

2008 Bill 32

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First Session, 27th Legislature, 57 Elizabeth II

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

# **BILL 32**

**MEAT INSPECTION AMENDMENT ACT, 2008**

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MR. GRIFFITHS

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First Reading . . . . .

Second Reading . . . . .

Committee of the Whole . . . . .

Third Reading . . . . .

Royal Assent . . . . .

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*Bill 32*  
*Mr. Griffiths*

## **BILL 32**

2008

### **MEAT INSPECTION AMENDMENT ACT, 2008**

*(Assented to , 2008)*

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the  
Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

#### **Amends RSA 2000 cM-9**

**1 The *Meat Inspection Act* is amended by this Act.**

#### **2 Section 1 is amended**

**(a) by repealing clause (a) and substituting the following:**

- (a) “abattoir” means premises, including a multi-location abattoir,
  - (i) where animals are slaughtered, or
  - (ii) where animals are slaughtered and meat is
    - (A) prepared,
    - (B) packaged, or
    - (C) stored;

**(b) by adding the following after clause (d):**

- (d.1) “inspection legend” means a mark applied to meat that indicates that the meat has been inspected and is fit for human consumption;

## Explanatory Notes

**1** Amends chapter M-9 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000.

**2** Section 1 presently reads in part:

*1 In this Act,*

- (a) “abattoir” means a premises or facility, including a multi-location abattoir,*
  - (i) where animals are slaughtered, or*
  - (ii) where animals are slaughtered and any or all of the following take place:*
    - (A) meat is cut;*
    - (B) meat is wrapped;*
    - (C) meat is frozen;*
    - (D) meat is cured;*
    - (E) meat is smoked;*
    - (F) meat is aged;*

**(c) by repealing clause (g) and substituting the following:**

(g) “meat facility” means an abattoir, mobile butcher facility, slaughter operation or processing operation and includes any other facility designated as a meat facility by regulation;

**(d) in clause (i) by adding “and who may transport the carcass to a meat facility or between meat facilities” after “slaughtering the owner’s animal on the owner’s premises”;**

**(e) by adding the following after clause (i):**

(i.1) “mobile butcher facility” means premises operated by a mobile butcher for the purpose of preparing, packaging or storing meat from an animal that has been slaughtered on the owner’s premises or in an abattoir or an establishment;

**(f) by repealing clause (k) and substituting the following:**

(k) “peace officer” means a peace officer appointed under the *Peace Officer Act*;

**3 Section 3 is repealed.**

**4 The following is added after section 3:**

**Licences**

**3.1** Subject to the regulations,

- (a) no person shall, without a licence, slaughter an animal or process meat from an animal, and
- (b) every person who slaughters an animal or processes meat from an animal must meet the licensing requirements set out in the regulations.

- (g) *“meat facility” means an abattoir, mobile butcher or slaughter operation or any facility or operation that converts carcasses, primal cuts of meat, or both, into saleable products;*
- (i) *“mobile butcher” means a person who slaughters an owner’s animal on the owner’s premises or assists an owner in slaughtering the owner’s animal on the owner’s premises;*
- (j) *“multi-location abattoir” is an abattoir that is portable and that may be mounted on a vehicle;*
- (k) *“police officer” means police officer as defined in the Police Act;*

**3** Section 3 presently reads:

*3 All medical officers of health and all executive officers under the Public Health Act and the Regional Health Authorities Act are by virtue of their offices inspectors under this Act within the areas of their jurisdictions.*

**4** Licensing requirements.

**5 Section 4(2) is repealed.**

**6 Section 5(d) is repealed and the following is substituted:**

- (d) the meat is judged by an inspector to be fit for human consumption and has an inspection legend applied to it.

**7 Section 7(1) is amended by striking out “or of a meat facility other than a mobile butcher”.**

**8 Section 8 is amended**

- (a) **by striking out “police officer” wherever it occurs and substituting “peace officer”;**
- (b) **in subsections (1) and (5) by adding “meat” before “facility” wherever it occurs.**

**5** Section 4 presently reads:

*4(1) Except as provided in the regulations, no person shall slaughter an animal unless the animal has been inspected by an inspector immediately before the time of slaughter.*

*(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a mobile butcher who slaughters or assists in the slaughter of animals the meat from which is to be consumed by the producer of the animal or by the members of the producer's immediate household.*

**6** Section 5(d) presently reads:

*5 Except as provided in the regulations, no person shall sell, offer for sale, transport or deliver meat to any person unless*

*(d) the meat is judged by an inspector to be healthy and fit for human consumption and the meat is stamped with an inspection legend or is labelled, as provided in the regulations.*

**7** Section 7(1) presently reads:

*7(1) An operator of an abattoir or of a meat facility other than a mobile butcher may apply to the Director to have ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections of animals conducted.*

**8** Section 8 presently reads:

*8(1) The Director, an inspector or a police officer, at any reasonable hour, without a warrant, may enter any facility, premises or building*

*(a) that is not a private dwelling place, and*

*(b) that is licensed under this Act or if the Director, inspector or police officer believes on reasonable and probable grounds that activities are carried on at the facility, premises or building that are the subject-matter of licensing under this Act,*





