

CNGF 2020 Activities

CNGF Office

- The CNGF Board held six board teleconferences in 2020: March, June, August, October and two in November
- At the Board teleconference in October 2019 a motion was made to raise CNGF membership fees by 50% over two years in order to cover basic operational costs and help with the cost of the Code of Practice liaison position
 - As a result the fees for 2020 were: \$187.50 for less than 20 members, \$375 for 20-30, \$562.50 for 30-50, \$750 for over 50 and \$937.50 for national organizations
 - The fees for 2021 will be: \$225 for less than 20 members, \$450 for 20-30, \$675 for 30-50, \$900 for over 50 and \$1125 for national organizations
- CNGF Executive Director Kimberly Sheppard completed her contract at the end of April
- In June, Karen Kolkman was hired as the new part-time CNGF Executive Director. Karen is a former Canadian Meat Goat Association General Manager, Judge and Evaluator.
- The CNGF office and all bookkeeping has been transitioned to Annaheim, Saskatchewan and all written correspondence should be addressed to:
Canadian National Goat Federation
PO Box 61
636 Main Street
Annaheim, SK S0K 0G0

On Farm Food Safety

- Technical Review by CFIA of CNGF's On Farm Food Safety Program completed August 26, 2020 – no changes were made to the current CNGF OFFS Manual.

Scrapie

- Scrapie Working Group – CNGF has designated two individuals to represent the association in this group (Kerry O'Donnell and Geraldine Goodman). The group also includes representatives from the Canadian Sheep Federation, Canadian Sheep Breeders Association and the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association.
- The Scrapie Working Group held a Scrapie Flock Certification Program – National Standards Review teleconference on November 27, 2020 with both CNGF representatives participating

Traceability

- CNGF had two teleconferences with CFIA in 2020 – June 19 and August 28:
 - CNGF board reviewed and discussed extensively the proposed regulations presented by CFIA
 - CFIA outlined the traceability regulation process:
 1. Regulations published in Canada Gazette 1 (CG1)
 2. Open for further comments from affected parties/stakeholders

3. After comments received/implemented, final regulations published in Canada Gazette 2 (CG2) and no further changes will be possible
 4. One year after CG2 is published, regulations will come into force
- Once the regulations are published in CG1 there will be more definitive timelines for implementation
 - CFIA underscored the importance of producers being aware that they will need to go to the CCIA website to purchase approved tags
 - CNGF highlighted the challenge of the goat industry in regards to being able to communicate regulations when they come into effect – during consultation and afterwards CFIA indicated they will have a communications blitz to try to inform everyone. They will also be preparing sector-specific interpreted guidance for the regulations in plain language that will be published along with the CG1 regulations.
 - COVID-19 has significantly delayed everything at CFIA – they are currently aiming for publication of the Proposed Regulatory Amendments to the Livestock Identification and Traceability Program in Canada Gazette 1 in Spring or Summer of 2021.
 - CNGF board members reiterated the frustrations of goat producers that the traceability process is still not complete – CFIA responded that they recognize the problems with fatigue in the goat industry because of delays in traceability regulations; they're moving the file forward as best they can.
- CNGF requested and received permission from the Canadian Meat Goat Association and the Canadian Goat Society to include their names in a letter of support sent to CFIA encouraging the publication of the Proposed Regulatory Amendments to the Livestock Identification and Traceability Program in the Canada Gazette, Part 1.
 - CNGF was invited to attend an Industry Government Advisory Council (IGAC) meeting in Ottawa on March 5, 2020, but declined due to budgetary constraints.
 - The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) is the Responsible Administrator for goat traceability tags in Canada. CNGF worked with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and CCIA to have tags available prior to regulations coming in to force. Further information on pre-approved tags available for purchase is on CCIA's website: <https://www.canadaid.ca/>

Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Goats

- The Code of Practice outlines the minimum standards to provide responsible care for goats; the current Code was published in 2003.
- CNGF has been funding the Code of Practice liaison position (occupied by Amy Vingerhoeds) and actively soliciting sponsorships from industry partners and associations to assist with this funding
- A draft Code has been developed by the multi-stakeholder committee following the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) Code development process and this draft is now available in both English and French for feedback from the public until February 22, 2021.
- Following the Public Comment Period, the Code Development Committee will consider all feedback, revise the draft as deemed necessary, and submit a final Code to NFACC. The revised Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Goats is slated to be released in the winter of 2021.
- More information on the Code of Practice: <https://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/goats>