

BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION

JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



INDUSTRY INFORMATION

New Year Greetings from BCBHEC:

On behalf of the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission and staff, we wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We're excited to begin another year alongside our producers and industry partners.

Request for Stakeholder Feedback – 2025 Strategic Plan Initiatives:

Over the past year, the Commission has advanced key priorities aimed at strengthening the sector, supporting producers, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the hatching egg industry. The draft documents available on our [website](#) reflect this work and outline both the Commission's strategic direction and operational focus.

As we move toward implementation, the Commission welcomes input from stakeholders to ensure these initiatives are practical, informed, and aligned with industry needs. Please submit any comments or feedback by January 31, 2026.

BCBHEC Welcomes New Chair, Kevin Klippenstein:

The BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of Kevin Klippenstein as Chair for an eight-month term, effective December 21, 2025 to August 30, 2026. Please see the attached letter for details regarding this appointment.

Message from Former Chair, Bill Vanderspek:

Please see the attached letter from former Chair Bill Vanderspek, reflecting on his 50 years in the poultry industry as he steps into retirement. He will be greatly missed.

Production Coordinator Update – Welcome Back, Riesa Kyne:

Please join us in welcoming Riesa Kyne back to the Commission. Riesa will be returning to the Production Coordinator role, a position she is already very familiar with, and she is excited to be back working with everyone.

Riesa will be working remotely. Please direct all production-related inquiries to her at production@bcbhec.com.

Extreme Weather Preparedness Funding – Applications Still Open:

The IAF is happy to share that Extreme Weather Preparedness (EWP) is now a member of the Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) family. The EWP provides cost-share funding up to \$50,000 to increase the resiliency of existing farming infrastructure for extreme weather events. Applications are accepted until full funding is reached. Please visit the [website](#) for more information.

Save the Date – 2026 BC Poultry Conference March 12-13, 2026:

Registration is open for the 2026 BC Poultry Conference. To view the program, accommodation details, and reserve your spot, please visit the [website](#).

BCBHEPA Board News – Recruitment:

Two Association terms (Colin and Bruce) will conclude in March 2026. As both directors will have completed their commitments, the BCBHEPA is seeking nominations or volunteers to fill these upcoming vacancies ahead of the AGM. Board service includes one four-hour meeting per month, along with participation in several committee meetings throughout the year. The Association plays a key role in advancing the BCBHEPA's vision and ensuring producers continue to have a strong, balanced voice.

PRICING

Pricing Orders				
Period	Live Chicken	Hatching Eggs	Saleable Chicks	Day-Old Broiler Chicks
A-196	2.2873 \$/kg	783.00 ¢/doz	81.56 ¢/chick	107.56 ¢/chick
A-197	2.2544 \$/kg	785.53 ¢/doz	81.83 ¢/chick	107.83 ¢/chick
A-198	2.2342 \$/kg	786.38 ¢/doz	81.91 ¢/chick	107.91 ¢/chick
A-199	2.2340 \$/kg	780.33 ¢/doz	81.28 ¢/chick	109.21 ¢/chick
A-200	2.2159 \$/kg	782.18 ¢/doz	81.48 ¢/chick	109.41 ¢/chick



PRODUCTION

Year-To-Date Hatchability:

81.3%

Average Lay Cycle End:

59.5 Weeks

Under or Over-Placement Communications:

Producers are reminded that should there be an under or over-placement of hens that their next steps are to communicate with both the hatchery manager and Commission staff. Depending on the circumstance, an attempt will be made to source additional hens or monitor mortality to bring the net placement down to the correct placement amount.

Placement Date / Number Changes:

Production staff want to note that increasing placeable hens or changing placement dates can be challenging and usually must be done at least six months out (currently into July 2026).

Quota Billboard Reminder:

Producers are encouraged to regularly review the [Quota Billboard](#) for current opportunities related to quota leasing, purchasing, or sales.

ON-FARM

2025 Audit Stats

Total Premises to Audit: 49

Premises Completed: 45

Hatching Egg Tip

Click [here](#) to understand more about gut health enhancement products.

Biosecurity Status: RED

Industry is to function under the **RED** status of biosecurity. The **RED** biosecurity status is attached.

HPAI Zoning Update:

Fraser Valley zones 1-10 are active. Some zones have transitioned to Security Zones or have been revoked. For more information, visit the CFIA's zone [map](#). Producers are responsible for knowing their zone obligations for moving product. Log onto the [Producer Portal](#) to find this information and more.

