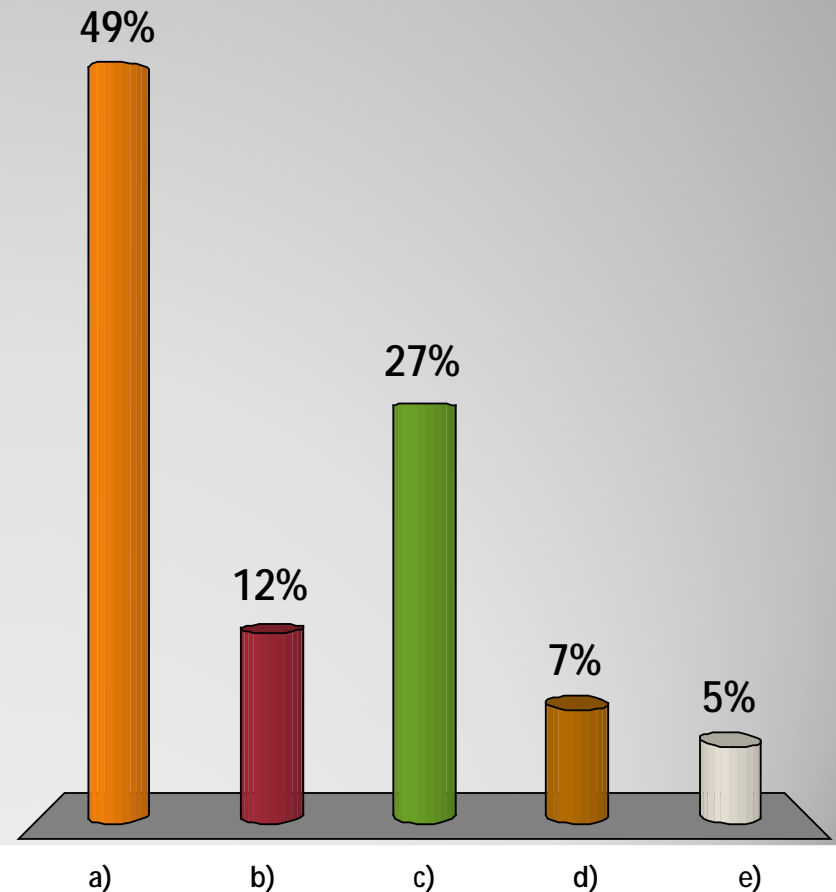


# Animal Health and Welfare Best Practices

Claresholm Veterinary Services Ltd  
Dr. Ken Wright, DVM, BSc

# Why is a local veterinarian talking about animal health and welfare at these seminars?

- a) Vets are experts on animal health/welfare
- b) No one else would do it
- c) Local Vet is a source of information
- d) They paid me 1 million dollars!
- e) All of the above





