

Minister
of Agriculture and
Agri-Food



Ministre
de l'Agriculture et de
l'Agroalimentaire

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0C5

JUN 27 2017

Quote: 231946

Mr. Pat Finnigan, MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Finnigan:

Thank you for your letter in which you provide details on the contribution of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food regarding the proposed amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations*.

Since the close of the public comment phase, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has been compiling and reviewing the more than 50,000 comments submitted via the *Canada Gazette* process. The CFIA confirms that all the interviewed parties who participated in the Committee public hearings in March and April 2017 provided comments during the official *Canada Gazette*, Part I, public comment period.

Please rest assured that the extensive feedback we have received from stakeholders and Canadians is being taken into consideration. Supporting rationales for any revisions to the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, proposed text will be provided in the final Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement, which will accompany final publication of the *Health of Animals Regulations* in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II.

I have particularly noted the recommendation of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture that small businesses be given sufficient time to ensure that those affected receive appropriate training.

Again, thank you for sharing this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lawrence MacAulay".

Lawrence MacAulay, PC, MP