



LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

Mandatory Reporting

December 2014
Revised April 2018; April 2020

Purpose
of the
Legislative
Overview

Animal
Health Act

Health
Protection
and
Promotion
Act

Occupational
Health and
Safety Act

Provincial
Animal
Welfare
Services Act

Controlled
Drugs and
Substances
Act

Food and
Drugs Act

Health of
Animals Act

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ANIMAL HEALTH ACT (ONTARIO)

Regulation 277 Reporting of Hazards and Findings

HEALTH PROTECTION AND PROMOTION ACT (ONTARIO)

Regulation 557 Communicable Diseases - General

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT (ONTARIO)

Regulation 861 X-ray Safety

PROVINCIAL ANIMAL WELFARE SERVICES ACT (ONTARIO)

CONTROLLED DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES ACT (CANADA)

Narcotic Control Regulations

Benzodiazepine and Other Targeted Substances Regulations

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT (CANADA)

Food and Drug Regulations

HEALTH OF ANIMALS ACT (CANADA)

Reportable Diseases Regulations

Health of Animals Regulations

INDEX

Legislation and Regulation	Common Terms in Document	Alternative Search Words
ANIMAL HEALTH ACT (ONTARIO) Regulation 277 Reporting of Hazards and Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately notifiable hazard notifiable hazard serious risk to animal health disease cluster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately reportable disease hazard reportable disease hazard laboratory
HEALTH PROTECTION AND PROMOTION ACT (ONTARIO) Regulation 557 Communicable Diseases - General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rabies psittacosis animal bite/contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vaccination bites
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT (ONTARIO) Regulation 861 X-ray Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exposure to radiation dose equivalent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> radiation exposure x-ray monitoring x-ray exposure
PROVINCIAL ANIMAL WELFARE SERVICES ACT (ONTARIO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> abuse neglect distress undue physical or psychological hardship fighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> abuse
CONTROLLED DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES ACT (CANADA) Narcotic Control Regulations Benzodiazepine and Other Targeted Substances Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> unreconciled loss or theft controlled drug risk of illicit drug use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> loss theft controlled substance
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT (CANADA) Food and Drug Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prescription drug list 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prescription drugs
HEALTH OF ANIMALS ACT (CANADA) Reportable Diseases Regulations Health of Animals Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reportable disease toxic substance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> federally reportable disease

Purpose of the Legislative Overview

The purpose of this Legislative Overview is to describe to veterinarians the mandatory requirements for reporting under federal and provincial legislation and regulations. Governments establish mandatory reporting requirements to address societal concerns about the safety of vulnerable groups and the health and well-being of populations. Veterinarians play an important role in identifying new or emerging disease and hazards that present risks to animal and public health safety.

This Legislative Overview takes a different format from previous College policy documents. To assist veterinarians to meet regulatory obligations, this electronic booklet consolidates information on mandatory reporting obligations from seven federal and provincial acts and the associated regulations into a single document. The booklet brings together the information on the rationale for reporting, the information to be included in the report, the time frame for reporting and the telephone numbers and emails where veterinarians can submit reports or access additional information.

Animal Health Act and Regulation 277/12 (Ontario)

