



## BC Sustainable Poultry Farming Group

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### Status Summary for September 24, 2015 SPFG Committee Meeting

Three new proposals were reviewed:

**2015-06 Broiler Breeder Spiking Male Avian Influenza Screening Project** - *to develop protocols and pilot a screening program to support BC biosecurity practices and early detection of avian influenza (Ai) in broiler breeder spiking males prior to movement off-farm.*

- **Decision:** support project and provide requested funding

**2015-07 Reducing Salmonella and Campylobacter contamination of poultry** - *to reduce the load of both Campylobacter jejuni and Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium (S. typhimurium) in the digestive tract of chickens by using different methods.*

- **Decision:** support project and provide a letter of support

**2015-08 Diatomaceous Earth as a poultry feed supplement** - *to examine whether the addition of diatomaceous earth results in an improvement in poultry production values and an overall increased profitability for the poultry industry.*

- **Decision:** support project and provide a letter of support

- SPFG has now provided \$23,200 in funding for six projects in 2015. SPFG is still accepting projects for funding consideration.

#### Updates on other SPFG projects:

**2014-05 - Broiler Litter and Horse Bedding Gasification Feasibility Study** – The results of the first two gasification tests have provided syngas, ash production and stack emissions data that is being analysed.

**2015-01 Genomic Analysis of Wetland Sediment as a Tool for Avian Influenza Virus Surveillance in Wild Waterfowl** – the project has been successful in identifying avian influenza virus in the sediments sample. The samples sent to the BC Centre for Disease Control for RNA extraction.

**2015-02 The Development and Commercialization of Aerobic Digestion of Poultry Manure to Produce Bio-Active Fertilizers** – the project successfully levered SPFG funds and will start shortly

**2015-03 Development of a Point-of-Care PCR diagnostic platform and assays for the poultry industry** – the company has undertaken detailed research on the five gastrointestinal and respiratory pathogens and on techniques for sampling and extracting DNA from the target organisms.

**2015-04 and 2015-05 Speakers for the Poultry Conference** – speakers have been found to speak on Water Quality & Sanitation and on Biosecurity.

The next SPFG meeting is in December 2015.