

INFECTIOUS LARYNGOTRACHEITIS (ILT) BIOSECURITY ADVISORY **Prince Edward County**

February 25, 2021

On behalf of the four feather boards, the Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) is issuing a Biosecurity Advisory to all commercial poultry farmers and small flock growers in Prince Edward County

FBCC has been informed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) that a small poultry flock has tested positive for Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT) in the County. No further details are currently available. Updates will be provided at www.fbcc.ca

ILT is a serious contagious disease caused by a respiratory virus primarily in laying hens and chickens. Signs to watch out for include increased mortality, noisy breathing, head-shaking, off feed, decreased egg production, inactivity, ruffled feathers and conjunctivitis. **Should you suspect any signs of health concerns in your flock, please contact your veterinarian as well as your Board.** For after hours, call 1-877-SOS-BYRD.

Please reinforce your biosecurity protocols including monitoring the movement of birds, people and equipment on to and off of your premises in the interest of flock health. Please advise any visitors to your premises of your biosecurity protocols because of this situation and keep a logbook of movement in relation to your premises. Minimize visits to other poultry production sites, avoid exchanging equipment with other poultry production sites or ensure that it is washed and disinfected. Ensure all personnel in contact with birds wear clean boots, protective suits, head coverings and gloves/handwashing. Ensure adequate control of vermin and wild birds.

Small flock growers should avoid introducing disease to their flocks. New birds should be segregated and monitored for at least 30 days before entering your existing flock. Make sure that new birds come from reputable suppliers that have strict disease controls in place. Birds returning from shows or exhibits should also be segregated for at least two weeks. Do not mix birds of unknown vaccination status.

Further biosecurity information for small flock growers is available at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/bird-health-basics/eng/1323643634523/1323644740109>.

We anticipate this advisory to remain in place until the end of March. A stand down advisory will be issued at that time. Any updates will be posted on www.fbcc.ca