Act	<i>Animal Health Act</i> , SO 2009, c 31, s 7, 9, 10, 39-40, 48(1-3), 49(1-3), 50
Regulation	Ontario Regulation 277/12, s 2(1,3), 3(2), 4, 6, 17-20 (Reporting Hazards and Findings)
Purpose of the Act/Regulation	The Act enables the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to respond in a timely manner to animal health events with the objective of controlling serious diseases and other significant hazards. The reporting requirement is designed to address unusual threats and hazards with significant animal and public health risks
Requirement to Report	<p>Veterinarians are required to report when a positive result for an immediately notifiable hazard, as defined in Schedule A of Regulation 277, is received from a laboratory located outside of Ontario.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Immediately (as soon as reasonably possible, within 18 hours of becoming aware of the positive test result or finding)</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: Chief Veterinarian of Ontario</p> <p>How to Submit: Email OCVO-Reportable-Notifiable@Ontario.ca</p> <p>Information Required: Regulation 277 s 6(1-2)</p> <p>Veterinarians are required to report situations of very serious risk to animal health. Serious refers to a significant risk to animal health, human health or food safety. Indications include an unusual disease cluster or unusually high mortality.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Immediately (as soon as reasonably possible, within 18 hours of becoming aware of the positive test result or finding)</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: OMAFRA Agricultural Information Centre</p> <p>How to Submit: Telephone 1-877-424-1300 (available 24/7)</p> <p>Information Required: Regulation 277 s 20(1-8)</p>
For additional information	OMAFRA Agricultural Information Centre 1-877-424-1300 (available 24/7; a veterinarian is on-call)
Penalties	<p>An individual convicted of an offence may be liable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On a first conviction, a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$15,000 for each day on which the offence occurs or continues, and On each subsequent conviction (which includes convictions under various other animal health legislation), a fine of not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$30,000 for each day on which the offence occurs or continues; imprisonment for a term of not more than one year or both. <p>A corporation convicted of an offence under this Act is liable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On a first conviction, a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$30,000 for each day on which the offence occurs or continues, and On each subsequent conviction, a fine of not less than \$2000 and not more than \$60,000 for each day on which the offence occurs or continues.

Purpose of the Legislative Overview

Animal Health Act

Health Protection and Promotion Act

Occupational Health and Safety Act

Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act

Controlled Drugs and Substances Act

Food and Drugs Act

Health of Animals Act

Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulation 861 (Ontario)

Act	<i>Occupational Health and Safety Act</i> , RSO 1990, c O.1, s 66
Regulation	RRO 1990, O Reg 861, X-Ray Safety, s 13-14
Purpose of the Act/ Regulation	<p>The Act provides the framework to ensure that workplaces in Ontario are safe and healthy.</p> <p>The objective of Regulation 861 is to minimize the risk of exposure for anyone involved in taking and processing radiographs and for anyone who may be exposed to radiation (i.e., veterinarians, staff, clients, the public and animals).</p>
Requirement to Report	<p>Every owner or employer at a workplace where an X-ray machine is present or used is required to report any instance when a worker receives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dose equivalent that does not appear reasonable and appropriate. • A dose equivalent in excess of the annual limits, as set out in column 3 of the Schedule, in a 3 month period. <p>Time Frame to Submit: Forthwith (immediately)</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: Radiation Protection Officer, Inspector with the Ministry of Labour</p> <p>How to Submit: The report is submitted in writing by email to radiationprotection@ontario.ca</p> <p>Information Required: The report describes the findings from the investigation into the cause of the exposure and the corrective action taken.</p> <p>Every owner or employer, at a workplace where an X-ray machine is present or used, is required to report any accident, equipment failure or other incident that results in an employee receiving a dose equivalent in excess of annual limits set in regulation.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Initial notice to be provided immediately (within 48 hours).</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: Radiation Protection Officer, Ministry of Labour</p> <p>How to Submit: Initial reports should be submitted by telephone 416-235-5922 or 1-877-202-0008 or email to radiationprotection@ontario.ca</p> <p>The detailed report must be in writing by email radiationprotection@ontario.ca or mail to</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Manager, Radiation Protection Services Ministry of Labour 81A Resources Road Etobicoke, ON M9P 3T1</p> <p>Information Required: The written report must describe the circumstances of the accident or failure and any investigative actions taken by the employer.</p>
For additional information	<p>For general inquiries and emergency situations:</p> <p>Health and Safety Contact Centre 1-877-202-0008 (24/7 telephone line)</p>
Penalties	<p>Penalties that may be applied upon conviction for a contravention or failure to comply with the provisions of the Act or regulations, or an order or requirement of an inspector or director, or an order of the Minister are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a person, a fine of not more than \$25,000 per written order or imprisonment for a term of not more than twelve months, or both. • For a corporation, the maximum fine that may be imposed is \$500,000.

