



## BRITISH COLUMBIA FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD (BCFIRB)

### Hearings under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCAA)*

## **EXPERT WITNESS HANDOUT**

#### **What is an Expert Witness?**

- a) A qualified professional which could include doctors, veterinarians, accountants, scientists, professional agrologists etc. or;
- b) A person who has extensive knowledge and experience in their field (for example, someone who has farmed for many years or someone who has run a boarding kennel for many years etc.).

If you will be calling an expert witness, fill out the 'Expert Witness' section **and submit to BCFIRB by timelines set out in the notice of appeal letter.**

The following is the process for engaging an expert witness(es):

- (1) If a party wishes to qualify a witness as an expert in relation to a matter ("expert witness"), the party must provide BCFIRB and the other party with a report, by the date set by BCFIRB. The report must include the following:
  - (a) the expert's qualifications; and
  - (b) a summary of the expert's opinion, including the facts and assumptions on which it is based.
- (2) A party who submits a report as evidence is required to produce the expert at the hearing for cross-examination as to their qualifications and their report, unless the other party agrees the experts attendance is not necessary.
- (3) A panel may refuse to consider a report where the above are not complied with.
- (4) A panel may waive the above requirements and impose other requirements regarding the receipt and exchange of expert evidence as it considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- (5) It is not necessary for a person to be a qualified professional in order to provide opinion evidence.

**BCFIRB is not responsible for any cost associated with the engagement of any expert witness.**



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***EXPERT WITNESS CONTACT FORM***

**Complete and return by timeline date set out in the notice of appeal letter.**

<b>Name of Expert(s):</b>		
a) _____		
b) _____		
c) _____		
<b>Expert Contact Information:</b>		
<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>Cellular:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
<b>Expert Qualifications:</b>		
<b>Summary of Evidence (use additional page if more room required):</b>		