phone 403-526-1070 Toll Free 1-888-303-1070

c.c. Wayne Burwash , DVM, President CQHA, wburwash@burwash.ca