Health Protection and Promotion Act and Regulation 557 (Ontario)

Act	<i>Health Protection and Promotion Act</i> , RSO 1990, c H 7, s 100(1, 4), 101(1-3)
Regulation	Ontario Regulation 557, Communicable Diseases – General, s 2(1), 4(1)
Purpose of the Act/Regulation	The Act is intended to provide for the organization and delivery of public health programs and services that are administered by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care including disease prevention and control.
Requirement to Report	<p>Veterinarians are required to report any knowledge of an animal bite or contact that may result in rabies in persons.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Immediately (within 24 hours)</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: The local Medical Officer of Health</p> <p>Information Required: At a minimum, a veterinarian is expected to report the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name and contact information of the animal owner/custodian. • Name, breed, signalment, description and detailed vaccination history of the biting animal (or at least as much as is known about the vaccination history based on their medical record) • Name and contact information of the bite victim or individual who has otherwise been potentially exposed. <p>How to Submit: Veterinarians should check with the local health unit to determine if there are specific forms or reporting formats. To contact local health units</p> <p>http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx#7</p>
For Additional Information	<p>For Matters Related to Reporting of Potential Human Exposure to a Potentially Rabid Animal:</p> <p>Dr. Catherine Filejski, Public Health Veterinarian, Public Health Division, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Telephone: 416-212-0424 Email: Catherine.Filejski@ontario.ca</p> <p>For Matters Related to Reporting of Domestic Animal Exposure to a Potentially Rabid Animal, with NO Human Exposure:</p> <p>Dr. Maureen Anderson, Lead Veterinarian, Animal Health and Welfare, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Telephone: 519-826-3571 Email: maureen.c.e.anderson@ontario.ca</p> <p>Agricultural Information Contact Centre, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Telephone: 1-877-424-1300 (24/7 access to the on-call veterinarian)</p> <p>Animal Health Lab, University of Guelph Telephone: 519-824-4120 Website: http://www.guelphlabservices.com/ahl/</p> <p>Local Public Health Units</p> <p>http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx#7</p>

Purpose
of the
Legislative
Overview

Animal
Health Act

Health
Protection
and
Promotion
Act

Occupational
Health and
Safety Act

Provincial
Animal
Welfare
Services Act

Controlled
Drugs and
Substances
Act

Food and
Drugs Act

Health of
Animals Act

Requirement to Report	<p>Veterinarians who know or suspect that a captive bird or birds or poultry flock is infected with the agent of psittacosis (<i>C. psittaci</i>) are required to report this.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Immediately (within 24 hours).</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: The local Medical Officer of Health</p> <p>Information Required: At a minimum, a veterinarian is expected to report the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name and contact information of the bird's owner/custodian. • Name, breed, signalment, description and detailed medical history of the affected bird(s) (or at least as much as is known about the bird(s) based on their medical record), including any treatment with antibiotics already administered <p>How to Submit: Veterinarians should check with the local health unit to determine if there are specific forms or reporting formats. To contact local health units</p> <p>http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx#7</p>
Penalties	<p>A person who is guilty of an offence is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000 for every day or part of a day on which the offence occurs or continues.</p> <p>For a corporation convicted of an offence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum penalty that may be imposed for every day or part of a day on which the offence occurs or continues is \$25,000. • When a corporation is convicted of an offence under this Act, each director and each officer, employee or agent of the corporation who was in whole or in part responsible for the conduct of the business that gave rise to the offence is guilty of the offence unless he/she demonstrates that he/she took all reasonable care to prevent the commission of the offence.

Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act (Ontario)

Act	<i>Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act</i> , 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 13
Regulation	N/A
Purpose of the Act/ Regulation	The Act sets out the standards for the care of animals, defines the powers of provincial animal welfare inspectors in relation to the protection of animals and defines the provincial offences that may be applied to an individual found to have caused or permitted distress in an animal(s).
Requirement to Report	A veterinarian is required to report when there are reasonable grounds to believe that an animal has been or is being abused, being subject to undue physical or psychological hardship, privation or neglect, including by participating in fights with other animals, or is being trained to fight another animal. Veterinarians are required to report when such an incident is suspected but also the belief itself.
Time Frame to Submit	As soon as reasonably possible
Who Receives the Report	A provincial animal welfare inspector
How to Submit	Reports should be made by calling 1-833-9-ANIMAL (264625).
Information Required	Owner's name, type and description of animal, description of the incident, address where the incident took place
Penalties	<p>The Act does not define penalties for not reporting suspected abuse or neglect. Since the law requires veterinarians to report cases of suspected abuse or neglect, veterinarians who fail to report such cases may be investigated for potential professional misconduct.</p> <p>The Act does include an immunity clause to protect a veterinarian, or anyone working on his/her behalf, who makes a report in good faith, from any personal liability.</p>

