

INFECTIOUS LARYNGOTRACHEITIS (ILT) BIOSECURITY ADVISORY **Alnwick-Haldimand township, Northumberland County, Ontario**

April 24, 2020

On behalf of the four feather boards, the Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) is issuing an ILT Biosecurity Advisory to all commercial poultry farmers and small flock growers in **Alnwick-Haldimand township**, in central part of **Northumberland County**.

FBCC has been alerted by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) that a small, non-commercial chicken flock in Northumberland County has tested positive for Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT). Since this premise is unregistered, no precise geographic location or other information is available.

Please reinforce your biosecurity protocols including monitoring the movement of birds, people and equipment on to and off of your farm in the interest of flock health. ILT is a serious contagious disease caused by a respiratory virus primarily in laying hens and chickens. Signs to look 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 advise any visitors to your premises of your biosecurity protocols because of this situation and keep a logbook of movement in relation to your farm. 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.

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 at least early June. A stand down advisory will be issued at that time. Any updates will be provided posted on www.fbcc.ca

