



# STOP THE LIVE BURNINGS!



***Some of the over 60,000 animals burned live in Manitoba barn fires so far in 2008 and 2009.***

**M**anitoba saw an 8 fold increase in the number of barn fires in 2008 – over 30,000 animals burned to death. These were predominantly pigs, frequently sows trapped within their metal gestation crates.

2009 is continuing on that same path but faster, with over 30,000 already dead.

In an effort to deal with the horrific losses, the Fire Commissioner of Manitoba has proposed legislation

that would require new barns have some fire protection. While the effort is appreciated, there are major shortcomings with the new legislation.

### **The Problems**

1. The regulations would only apply to NEW barns, leaving existing barns without protection. Because of the moratorium on the building of new hog barns, the legislation would mean very little to

Manitoba's farm animals.

2. The classifications proposed (F2 - medium industrial; or F3 - light industrial) would not even require fire alarms as the criteria for their use is based on human occupancy only, requiring 75 workers before they are required. Because of the highly industrialized nature of these barns, less than 10 workers are needed, thereby excluding almost all barns from requiring

*(continued on page 2)*

## **CETFA's AGM 2009**

The Annual General Meeting of Canadians for Ethical Treatment of Food Animals will be held on **Tuesday, November 24th at 6.30 p.m.** at NECO Management Services, #203, 5455 West Boulevard, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 3W5

Thank you if you have already paid CETFA's \$10.00 annual membership fee for 2009, if not, it is now due, please see form on back of Newsletter. We hope for your continuing support.

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replies to Transport Concerns***

***Suffering at Winnipeg  
Livestock Auction***

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Animal Rights***

## STOP THE LIVE BURNINGS! *(continued from page 1)*

this minimal protection.

3. Retrofits would not be required to existing barns, meaning the most at risk animals would continue to be burned alive. According to the Fire Commissioner, retrofits such as smoke alarms and sprinkler systems cannot be legislated.

### The Solution

CETFA representatives met with senior staff of the Fire Commissioner's office and requested the following:

1. A classification of F1 - high risk industrial, is required because only then will the highly flammable nature of these barns be reflected. Pig waste in particular contains hydrogen sulphide and methane - highly combustible and explosive gasses.
2. Mandatory legislated retrofitting to existing barns of smoke detectors and sprinkler systems. As almost all barns now have automatic watering systems, the sprinkler systems could easily be tapped in.

While retrofits have never been legislated before, Manitoba is in a unique crisis and strong, new action is required to stop the live burnings.

While Manitoba Pork continually complains of economic difficulties, an article in the Winnipeg Free Press by noted agriculture reporter, Laura Rance, concluded that each and every hog barn operator in Manitoba received between \$100,000 - \$300,000 in government bail out funding in the last year alone. Surely some of this could be put towards protecting their remaining investments. Those who do so will also see a reduction in their insurance costs, recouping any money they put out in retrofits. It is the humane and logical thing to do.

It will be some months before the final document with the Fire Commissioner's recommendations will be put forward. There will be a public input phase at that point but in the meantime, please write to the Minister responsible:

The Honourable Nancy Allan  
Minister of Labour and Immigration  
317 Legislative Building  
450 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8  
minlab@leg.gov.mb.ca  
Phone: 204-945-4079

To see our video of the aftermath of one of these barn fires and help spread the word please go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVE-5J6ri8k>

### **SOMETHING YOU CAN DO**

Please write to the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Gerry Ritz, and to your own local Member of Parliament asking for government legislation requiring sprinkler systems be installed in all existing food animal barns and in all those to be built in future.

Please send letters of concern to Canadian Government addresses listed on next page. Thank you!