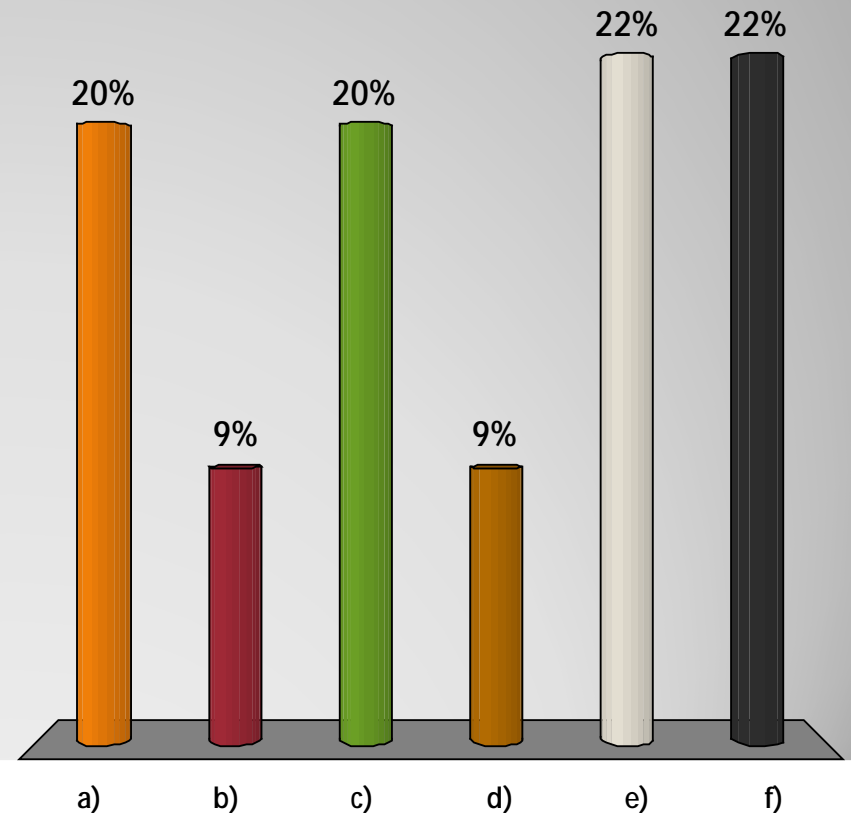
**Core Values**



**Core Values**

# What interested you the most on the program to get you to come to this workshop today?

- a) Management Software
- b) BIXS
- c) Genetics/Genomics
- d) Nutrition
- e) Animal Health and Welfare
- f) Required to Pass



- Introduction
  - Animal Health and Welfare
  - Define
  - Why Animal Health and Welfare
  - Code of Practice-Beef Cattle
  - Make a Plan

**Outline**

## – Health

- Healthier animals produce better
- Prevention vs. Treatment



# Health and Welfare



- Health
  - Healthier animals produce better
  - Prevention vs. Treatment
- Welfare is the provision of the minimal level of well-being and support of life
  - Universal healthcare
  - Unemployment Insurance

