

Intensive Livestock Working Group

Background

Submitted by Ron Axelson

The Intensive Livestock Working Group (ILWG) was formed in 1997 when the livestock/poultry industry (comprised of eight commodity groups) recognized they were being impacted by many of the same issues and that by working together they would maximize the use of scarce resources and increase industry's capacity to mitigate common challenges.

The ILWG is a unique partnership in that it is not a legal entity and does not have a formal administrative structure. It functions within a set of guiding principles built on a collaboration with its eight contributing organizations sharing, at their cost, the responsibilities of providing infrastructure requirements, such as support services, financial oversight, meeting facilities, etc.

Mandate

The ILWG serves as a forum for the sharing of information, development of common positions and exploring actions or issues of interest to livestock/poultry producers. The ILWG is seen as an industry coordination mechanism. The issues and/or policies of focus for the ILWG are of a nature that have the potential to impact confined feeding operations and/or provide direction for the livestock-poultry industry in Alberta.

Structure and Membership

The group consists of members representing livestock and poultry organizations including, but not limited to:

- Alberta Beef Producers
- Alberta Cattle Feeders
- Alberta Pork
- Alberta Milk
- Alberta Chicken
- Alberta Turkey
- Egg Farmers of Alberta
- Alberta Hatching Egg

Member organizations provide the expertise and time commitment of senior management and one producer member to the administration and strategy development of the ILWG.

Decision Making

The ILWG operates on a consensus basis and works cooperatively to develop common positions and joint messages on issues facing the industry. The ILWG has no policy setting function and it must be underscored that each ILWG member organization speaks for itself on policy issues.

Meetings

On Common Ground: Messages from the Agri-Environmental Partnership of Alberta – Issue #22



The ILWG meets face-to-face three to four times a year and by conference call on an as-needed basis.

Meetings of the ILWG are hosted by member organizations at their cost on a rotational basis.

For more information contact Ron Axelson

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