Please reach out to Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@bcbhec.com and Rae at onfarmtech@bcbhec.com to organize movement permits for pullets, manure, and spiking males. Be sure to watch your inbox for future updates from the Poultry Industry EOC.

Processing Obligations Reminder:

Producers are required to submit Load Out Reports to the Commission following flock processing. Please submit these reports to Rae at onfarmtech@bcbhec.com.

A reminder that all medications, inclusive of medicated feed, administered within 120 days of processing are required to be reported on Spent Broiler Breeder Flock Sheets. Please ensure you review your feed schedule and ensure proper administration and documentation.

Producer Recruitment Letter – Salmonella & HPAI Research Project:

CHEP is supporting a research project with CRIPA and the University of Montreal to examine risk factors for Salmonella and HPAI on broiler hatching egg farms. Attached is a producer recruitment letter with additional information about the project.

Employee Hiring Screening:

A reminder that CHEP offers free employee hiring screening for producers looking to screen potential employees. For more information and screening services, please forward requests to Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@bcbhec.com.

Audit Program Reminder:

Producers are required to provide annual supplier letters of assurance during Schedule 5 program audits from allied trades such as hatcheries, transporters, feed, and sawdust companies. Please ensure supplier letters of assurance are annually updated within your audit files.

Production Cycles

Period	Start Date	End Date
A-196	Jun 1, 2025	Jul 26, 2025
A-197	Jul 27, 2025	Sep 20, 2025
A-198	Sep 21, 2025	Nov 15, 2025
A-199	Nov 30, 2025	Jan 10, 2026
A-200	Jan 11, 2026	Feb 28, 2026

Dear Industry Colleagues,

I am honored to begin serving as the **Chair of the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission** for the next eight months, effective December 21, 2025 to August 30, 2026. I have accepted this appointment by the Order In Council of BC.

I want to publicly recognize the outgoing Chair, Bill Vanderspek, whose term is up on December 20, 2025. Bill's dedication to his work and his expertise within this industry has been outstanding.

I remain the current Chair of the BC Chicken Marketing Board. I want to share a few key points about this arrangement and its purpose.

First, this is **not a merger of the two boards**. Each board retains its own mandate, responsibilities, and identity. The goal is **functional alignment**, not structural integration.

By chairing both the BC Hatching Egg Commission and the BC Chicken Marketing Board for a time, we aim to:

- Strengthen collaboration and reduce friction between the boards
- Improve coordination across the supply-managed system for clearer communication and more predictable operations
- Provide continuity of leadership during a season of ongoing change
- Enhance accountability, transparency, and trust across the industry
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This is an **eight-month period** in which we will evaluate whether this approach delivers the expected benefits. My commitment is to respect the distinct mandate of each board while supporting better alignment where it makes sense.

I look forward to working closely with all of you to make this a productive and positive endeavour, and to help build a more coordinated and confident future for our industry.

Thank you for your support,



Kevin Klippenstein
Chair, BC Chicken Marketing Board
Incoming Chair, BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

It's a wrap!

As I pause to reflect on the past 50 years of employment in BC's poultry industry, I feel a sense of pride with a touch of nostalgia. In June of 1974, on my first day as an 18-year-old line worker at Wm. Scott & Company, I could not have imagined the journey ahead—the friendships forged, the challenges overcome, and the incredible changes witnessed.

Throughout the years, I have seen our industry evolve from modest family-run farms (including the one where I was raised) to a sophisticated network of growers, producers and processors committed to supplying consumers with healthy and safe Canadian raised poultry products. Innovations in animal welfare, food safety, and sustainability have reshaped our practices, often driven by the dedication and ingenuity of BC's farming community. I am proud to have played a small part in these advancements.

What stands out most in my memory are the people: hardworking colleagues and the next generation of dedicated poultry farmers. Their commitment, resilience, and camaraderie made every challenge surmountable and every success sweeter. I am deeply thankful for the trust, support, and friendship extended to me over the years.

As I say farewell to this chapter of my life, I do so with a sense of accomplishment and optimism for the future. The BC poultry industry remains in good hands, and I am confident that you will continue to thrive and innovate. Though I will miss the daily challenges and connections, I look forward to retirement and will be watching from the sidelines as the industry continues to move forward.

Thank you to everyone who has shared in this journey.