Purpose
of the
Legislative
Overview

Animal
Health Act

Health
Protection
and
Promotion
Act

Occupational
Health and
Safety Act

Provincial
Animal
Welfare
Services Act

Controlled
Drugs and
Substances
Act

Food and
Drugs Act

Health of
Animals Act

***Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and *Food and Drugs Act* and Associated Regulations (Canada)**

Act	<i>Controlled Drugs and Substances Act</i> , SC 1996, c 19, s 46 <i>Food and Drugs Act</i> , RSC 1985, c F 27, s 31
Regulation	Benzodiazepine and Other Targeted Substances Regulations, SOR/2000-217, s. 7(1), [<i>Controlled Drugs and Substances Act</i> (Canada)] Food and Drug Regulations, CRC, c 870, G.04.002A(g) [<i>Food and Drugs Act</i> (Canada)] Narcotic Control Regulations, CRC, c 1041, s 55(g) [<i>Controlled Drugs and Substances Act</i> (Canada)]
Purpose of the Act/ Regulation	The Act is intended to ensure that Canadians have access to safe and effective drugs and to control illicit drug use. Veterinarians who maintain an inventory of controlled drugs for use in their practice have the responsibility to mitigate the risk of inappropriate or illegal access to controlled drugs.
Requirement to Report	Veterinarians are required to report any unreconciled loss or theft of a controlled drug or targeted substance
Time Frame to Submit	Immediately to local police Within 10 days of the discovery of the loss or theft to Health Canada
Who Receives the Report	Local police Office of Controlled Substances, Health Canada
How to Submit	In writing using the Loss or Theft Report Form for Controlled Substances and Precursors.
Information Required	See report form noted above
For Additional Information	E-mail: compliance-conformite@hc-sc.gc.ca Telephone: 613-954-1541 Alternate Telephone: 613-952-2177 Mail: National Compliance Section Office of Controlled Substances Health Canada A.L. 0300B Ottawa ON K1A 0K9

Penalties	<p>When the Minister has reasonable grounds to believe that a veterinarian has been found guilty in a court of law of a designated drug offence, a contravention of these regulations or a contravention of a provision of these regulations, the Minister shall report this information to the provincial licensing authority. A notification may result in an investigation for potential professional misconduct.</p> <p>For serious situations (e.g., diversion), the Department of Justice may pursue legal action. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of the Act or of its regulations is guilty of an offence. If found guilty of an offence, the penalties are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A person found guilty of an indictable offence is liable to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both; • Under the <i>Controlled Drugs and Targeted Substances Act</i>, a person found guilty on summary conviction is liable to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both; • Under the <i>Food and Drugs Act</i>, a person found guilty on summary conviction for a first offence is liable to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or both and for a subsequent offence a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.
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Purpose
of the
Legislative
Overview

Animal
Health Act

Health
Protection
and
Promotion
Act

Occupational
Health and
Safety Act

Provincial
Animal
Welfare
Services Act

Controlled
Drugs and
Substances
Act

Food and
Drugs Act

Health of
Animals Act

Health of Animals Act and Associated Regulations (Canada)

