



MAR 18 2010

PRC 005755

REÇU LE 23 MARS 2010

Mr. Peter W. Hutchins
Hutchins, Caron & Associés
700-485 McGill
Montréal, Quebec H2Y 2H4

Dear Mr. Hutchins:

Thank you for your letter of February 18, 2010, addressed to Carole Swan, and enclosure, in which you bring forward concerns about the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA's) application of the requirements for the humane transport of animals found under the *Health of Animals Act and Regulations*.

The Government of Canada is currently reviewing the *Health of Animals Regulations* specifically relating to modernizing the humane transport regulations. Changes to the *Health of Animals Regulations* will take into consideration the recent advances in animal welfare and science and new technology and industry practices that did not exist when the humane transportation portion of the Regulations was first drafted.

The applicable animal transportation requirements have received substantial judicial review over the many years these provisions have been in place. Based on these reviews, the CFIA is aware of the extent and limitations of these requirements. The CFIA has and will continue to take enforcement action when our inspectors conclude that violations of the legislation have occurred. Further, the CFIA maximizes the use of its resources by carrying out our inspections at strategic locations and at determined frequencies based on risk assessments. In the event of a complaint, the CFIA investigates reported incidents and decides on the appropriate

enforcement measures, if any, to take. Finally, the CFIA is reviewing and revising inspection approaches for animal transport of all species in order to enhance program delivery and enforcement activities across the country.

Again, thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,



for:

Shalene Curtis-Micallef
A/General Counsel & Head,
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