**Health and Welfare**

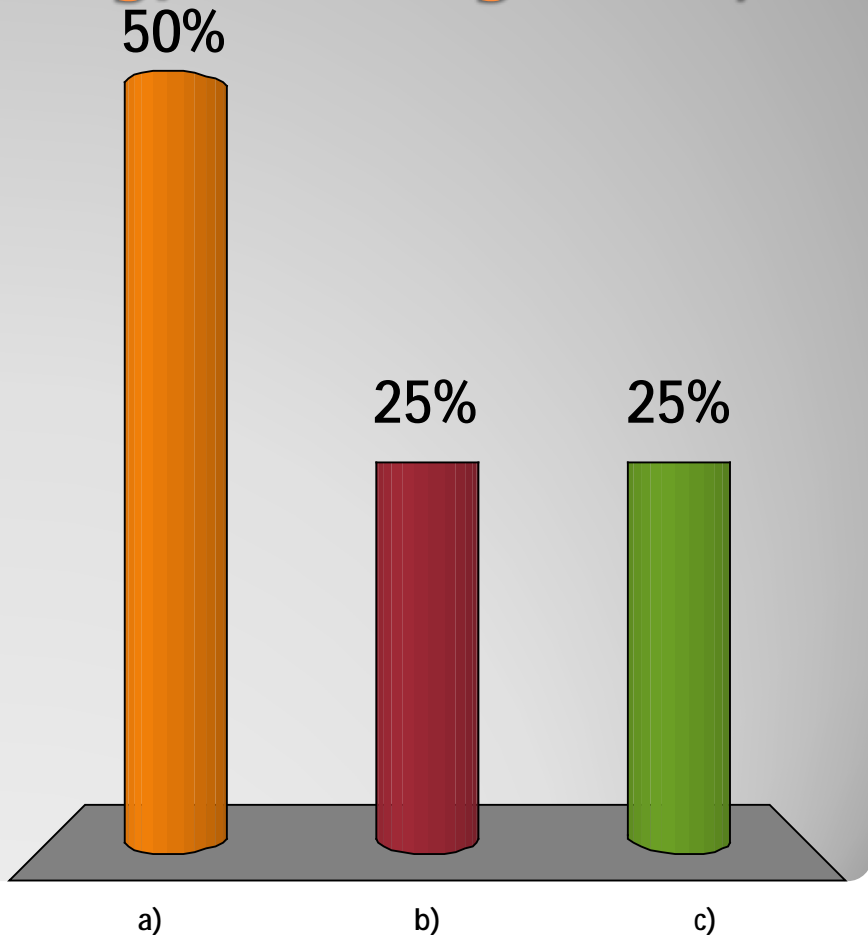


- iCalve
- CalfBook
- Biotrack
- ITS Global
- Viewtrak
- Herdtrax
- Cattlemax
- Ranch Manager

**“Programs”**

What do you currently use for record keeping in you herd? ie - treatments, withdrawal periods, calving/breeding dates, pasture movement etc.

- a) Paper Records
- b) Electronic Records
- c) In My Head Records

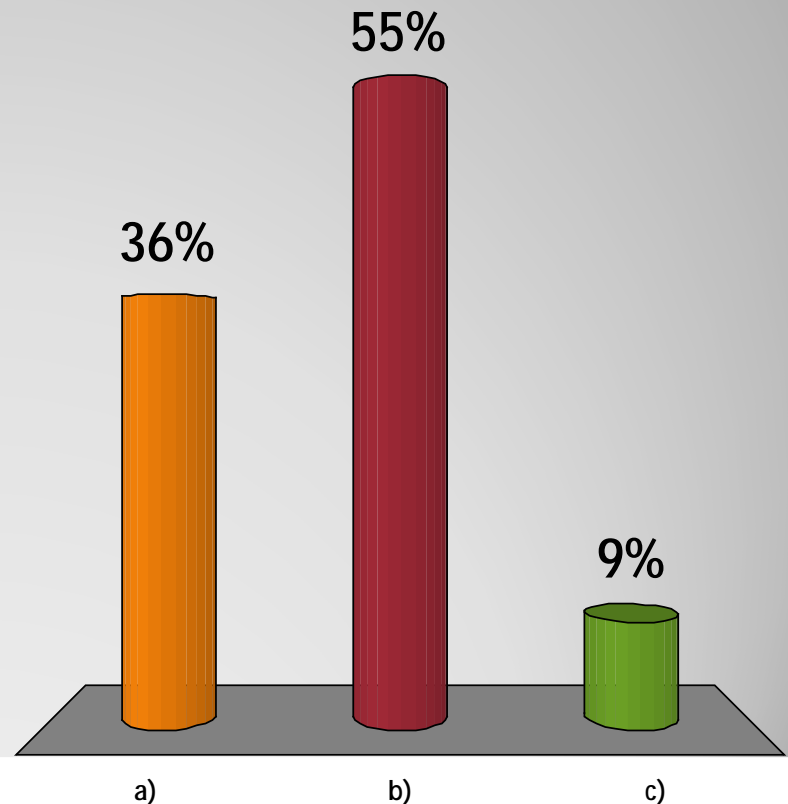




**Health and Welfare**

**I currently have some relationship with an individual or organization that helps me report and show what I do on my operation in regards to animal health and welfare.**

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Don't Need One



- **ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- Our global principles apply to all the countries in which McDonald's does business. These global principles are supplemented by more detailed policies maintained by each of the four areas of the world in which we operate.

- **SAFETY**

First and foremost, McDonald's provides its customers with safe food products. Food safety is our number one priority.