Act	<p><i>Health of Animals Act</i>, SC 1990, c 21, s 5(2), 65, 71-72</p> <p><i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act</i>, SC 1995, c 40, s 4(2), 5</p>
Regulation	<p>Health of Animals Regulations, CRC, c 296, s 187(1-2)</p> <p>Reportable Diseases Regulations, SOR/91-2</p> <p>Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Regulations, SOR/2000/187, s 5(1); Schedule 1 Part 1 Divisions 1 and 2;</p>
Purpose of the Act/Regulation	The Act is intended to control the spread of disease between and among animals as well as transmission from animals to persons and provides for the protection of animals
Requirement to Report	<p>A veterinarian is required to report when he/she suspects that an animal is affected or contaminated by a reportable disease or toxic substance as defined in the Reportable Diseases Regulations. These diseases are of significant importance to human and animal health or to the Canadian economy.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Immediately</p> <p>Who Receives the Report: District Veterinary Inspector, Canadian Food Inspection Agency</p> <p>How to Submit: Contact information for all CFIA District Offices: http://www.inspection.gc.ca/about-the-cfia/offices/eng/1313255382836/1313256130232</p> <p>After hours contact the Ontario Animal Health Emergency Hotline 1-877-814-2342</p> <p>Information Required: A veterinarian may be asked to provide, at a minimum, the history, clinical observations, number of animals affected and animal and owner identification and location.</p> <p>A veterinarian who disposes of the carcass of a bison, bovine or ovine bearing an approved tag or an approved tag that has been revoked may remove the tag and report the identification number on the tag.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Within 30 days.</p> <p>Who Receives the Report/How to Submit: Refer to these websites for further information: http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/accredited-veterinarian-s-manual/chapter-2/eng/1345231064142/1345231128550?chap=1 http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/traceability/eng/1300461751002/1300461804752</p> <p>Information Required: Number on the tag.</p> <p>A veterinarian who disposes of the carcass of a bison, bovine or ovine not bearing an approved tag anywhere but on the farm of origin where the animal died shall collect and report information about the carcass to enable the origin to be traced.</p> <p>Time Frame to Submit: Within 30 days.</p> <p>Who Receives the Report/How to Submit: Refer to these websites for further information: http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/accredited-veterinarian-s-manual/chapter-2/eng/1345231064142/1345231128550?chap=1 http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/traceability/eng/1300461751002/1300461804752</p> <p>Information Required: The site which the carcass was removed from, the date the carcass was removed and the name and address of the owner/person having possession, care or control of the carcass when it was removed.</p>

For additional information	<p>CFIA District Office</p> <p>http://www.inspection.gc.ca/about-the-cfia/offices/eng/1313255382836/1313256130232</p>
Penalties	<p>The Minister may commence proceedings in respect of an act or omission under the Health of Animals Act or its regulations, as either a violation or an offence. The decision to commence as either a violation or an offence precludes commencing with the other.</p> <p>The maximum penalty for a violation is determined considering the degree of intention or negligence of the individual, the harm done by the violation and the history of the person who committed the offence in the previous 5 years. The maximum penalty for a violation is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,000 when the violation is not committed in the course of business or intended for financial gain; • \$2,000 for a minor violation (e.g., failure by a person disposing of an animal's carcass bearing an approved tag; failure to report disposing of an animal's carcass not bearing an approved tag anywhere but on the farm/ranch where the animal died) that was committed in the course of business or for financial gain; • \$10,000 for a serious violation that was committed in the course of business or for financial gain; • \$15,000 for a very that was committed in the course of business or for financial gain serious violation (e.g., failure to report suspicion of a reportable disease or toxic substance). <p>Every person who contravenes a provision of the Act or its regulations or neglects to perform any duty imposed under the Act or its regulations is guilty of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An offence punishable on summary conviction and liable to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or imprisonment for a term up to 6 months or both; • An indictable offence and liable to a fine not exceeding \$250,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both.

Purpose
of the
Legislative
Overview

Animal
Health Act

Health
Protection
and
Promotion
Act

Occupational
Health and
Safety Act

Provincial
Animal
Welfare
Services Act

Controlled
Drugs and
Substances
Act

Food and
Drugs Act

Health of
Animals Act

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College publications contain practice parameters and standards which should be considered by all Ontario veterinarians in the care of their patients and in the practice of the profession. College publications are developed in consultation with the profession and describe current professional expectations. It is important to note that these College publications may be used by the College or other bodies in determining whether appropriate standards of practice and professional responsibilities have been maintained. The College encourages you to refer to the website (www.cvo.org) to ensure you are referring to the most recent version of any document.
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