

## **CFIA Transport of Animals Requirements in Part XII of the Health of Animals Regulations**

### **Section 153 Transfer of Care Requirement**

<h3><b>Transfer of Care (TOC) Factsheet</b></h3>
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#### **Transfer of Care (TOC):**

- When animals are **left at any slaughter facility or assembly centre, including an auction market**, the transporter must provide notice that the animals have arrived.
- It shows who is responsible for the care of animals.
- The (TOC) tells CFIA who was responsible for the animals at a specific time.
- It gives everyone involved in the transport chain a chance to record what happened, show that they did the right thing, and took steps to protect the welfare of transported animals.

#### **What is a TOC notice ?**

- TOC is proof of when a load of animals has arrived and the responsibility/care of animals is passed from a transporter to a receiver.

#### **What information is needed on a TOC? Three pieces of information:**

1. The **date and time the animal arrived** at the slaughter establishment, auction market or assembly yard.
2. The **condition of the animals on arrival** (any comments you have about the load).
3. When and where the animals were **last fed, watered and rested**.

#### **Who writes and keeps the TOC notice?**

- The transporter writes this document. It is their proof of what condition the animals are in, and when they arrived.
- It is recommended that both parties keep a copy for two years.

#### **Is there a special form to use?**

- No, there is no special format. Transporters can write the information in any way that works for them.
- It can be hand written, an email, or a text message (using a cell phone to make a screen shot for your files can also work). It does not matter so long as it is readable, contains the required information, and is easily found if requested by an inspector.

#### **How does a TOC protect animal transporters?**

- A transporter has a lot of responsibility for the animals on their load, and sometimes doesn't have much control over when and how animals are loaded/unloaded and what happens to them after.
- The transfer of care document is the place to document their side of the story.

### **Where does a transporter need a TOC?**

- A TOC is only needed when leaving animals at assembly centres and slaughter facilities.

### **Who accepts a TOC?**

- Someone designated at the assembly center or slaughter facility should accept that the animals are now in their care so they know when the animals were last fed, watered and rested, and if any welfare actions are needed.
- This is important to the welfare of the animals in the load and the transporter is required to get this acknowledgement.

### **What do transporters do if no one will accept the TOC?**

- It is the transporter's responsibility to make the receiver aware when their role stops, and the receiver's role starts for the responsibility for care of the animals.
- Transporters can't make receivers accept the responsibility, but can make a record of the interaction to protect themselves.
- If transporters don't have any proof that they handed over responsibility for the animals on their load, they could be held responsible if something goes wrong later.

### **Is the TOC requirement the same as the record-keeping requirement in the amended regulations?**

- No. These are two different requirements in the amended regulations.
- Records (section 154) must be kept by all commercial transporters and those transporting livestock for business or financial benefit.
- Transfer of care (section 153) is a separate requirement but transporters may want to use the same document for both requirements.
- For more information on record-keeping refer to the Animal Transport Record (ATR) fact sheet.