- **QUALITY**

McDonald's believes **treating animals with care and respect** is an integral part of an overall quality assurance program; it makes good business sense because **healthier animals is one of the first steps to providing safe food.**

- **ANIMAL TREATMENT**

McDonald's supports the **Five Freedoms** related to animal health and welfare. We maintain an **ethical commitment to improve the health and welfare of animals in our supply chain.**

- **PARTNERSHIP**

McDonald's works with our direct suppliers, other retailers, the broader industry and NGOs to ensure **continuous improvement through ongoing dialog as the science of animal health and welfare continues to evolve.**

- **LEADERSHIP**

McDonald's is committed to working with our suppliers and industry experts to **advance animal welfare practices and technology.**

- **PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT**

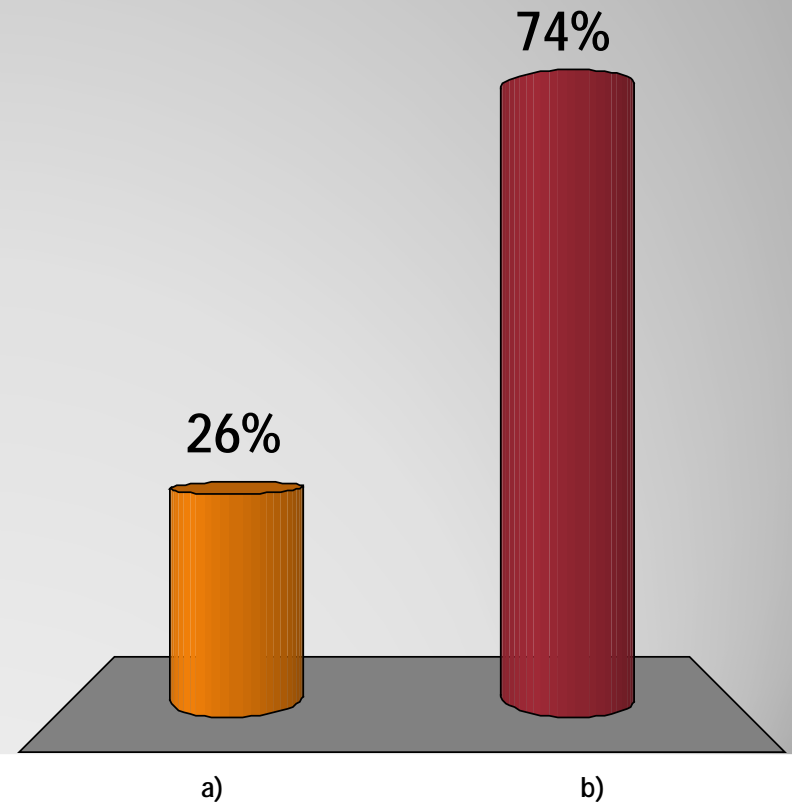
McDonald's sets annual performance objectives to **measure our improvement and to ensure our purchasing strategy is in alignment with our commitment to animal welfare issues.**

- **COMMUNICATION**

McDonald's will **communicate** our process, programs, plans and progress surrounding animal health and welfare.

Do you think McDonalds increased prices to their consumers to pay for the added work associated with Animal Health and Welfare?