## REPLY FROM MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE TO THE TRANSPORT CONCERNS OF A CETFA MEMBER

Our thanks go out to Ms. Elsie Kozak for persevering with her correspondence with the Minister of Agriculture. The following is a partial quote from the reply of June 5th, 2009, sent to Ms. Kozak by Gerry Ritz, MP:

**"At the federal level, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for administering and enforcing the Health of Animals Act and Regulations and the Meat Inspection Act and Regulations. These laws, respectively, regulate humane transportation and humane slaughter of animals used in food production.**

**"Most producers and transporters are strongly committed to treating animals with care. In the few instances where**

**abuses or non-compliance are identified during transportation or at a federal establishment, the CFIA investigates and takes appropriate action. Anyone witnessing such unacceptable behaviour should report their observations to the CFIA as soon as possible...**

**"Animal cruelty is unacceptable under the Criminal Code, and penalties provide an important deterrent. I am pleased to tell you that on April 9th, 2008, the Government was successful in ensuring that Bill S-203 passed. This bill amends the criminal code to significantly increase penalties, to enhance sentencing options available to the courts and to send a strong message that the federal government does not tolerate animal cruelty..."**

Again our thanks, Ms. Kozak, for sharing with us the reply you received in June. If the Government believes it does not tolerate animal cruelty, it needs to be made aware of what actually takes place including -

- a) the lack of training and discipline of animal handlers,
- b) the length of time animals in transport in Canada go without food or water, as compared with other advanced countries.
- c) the need for adequate enforcement of legislation pertaining to the well-being of food animals.

It is hard to believe that our governments simply do not know what goes on!

# SUFFERING AT WINNIPEG LIVESTOCK AUCTION

An observer writes about a spent cow seen at a Winnipeg auction. She would have spent her adult life being milked by machines, kept continually pregnant and having her calves taken away after only 1-2 days so as not to "waste" any of her milk on them.

It appeared that she developed mastitis – a painful inflammatory condition of her teats – which remained untreated. She then experienced the excruciating pain of a twisted stomach which she was left to endure for at least three days.

She was purchased by a slaughter house in Ontario that planned only to transport her the following week in spite of her condition.

It was a sad but likely fact that the only human kindness that that this cow experienced was by the veterinarian who provided her with her final human contact, releasing her from her agony by euthanizing her.



*Ailing Cow at Winnipeg Livestock Auction*

## SOUTHLANDS RIDING CLUB FALL FAIR 2009

In Vancouver, CETFA had a successful table at the Southlands Riding Club Fall Fair again this year. Many visitors showed interest in our brochures, photographs and information sheets. They willingly signed our petition with regard to barn fires.

So many people have no idea of the unnecessary suffering incurred in getting meat, eggs and dairy produce onto our plates. Our thanks to all those who gave their support.

Most people are completely unaware of the suffering that the development of factory farming has brought about.

### Photographs Needed

*Please use any opportunities you may have to take photographs related to issues of concern to CETFA and send them to us together with any information that you may have that could further CETFA's goals.*

## Federal Government Information: 1-800-622-6232

This is a toll free telephone number to someone who provides information for all your federal government inquiries.

### Useful addresses: -

Please write letters, as individuals, to your own MP, to the Minister of Agriculture and to the Minister of Justice, regarding animal welfare issues about which you feel concern. Their addresses are:

**The Hon. Mr. Gerry Ritz,**  
Minister of Agriculture and Agrifood,  
Sir John Carling Building, 9th Floor,  
930 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0C5  
Telephone: 1-613-759-1059 (8am - 6:30pm EST)

**The Hon. Mr. Rob Nicholson,**  
Minister of Justice & Attorney General of Canada,  
Justice Building, 4th Floor,  
284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H8.  
Telephone: 1-613-992-4621 (8am - 5pm EST)

(No postage stamp needed when writing to any Member of Parliament.)