*and may inspect the facility, premises or building and inspect and copy any records it contains related to matters regulated by this Act to ensure that the requirements of this Act are complied with.*

*(2) If the Director, an inspector or a police officer believes on reasonable and probable grounds that a private dwelling place is used for the processing or storing of meat for sale, the Director, inspector or police officer may*

- (a) in accordance with a warrant from a justice, or*
- (b) at any reasonable time with the consent of the owner or occupant,*

*enter the private dwelling place and inspect it and inspect and copy any records it contains related to matters regulated by this Act to ensure that the requirements of this Act are complied with.*

*(3) When it appears to a justice, on information laid before the justice on oath by the Director, an inspector or a police officer, that there are reasonable and probable grounds for believing that a private dwelling place is being used for the processing or storing of meat for sale, the justice may issue a warrant authorizing the Director, inspector or police officer to enter the private dwelling place and inspect the private dwelling place and inspect and copy any records it contains related to matters regulated by this Act to ensure that the requirements of this Act are complied with.*

*(4) While carrying out an inspection, the Director, an inspector or a police officer must on request produce identification and explain the inspection powers and duties under this Act.*

*(5) To ensure that the requirements of this Act are complied with, the Director, an inspector or a police officer may demand from the owner or operator of a facility, premises or building*

- (a) that is licensed under this Act, or*
- (b) where the Director, inspector or police officer believes on reasonable and probable grounds that activities are carried on that are the subject-matter of licensing under this Act,*

*the production, within a reasonable time, of records related to matters regulated by this Act and may, on giving a receipt for them, remove them for not more than 48 hours for the purpose of making copies of them.*

**9 Section 11 is amended**

- (a) in clause (a) by striking out “operate abattoirs and” and substituting “operators of”;**
- (b) by adding the following after clause (a):**
  - (a.1) designating facilities as meat facilities;
  - (a.2) prescribing classes of licences that may be issued;
  - (a.3) establishing classes of meat facility licences;
- (c) in clause (d)**
  - (i) by striking out “the facilities” and substituting “the premises”;**
  - (ii) by striking out “abattoirs and” wherever it occurs;**
- (d) in clause (e) by striking out “abattoirs and”;**
- (e) in clause (f) by striking out “facilities” wherever it occurs and substituting “premises”;**
- (f) in clause (i) by striking out “of abattoirs and”;**

*(6) A person may comply with subsection (5) by providing copies of the records.*

*(7) If a person on whom a demand is made under subsection (5) refuses or fails to comply, the Director, inspector or police officer may apply to a judge of the Court of Queen's Bench by way of originating notice, and the judge may make any order that the judge considers necessary to enforce compliance with subsection (5).*

*(8) A copy of the originating notice and a copy of each affidavit in support of it must be served not less than 3 days before the day named in the notice for hearing the application.*

*(9) No person shall hinder or obstruct the Director or an inspector in the course of the Director's or inspector's duties or furnish the Director or inspector with false information, or refuse to furnish the Director or inspector with information.*

**9** Section 11 presently reads in part:

*11 The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations*

- (a) providing for the issue, renewal, suspension or revocation of or refusal to issue or renew licences to mobile butchers and to operate abattoirs and meat facilities;*
- (d) respecting the facilities and equipment to be provided and maintained at abattoirs and meat facilities and the operation and location of abattoirs and meat facilities;*
- (e) respecting cleanliness and sanitation at abattoirs and meat facilities;*
- (f) respecting the facilities and equipment to be provided and maintained by mobile butchers and respecting the cleanliness, sanitation and operation of the facilities and equipment;*
- (i) prescribing the records to be made, submitted and kept by operators of abattoirs and of meat facilities and by mobile butchers;*
- (k) prescribing the terms and conditions under which animals and meat may be inspected at any abattoir or meat facility;*

- (g) in clause (k) by striking out “abattoir or”;**
- (h) in clause (l) by striking out “abattoirs and”;**
- (i) by repealing clause (m) and substituting the following:**
  - (m) respecting the application of inspection legends to meat at a meat facility;
- (j) by repealing clause (n) and substituting the following:**
  - (n) respecting the type of information to be placed on packaged meat and how that information is to be conveyed to consumers;
- (k) by adding the following after clause (o):**
  - (o.1) defining terms not defined in this Act for the purposes of this Act and the regulations;

**10 Section 12 is amended**

- (a) by striking out “an abattoir or meat facility” and substituting “a meat facility”;**
- (b) by striking out “or carcasses” and substituting “, carcasses or premises”.**

**11 This Act comes into force on Proclamation.**

- (l) governing hearings and appeals on applications for inspections at abattoirs and meat facilities;*
- (m) providing for the stamping with an inspection legend at an abattoir and meat facility of meat that is fit for human consumption;*
- (n) providing for the labelling at an abattoir and meat facility of meat that is fit for human consumption;*

**10** Section 12 presently reads:

*12 The Minister may make regulations prescribing the fee payable for a licence to operate an abattoir or meat facility or as a mobile butcher and for any renewal of the licence and the fees payable for inspections of animals or carcasses under this Act.*

**11** Coming into force.