- a) Yes
- b) No





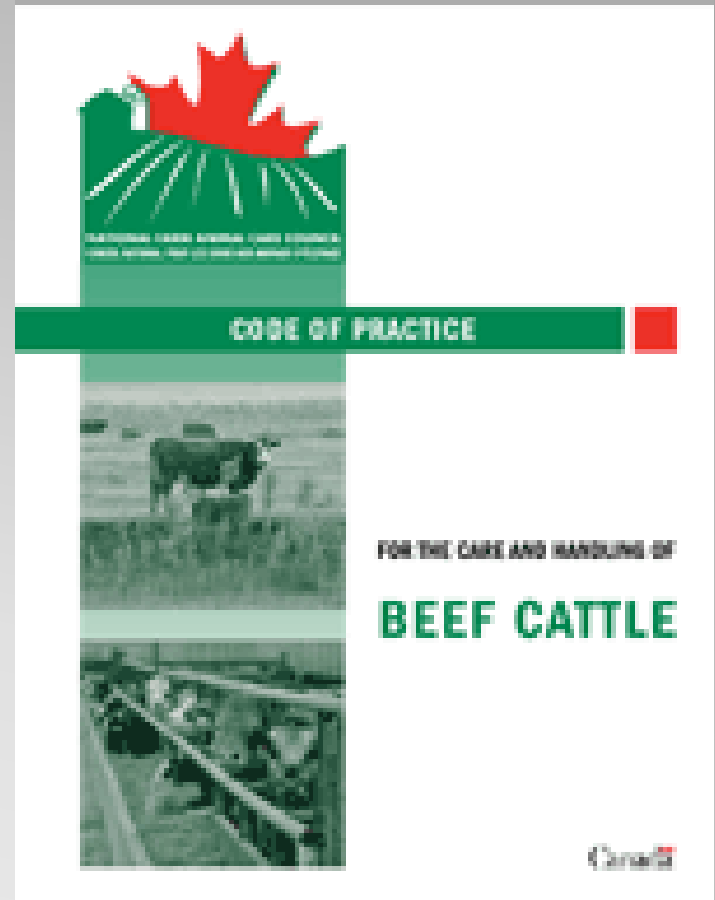
- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from fear and distress

**Animal Welfare=5 Freedoms**



# Why Animal Health and Welfare

- 1) Animal Environment
- 2) Feed and Water
- 3) Animal Health
- 4) Animal Husbandry
- 5) Transportation
- 6) On-Farm Euthanasia



# Beef Cattle Code of Practice

- Previous publication was in 1991
  - Practical requirements
  - Promote consistent application
  - Resulting in beneficial animal outcomes
  - Need understanding of intent and how to interpret
1. **Requirements**-minimum that is needed
  2. **Recommended Practices** -will enhance animal welfare but not required

**Code of Practice 2013**

## – REQUIREMENTS

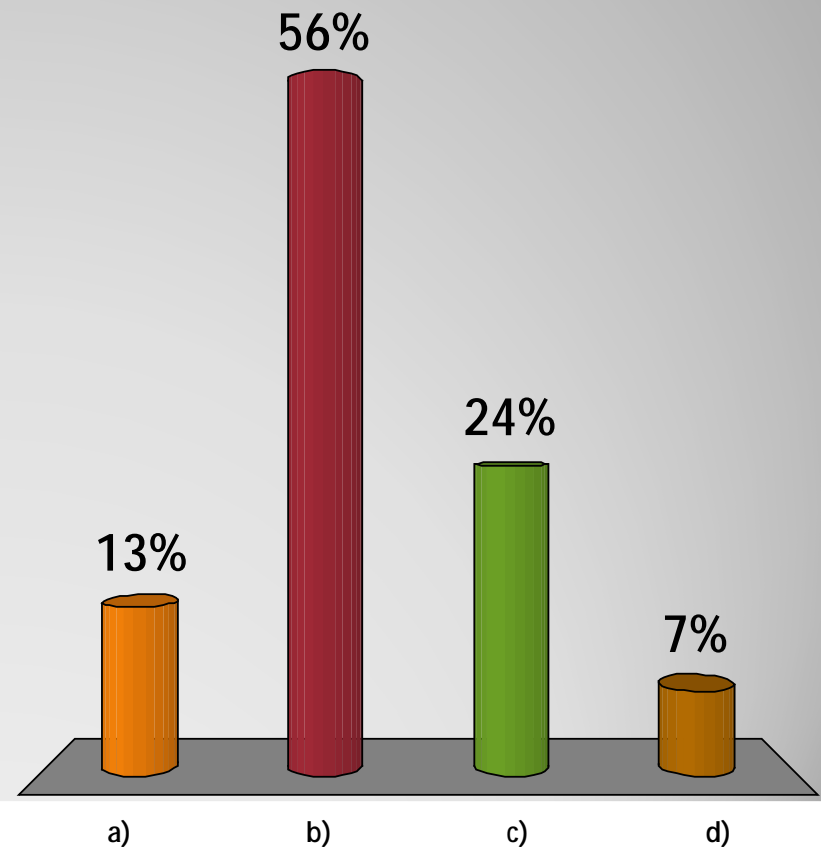
### – Effective January 1, 2016

- Use pain control, in consultation with your veterinarian to mitigate pain associated with dehorning calves after horn bud attachment

