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Action Items from the February Board meeting

- Press releases about the CSF’s blockchain field trial, SheepTrace, were circulated through multiple outlets and to key government agencies.
- The CSF submitted a renewed Declaration of Intent to the Strategic Innovation Fund Stream 4 competition and continued working with BeefChain on the development of a full project application.
- The CSF formed a Global Sheep Conference committee to work on conference planning.
- The CSF welcomes the Yukon Agricultural Association as an Associate Member!

Canadian Sheep Identification Program / Traceability

- The Canadian Sheep Federation, in partnership with BeefChain LLC, confirmed its intent to submit an application to Canada’s Strategic Innovation Fund Stream 4 funding competition. The Canadian Sheep Federation is working to address stakeholders needs by exploring new technology capable of improving transparency along the supply chain to provide more actionable information to stakeholders and to create an effective data management system for the sector as a whole. A value chain information superhighway, if you will. The funding sought through the CSF’s application to the Strategic Innovation Fund will support industry’s desire to capitalize on traceability data to be more profitable and sustainable.

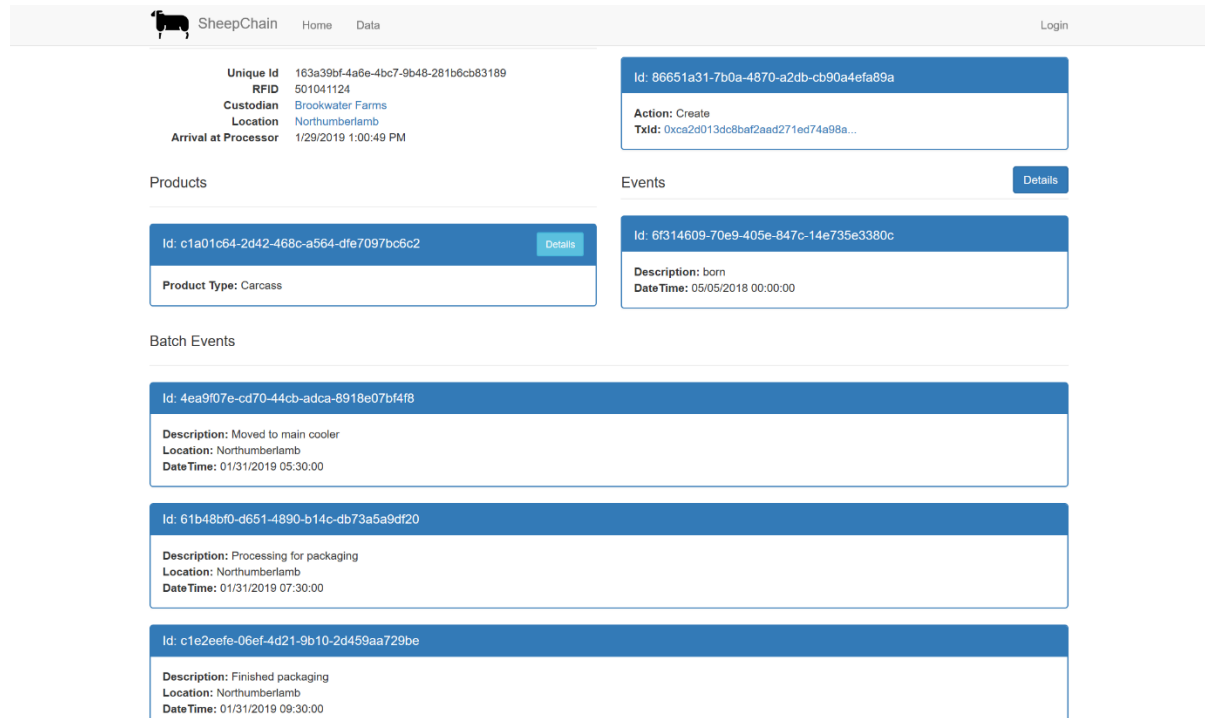
Want to learn more about the technology and what it can do? Scan this code with a QR reader app on your phone (available for free from the apple store or google play) or visit the link:

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<https://beefchain.com/ranches/brookwater-farms/>

The data trail, in a single scan of an animal eartag or product code, can instantly provide valuable information about the animal. Here's one example of some of the information that can be gathered and shared irrefutably, but the possibilities are endless:



