



October 28, 2022

Sylvia Kirkwood
CAO
Municipality of Arran-Elderslie
cao@arran-elderslie.ca

Dear Ms. Kirkwood:

We are writing to inform you about a recent change to the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (OWDCP), funded under the federal-provincial Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) agricultural policy framework.

As you know, currently producers who have submitted five applications to the OWDCP in a calendar year are required to submit a Reasonable Care Plan (RCP) before further claims will be assessed. These plans require producers to identify all implemented and planned investments, services retained, and farm management practices they have employed, in order to mitigate predation on their farm premises.

We recognize the need to adjust the RCP threshold of five claim applications to ten, a change that will better support livestock producers in Ontario. This will lower the administrative burden where predation is naturally higher despite reasonable efforts at mitigation. At the same time, it helps ensure that farmers experiencing high levels of predation are reviewing their mitigation activities to inform the development of their RCP.

This change builds on our governments' ongoing efforts to support livestock farmers through the OWDCP. As part of these efforts, in January 2022 we increased the administrative allowance provided to municipalities from \$30 to \$50 to help offset incremental costs of delivering the OWDCP. The allowance recognizes municipalities' key role as delivery partners for the OWDCP and builds on existing municipal responsibilities for the costs associated with investigating dog predation under the *Protection of Livestock and Poultry from Dogs Act*.

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We look forward to continuing to work with our partners and stakeholders to help meet the needs of Ontario's livestock industry.

Updated program guidelines are available [here](#). Should you have any questions, please contact 1-877-424-1300 or wildlife.damage@ontario.ca.



Marie-Claude Bibeau
Federal Minister of Agriculture
and Agri-Food Canada



Lisa M. Thompson
Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Affairs