**Dehorning**

# When does horn bud attachment occur in domestic cattle?

- a) 0-1 month of age
- b) 2-3 months of age
- c) 5-6 months of age
- d) >12 month of age



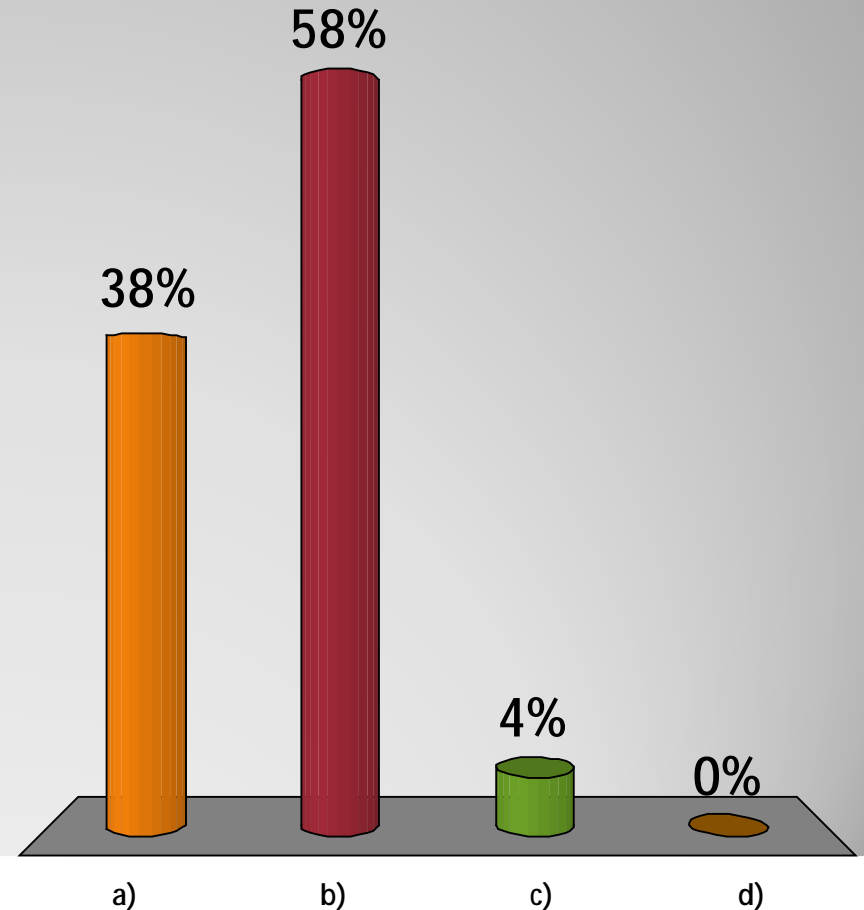
- REQUIREMENT
- Effective January 1, 2016
  - Use pain control, in consultation with your veterinarian, when castrating bulls older than **nine months** of age.
- Effective January 1, 2018
  - Use pain control, in consultation with your veterinarian, when castrating bulls older than **six months** of age

