

Equine Code of Practice Awareness Survey Opens

(Medicine Hat, AB) 15 MAR 2017 – If you own horses and / or are responsible for the care of horses please take five minutes to complete an important survey respecting the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines* (the Code). This industry-developed survey is to gauge awareness, adoption and use of the Code. Follow this link www.surveymonkey.com/r/equinecodesurvey to the survey.

"Health and welfare of the animals in our care is the cornerstone of our equine industry," said Bill desBarres, horse owner and Chair of the Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada (HWAC). "The future of Canada's equine industry is dependent on establishing and maintaining the confidence of horse people and the general public."

This survey is for all those involved in the care of equine in Canada including but not limited to riders, owners, custodians, equine businesses owners, operators and staff including boarding/guest ranch/riding/training facilities, feedlots, racetracks, rodeo contractors, auction markets, and PMU operations.

Survey results will identify areas pertaining to the welfare of horses including deviations from the Code. The results will form the foundation to determine the need for educational programming, resources and animal care assessment tools.

The survey is brief and to the point and will relate to the participant's level of involvement in the equine industry and awareness of the Code.

Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada

The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada was formed in 2008 as a response to concerns related to the humane care and handling of horses. HWAC, an alliance of equine organizations and industry specialists, statement of purpose is "the dissemination and promotion of accurate information related to the Canadian horse industry to horse owners and the general public."

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