The screenshot displays the SheepChain web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a sheep icon, the text 'SheepChain', and links for 'Home' and 'Data'. A 'Login' link is located in the top right corner. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Animal Information:**
 - Unique Id: 163a39bf-4a6e-4bc7-9b48-281b6cb83189
 - RFID: 501041124
 - Custodian: Brookwater Farms
 - Location: Northumberland
 - Arrival at Processor: 1/29/2019 1:00:49 PM
- Events:** A list of events with a 'Details' button. One event is shown:
 - Id: 86651a31-7b0a-4870-a2db-cb90a4efa89a
 - Action: Create
 - Txid: 0xca2d013dc8bat2aad271ed74a98a...
- Products:** A list of products with a 'Details' button. One product is shown:
 - Id: c1a01c64-2d42-468c-a564-dfe7097bc6c2
 - Product Type: Carcass
- Batch Events:** A list of batch events with descriptions, locations, and dates:
 - Id: 4ea9f07e-cd70-44cb-adca-8918e07bf4f8
Description: Moved to main cooler
Location: Northumberland
DateTime: 01/31/2019 05:30:00
 - Id: 61b48bf0-d651-4890-b14c-db73a5a9df20
Description: Processing for packaging
Location: Northumberland
DateTime: 01/31/2019 07:30:00
 - Id: c1e2eefe-06ef-4d21-9b10-2d459aa729be
Description: Finished packaging
Location: Northumberland
DateTime: 01/31/2019 09:30:00

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- The CSF/BeefChain blockchain-based demo and project has been selected by the Community of Federal Regulators to serve as the basis of a use case study on a federal regulator's role in blockchain technology and applications. Focusing on a 'what if' scenario where a blockchain solution was used to manage data for traceability regulations, the CSF, CFR, CFIA and Deloitte Canada explored the complexities of the regulation and the technology and worked through solutions. Meetings will continue in March as Deloitte completes the study on behalf of the CFR.
- IGAC met in February, following something of a hiatus from what was its regular meeting schedule. In addition to updates on progress towards regulatory readiness and TNIP (the CFIA's Traceability National Information Portal) status, IGAC discussed:
 - Working together – traceability linkages to other key initiatives
 - Finding value in traceability
 - Fostering innovation and traceability technologies of the future
 - Leveraging resources to enable the success of traceability
 - Determining IGAC's role post-regulations

Scrapie Flock Certification Program

- Scrapie Flock Certification Program enrolled producers were informed that as of March 1, 2019, changes to the Program's National Standards will come into effect. These changes, made following extensive consultation with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Canada's Scrapie Working Group and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will align Canada's program with future US import requirements and ensure that program participants are eligible to export to the US when their import rule changes. Revised National Standards were circulated to producers, the most impactful of which include:
 - The program name will change to 'Scrapie Flock Certification Program', with the word 'Voluntary' removed. Program enrollment remains voluntary to Canadian sheep and goat farmers but as always once enrolled, program compliance is mandatory.
 - An additional program level, Certified Plus, has been created. Two further years of program participation, for a minimum of 7 years, and additional sampling minimums are required to advance to the Certified Plus level. Specifics are outlined in the revised National Standards. Producers must request level Certified Plus and it will not be automatically assigned. A specific document will be created to be used for the request and will be available to eligible producers beginning March 1st.
 - Scrapie testing within the program will now require that two tissues, a brain sample AND a retropharyngeal lymph node, must be collected from each animal that must be tested, submitted and tested for scrapie. Private labs currently conducting

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scrapie testing for SFCP-enrolled producers must be notified that the samples are being submitted in compliance with the program and they will make submission forms available to this end. A special rate of \$81.00 for both tissues has been negotiated with the University of Guelph's Animal Health Lab, beginning March 1st. Samples submitted to the CFIA for testing already, and will continue to, have both tissues tested.