**Castration**



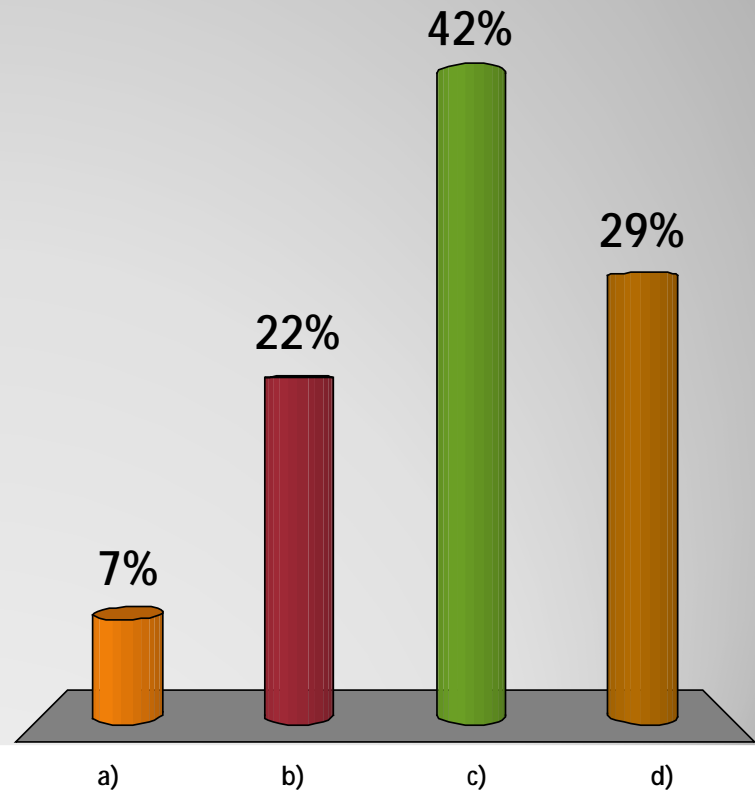
# When do you castrate your calves?

- a) Birth
- b) Branding
- c) Weaning
- d) Don't



# According to 2010-11 National Beef Quality Audit how many Canadian CATTLE are branded as a means of identification?

- a) < 10%
- b) 20-30%
- c) 50%
- d) > 75%



## – Vets Role

- Understand what the standard is, they are there to “monitor” not police
- We are a partner to help meet the requirements not to enforce them
- Help producer report what they are doing

## – Reporting

- Need a process to show what you are doing not to have someone tell you what to do!

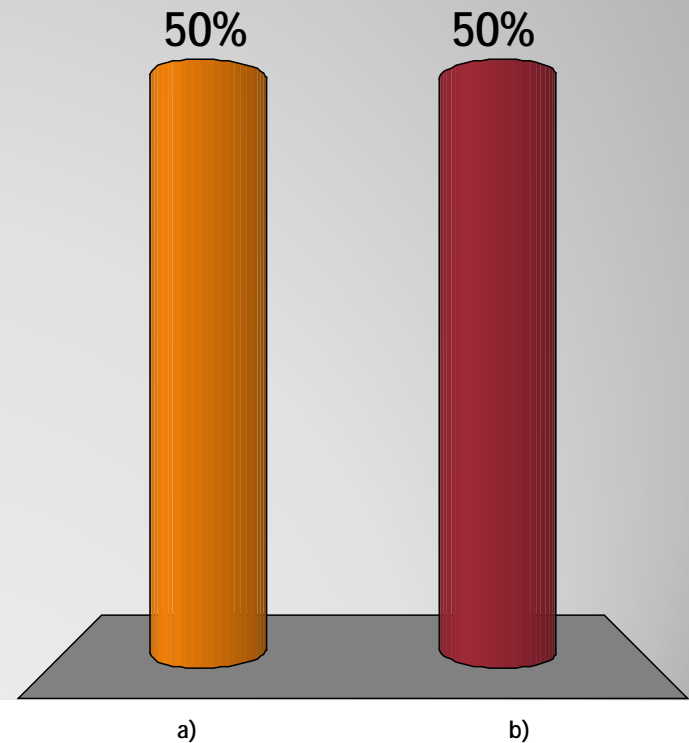
**Animal Health and Welfare**

- Vet assumes responsibility for working with owner and owner agrees to work with vet
- Vet has sufficient knowledge of animals through examination of animals and visits to the premise where animals are kept
- Follow-up and emergency coverage is arranged in case of adverse reactions or failure of treatment

## **Veterinary/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR)**

I can stop in at Claresholm to pick up a bottle of Oxymycine LA 300 for some sick calves because my regular vet will be closed by the time I get to Lethbridge.

