



# EUTHANASIA PROTOCOL

*Corresponds with Requirement 14.0*

This facility only uses a licensed veterinarian for euthanasia of horses.

**Farm Owner Signature:**

**Date:**

**Veterinarian:**

**Clinic Number:**

**Additional Veterinarian:**

**Clinic Number:**

OR

This facility uses the services of a licensed veterinarian and/or a trusted operator (a service provider not licensed as a veterinarian) for euthanasia of horses. The method used by a trusted operator is:

- Free bullet deployed by a skilled individual.
  - Please indicate the calibre of gun used:
- Penetrating captive bolt deployed by a skilled individual
  - Please indicate the calibre of the captive bolt gun used:

**Operator Full Name:**

**Operator Business Name: *(if applicable)***

**Phone Number:**

**Alternate Phone Number:**



The operator named above has the skills necessary to safely and humanely euthanize horses using the method indicated above. They, and any staff members who assist with the euthanasia, have been adequately trained to do so and agree to abide by the steps outlined in this protocol.

- Euthanasia must be conducted without delay when deemed necessary.
- Move the horse, if possible, to an area where the euthanasia method of choice can be conducted safely for all parties. Proper restraint methods are used, as necessary, to ensure success.
  - (*If using gunshot*) Ensure all personnel are a safe distance from the horse being euthanized.
- Once the euthanasia method is performed, unconsciousness is confirmed immediately and when it is safe to do so.
  - The animal is not unconscious if it vocalizes, attempts to rise, lifts its head, blinks like an alive animal, and responses to a painful stimulus.
- If the method was unsuccessful, the operator will then use the following secondary euthanasia step/method:
  - A second shot (free bullet or captive bolt)
  - Lethal injection (administered by a veterinarian)
  - Cardiac puncture, bleeding, and pithing can be used as a secondary step only if the horse is confirmed to be unconscious.
- Death is confirmed before moving or leaving the horse by using the following indicators:
  - Absence of all movement for at least five minutes
  - Absence of a heartbeat and pulse for at least five minutes
  - Lack of breathing for at least five minutes
  - Fixed, dilated pupil
  - Absence of all reflexes including the corneal reflex
- Disposal is in accordance with provincial and municipal regulations.
  - In the region where this facility is located, these regulations stipulate:

**Operator Signature:**

**Date:**

**Farm Owner Signature:**

**Date:**