# Recommended Reading: THE NO-NONSENSE GUIDE TO ANIMAL RIGHTS

*By Catherine Grant*

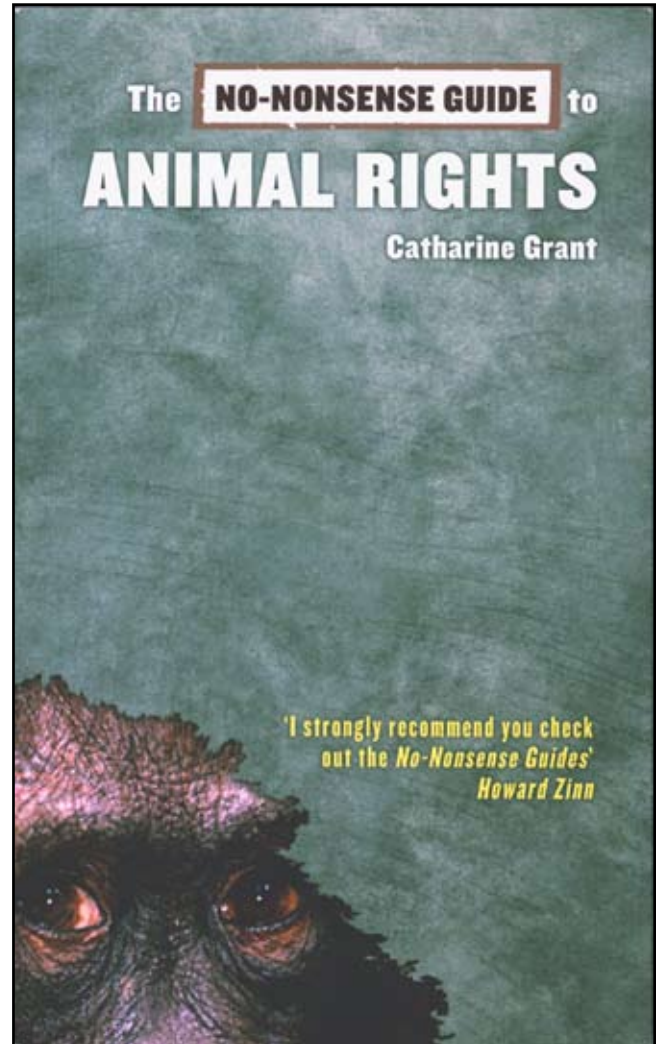
In the opening lines of the "Forward" a quote from Norman Cousins (1915-1990) includes the statement "Nothing is more powerful than an individual acting out of conscience, thus helping to bring the collective conscience to life."


This book, with its forward by Ingrid E. Newkirk, provides insight into the many forms of cruelty inflicted on animals by various industries including the food industry, the fashion industry, entertainment, medicine and science.

In chapter 3 – Food Animals – the point is made:- "A typical farm no longer has barns and pastures, but rather windowless sheds where animal are treated like industrial machines. Today, slaughterhouses are high-security facilities surrounded by walls and barbed wire, and use assembly line techniques to kill and dismember animals..."

Again in this chapter, it is pointed out:- "Profit motives have relentlessly increased processing speeds, resulting in incredible suffering for livestock. The largest slaughterhouses now butcher some 2,000 animals every hour. In most countries, it is required by law to stun livestock before slaughter... However because of the frenetic pace, many animals aren't stunned properly before they are butchered...Even the best slaughterhouses have been found to usually miss about 5 per cent of the animals that go through the 'stun room'. That means that millions of cows, pigs and sheep are disassembled while conscious in North America every year. They die in agony and surrounded by blood, offal and the screams of other animals."

Catharine Grant really makes you wonder: "How many of us allow our consciences to govern our lives?"





**Canadians for  
Ethical Treatment  
of Food Animals**

Annual Membership  
\$10.00

**Application for New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ Membership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**We believe that animals raised for food should have a pain and stress free life and a humane death.**

<p>I might be able to help with:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Writing Letters</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Assisting at information tables</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Website</p>	<p>Please make your membership fee payable to:</p> <p><b>Canadians for Ethical Treatment of Food Animals</b> Box 18024, 2225 West 41 Avenue Vancouver, BC V6M 4L3</p>
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**CETFA'S PURPOSE**

CETFA is a volunteer society whose purpose is to promote the humane treatment of animals raised for food. We work towards the compassionate treatment of food animals so that their lives may be free from pain and fear, followed by a humane death.

**CETFA'S GOAL**

CETFA's goal is to provide accurate, factual information about Canada's Food Industry and to educate the public about the horrendous cruelty which has become "accepted practice" in the factory farming industry.

CETFA cannot give tax receipts because we choose not to be a registered charity due to restrictions on what we could do.