- a) True
- b) False



- Production Practices
  - Pain Control
  - Housing
- Cattle handling
  - Proper procedures and training
  - Stock Prod Use
- Identifying endpoints
  - Chronic Illness
  - Compromised Animals

**Animal Health and Welfare**

## – BC Dairy Industry

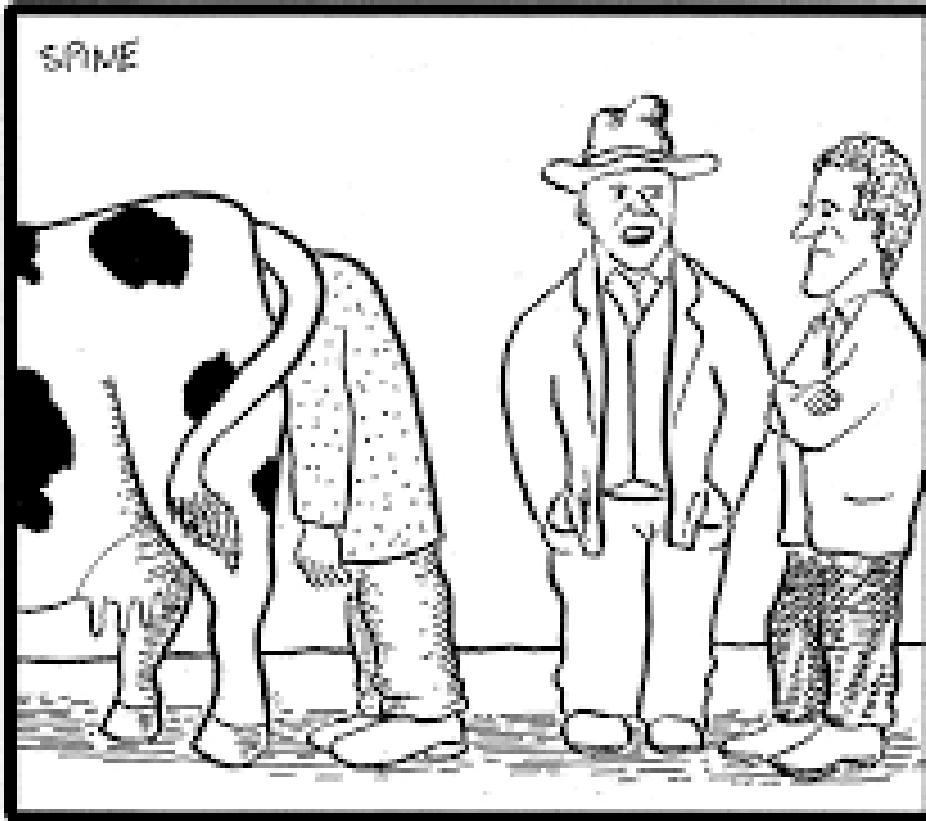
- Now everyone is on the same page
- Owner denies knowing about abuse
- People called to talk with owner about it

**Have A Plan Before The Crisis**



- Herd Health Protocols
  - Prevention of Disease and Appropriate Tx
- Standard Operating Procedures
  - Reporting and Accountability
- Verification-tell your story
  - Verified Beef Production
  - Third Party Verification
  - Records-electronic or paper
- Education
  - Beef Producer Groups
  - Seminars

**Parts of the Plan**



*'HE'S AN EXCELLENT VET BUT HE  
DOESN'T LIKE TO GET HIS HANDS  
DIRTY...'*

**Questions**