Bill Vanderspek



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS:
OCTOBER 31, 2025



2026 MARCH 12-13, 2026

COAST LANGLEY CITY HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE

BC Turkey Association and BC Turkey Marketing Board

BC Chicken Growers Association & BC Chicken Marketing Board

BC Broiler Hatching Egg Association & BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Enhanced Biosecurity “Red”



*These measures are **in addition to** your “Green” and “Yellow” biosecurity protocols¹ and should be implemented on farms in a region where a disease or other threat is suspected or present.*

Controlled Access Zone (CAZ)

- Inform all family, friends, staff, service personnel, and allied trades of your enhanced biosecurity measures
- Keep your CAZ barrier locked at all times
- *Limit visits to only essential visitors. They must make an appointment and they must follow individual farm's biosecurity requirements. Wherever possible, meet off the farm. (revised)*
- Implement your vehicle wash station at the entrance to your CAZ
 - Remove all organic debris with pressurized water
 - Disinfect tires, wheel wells, and under-carriages of vehicles
 - Disinfect the floor mats, pedals, steering wheel, and door handles of the interior of the vehicle with disinfecting wipes or a small spray bottle and paper towel
- Make sure garbage bins (dumpsters) are outside of the CAZ and reduce pick-ups as much as possible

Restricted Access Zone (RAZ)

- Keep all exterior barn doors locked at all times when not occupied by personnel
- When entering the RAZ change into barn specific coveralls and RAZ specific boots as well as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as per WorkSafe BC requirements
- When exiting the RAZ leave all biosecurity gear on the RAZ side of the CAZ/RAZ demarcation
- Wash and or sanitize your hands before entering or exiting the RAZ
- Shower before and after completing your daily barn chores
- Restrict contact between commercial poultry and wild birds & wild bird droppings

Conducting Business

- Whenever possible conduct all activities through non-contact methods such as telephone, email, or fax
- *Ensure proper biosecurity protocols are implemented while attending and returning from any common public gatherings. (revised)*

¹ These are not all of the BC Biosecurity Program requirements; please refer to your producer manual for more information. Note if your commodity's On-Farm Food Safety Program requires more stringent biosecurity measures please follow them instead. The measures above are minimum requirements.

CALLING ALL BROILER HATCHING EGG PRODUCERS! – RESEARCH SURVEY –

Help prevent *Salmonella* and HPAI

What's the issue?

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has listed *Salmonella* as one of the most important foodborne disease-causing agents in Canada, and poultry has been identified as a reservoir for *Salmonella*. *Salmonella* and risk factors for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) are important national research priorities for CHEP.

What is CHEP doing?

CHEP is funding a research project with Université de Montréal and the Swine and Poultry Infectious Diseases Research Center (CRIPA) entitled *Contribution of management factors to the evolution of Salmonella spp. genetic diversity and to the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis in broiler breeder flocks in Canada*, which is designed to study *Salmonella* diversity on-farm, the associated risk factors for *Salmonella* and HPAI, and potential interventions such as improved autogenous vaccines.

This work is being led by Dr. Marie-Lou Gaucher, associate professor at the Université de Montréal, in collaboration with Dr. Manon Racicot, adjunct professor at the Université de Montréal, who will be responsible for the questionnaire part of the study.

What am I being asked to do?

Broiler hatching egg producers across Canada are being asked to complete a confidential, online questionnaire on their current on-farm biosecurity practices. The responses will be used to create a current picture of management practices on broiler hatching egg farms and a personalized biosecurity report will be generated for each participant.

Contact: marie-lou.gaucher@umontreal.ca



What's in it for me?

You will receive a **personal biosecurity assessment** tailored to your farm **at no cost** to you.

Your responses will improve current knowledge about risk factors for both *Salmonella* and HPAI, as well as better interventions on-farm.

The more responses, the better. The litter of your participating barn will be sampled twice during the study as part of the existing *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) monitoring program in your province, and a duplicate of this sample will be shared with the research team that will document the *Salmonella* diversity.

How will my personal information be protected?

The project numerically codes participant information and sampling results.

The research team will have access to the key that links the code and your identity during the data collection.

The research team only will have access to the data of the research. Your provincial organization will know your identity so that they can forward the litter samples collected to the research team.

However, neither these representatives nor CHEP will have access to the data collected during your participation or to your individual results.

After the end of the data collection, the key will be destroyed, so your data will be anonymized. This ensures your personal information always remains confidential.

Participation is voluntary. You can withdraw at any time, no questions asked.

Please note that once the collected data have been anonymized or once the publication process has started, they will no longer be withdrawn from the study.

Project updates will be available regularly. For more information, please contact your provincial board, or contact CHEP.

Should you be interested in taking part of this study, please contact the research team (marie-lou.gaucher@umontreal.ca).