- The annual sampling minimum is waived for genetically resistant flocks, defined as all sheep in the flock with documented proof of 136AA 171QR or 171RR genotype, and all rams of 171RR genotype.
 - Producers are required to report an illness lasting longer than two weeks (except a physical injury) to their accredited veterinarian before disposing of the animal in any way, and accredited veterinarians must maintain a written record of each such case.
 - Actions taken on SFCP enrolled scrapie positive farms have been clearly defined.
- The Canadian Sheep Federation's SFCP Standard Operating Procedures and program forms will be updated to reflect revisions to the National Standards, and will be available beginning March 1st. Documents will be available upon request, and on our website at www.scrapiecanada.ca

Industry Updates

- Regulations amending Part XII of the Health of Animals Regulations, also referred to as the Humane Transport Regulations, were published in Canada Gazette Part II February 20, 2019 and will come into force in February 2020. Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer hosted a February 20th conference call to notify industry leaders of the publication and fielded a limited number of questions. Among the notable revisions, are changes to the maximum intervals for access to feed and safe water:

Table 1: Maximum intervals for access to feed and safe water

Species and class	New time maximum (hours)	Current time maximum (hours)
Compromised animals	12	N/A
Broiler chickens, spent laying hens and rabbits	24 for safe water	36

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	28 for feed	
Beef and dairy cattle and other adult ruminants that can be fed exclusively on hay and grain	36	48
Equines and porcines	28	36
All other animals	36	36
Ruminants that are too young to be fed exclusively on hay and grain	12 <small>footnote *</small>	18
Newly hatched birds	72 <small>footnote **</small>	72

There are a number of significant changes to the regulations beyond just the maximum intervals for food and rest. All stakeholders will need to understand and comply with all of the regulatory changes when they come into force in February 2020. Full text of the new regulations can be found on the Government of Canada website: <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2019/2019-02-20/html/sor-dors38-eng.html>

- The National Farm Animal Care Council announced plans to update the 2001 Recommended Code of Practice for the care and handling of farm animals: Transportation, which are different from the Humane Transport Regulations. According to the NFACC news release “Stakeholders with diverse insights and experiences, including livestock and poultry transporters and producers, intermediary site operators, processors, veterinarians, researchers, animal welfare advocates, and enforcement groups, will participate on the Code Development Committee and several Working Groups to develop Code content. The Code is expected to be completed in early 2023.” The CSF is coordinating with NFACC to identify sheep industry representation on appropriate Working Groups and the Code Development Committee.
- The Animal Health Canada Working Group continues to meet monthly as it continues work plan, budget and governance development. Building on direction from FPT governments in the National Plant and Animal Health Strategy, several industry leaders have agreed to champion the development of “Animal Health Canada”, a new governance model built on industry-government partnership in decision making, resource sharing and program

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management. The goal is to strengthen Canada's capacity for animal disease prevention, preparedness, response and recovery (PPR&R) by reducing fragmentation of accountabilities, ensuring greater sustainability in resource commitments, increasing timeliness of action and planning more effectively for the future. To date, 15 industry associations and companies pledging \$140,000 to support the exploration and recommendation of options. The AHC Working Group is made up of representatives from contributing members, including the Canadian Sheep Federation, as well as federal and provincial government agencies.

This month's meetings

- Canadian Animal Health Products Regulatory Advisory Sub-Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance (CAHPRAC)
- BeefChain – SheepTrace (AgroLedger) project planning
- Cross-Sectoral Genetically Modified (GM) Disclosure Working Group
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Assurance Programs
- Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program Working Group – National Standards Review
- Canadian Sheep Federation Board of Directors conference call
- National Farm Animal Care Council – Transport Codes of Practice
- BeefChain – SheepTrace (AgroLedger) project planning
- Animal Health Canada conference call
- Sheep Value Chain Round Table All-Chairs conference call
- IGAC – Gatineau
- Animal Health Canada – Toronto
- BeefChain – SheepTrace (AgroLedger) project planning
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Humane Transportation Regulations release
- Community of Federal Regulators & Canadian Food Inspection Agency conference call – SheepTrace (AgroLedger) use case study of the role of federal regulators in blockchain technology
- Market Access Secretariat – Country-of-Origin Labelling
- Value Chain Management International – grading project planning
- Community of Federal Regulators & Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Ottawa – SheepTrace (AgroLedger) use case study of the role of federal regulators in blockchain technology



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- Agricultural Trade Negotiation Consultative Group conference call – free trade agreement updates
- Sheep Value Chain Round Table Social Licence Working Group
- BeefChain – SheepTrace (AgroLedger) project planning