

Open Letter

**To: Gerry Ritz, Federal Agriculture Minister, Health Ministers BC and Federal;
Gordon Doonan, Martin Appelt, A. Bradley (Canadian Food Inspection Agency);
Shawn Eccles (BCSPCA); Amardeep Kambo (Fraser Health);**

From: Peter Hamilton, Lifeforce

Re: Continued Abuses at the Fraser Valley Auction

This is no way to treat animals!

On June 4, 2008, following a one year investigation of the Fraser Valley Auctions in Langley, BC, Lifeforce released our report "Lives for Sale" for review and action. The report and the video clearly depict ongoing violations of Federal and Provincial Regulations/Guidelines (that are supposed to protect human health and animals) and inhumane treatment of animals. These inherent, callous conditions must be stopped.



During recent Lifeforce inspections we have found continuing problems. We would appreciate a response to the following questions:

1. How often does the CFIA inspect this auction and other auctions in BC? How often does the BCSPCA check FVA and other auctions? I have not seen them during our spot checks.

2. Are notices of non-compliance, penalties or fines issued for packing poultry into non-ventilated boxes and/or overcrowding poultry in cages? Regulations state that birds must be able to stand not piled on top of each other.

3. Why are people improperly carrying rabbits by their ears? The photo shown is of one guy who most staff saw and did not stop.

When people pick rabbits up the ears, they are placing undue stress on the spine. The ears themselves are not equipped to carry the weight of the rabbit, so tissue, muscle, blood vessel and



spinal injuries can result from this kind of rough handling.

4. One of the hand sanitizer dispensers is placed above a dead animal barrel in the poultry area. People have to lean over the large dirty, container to reach it.

5. Re signage: Is there sufficient signage advising people of the health hazards such as zoonotic diseases? One person put his baby's toy and blanket on a box with excrement.

6. Have other issues addressed in our report been rectified? Please see our Lifeforce ECONeWS videos showing photographs of our complaints: http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_3es.php

I can be contacted at: Lifeforce 604.649.5258 and lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com

I look forward to your response. Thank you.

Ten two-week ducklings crammed in this tiny box.



Chickens crammed in this box with no ventilation



Large ducks put in small boxes.



Pigeons packed on top of each other.

