Interview Consent Form

Study Title: BC Commercial Poultry Producers' Perceptions of Avian Influenza Information, Risk, and Prevention Measures

Principal Investigator: Dr. Shannon Russell, Senior Scientist, BC Centre for Disease Control; Clinical Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia (shannon.russell@bccdc.ca)

Research Team:

- Dr. Kaylee Byers, Assistant Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia
- Dr. Chelsea Himsworth, Clinical Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia
- Ms. Sherry Khoddami, Research Assistant at the BC Centre for Disease Control and University of British Columbia, MSc

Primary Contact: Sherry Khoddami (sherry.khoddami@bccdc.ca)

Invitation and Study Purpose: Our research team is conducting a study to explore British Columbian commercial egg and poultry producers' perspectives on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) to better inform the prevention, management, and response to outbreaks. The purpose of this project is to better understand how producers receive, interpret, and act on information about HPAI or bird flu. Specifically, we are interested in understanding your risk perception of bird flu, what factors, stakeholders, and previous experiences impact this perception, and your perspectives on preventative measures for protecting your farm from bird flu. The findings will help inform how bird flu information is communicated to producers and support prevention efforts in British Columbia.

You are invited to participate in this study because of your expertise as an owner, operator, or manager of a commercial egg/poultry farm in British Columbia. We are asking for your assistance by participating in a one-time confidential interview with us for research purposes. Interviews are expected to take one hour and your identity will remain confidential with the interviewer (Sherry Khoddami).

Sponsor: This study is being funded by Genome British Columbia.

Voluntary Participation: You are under no obligation to participate and can withdraw your consent at any time during the interview without consequence. If you choose to participate, you are providing consent for us to use the information you provide in our study.

Study Procedures: If you have indicated interest in participation, the interviewer, Sherry, will contact you to schedule a convenient time for an interview. Interviews can be conducted either in person on your farm, virtually using Zoom, or by phone call, and will take approximately one hour. We will share the transcript of the conversation with you within two weeks, and you may

make any changes after two weeks of receiving the transcript. If you are interested, the study publication and an infographic summary of the results will be shared with you once published.

- **In-Person Interview:** The interviewer will travel to your farm to conduct the interview in a quiet location, such as an office or other suitable area. The conversation will be audio-recorded using a hand-held recording device and transcribed after.
- **Virtual Interview:** The interview will be on conducted on Zoom. We will send you an email reminder with a Zoom link before the interview. The interview audio will be recorded and transcribed by Zoom to ensure an accurate record of the discussion. You may log in using a nickname to further protect your confidentiality, and keep your camera off during the interview.
- **Phone Interview:** The interviewer will phone you at the scheduled time using the number you have provided. Alternatively, you may choose to call Sherry within a time frame that you indicate. The audio of the call will be recorded and transcribed to ensure an accurate record of the discussion.

Payment: As compensation for your time, we will provide $75 for your participation in this study unless you choose to decline the honorarium. You may choose to receive the honorarium either by e-Transfer or an Amazon gift card. Your name, email, date of payment, and purpose of payment will be shared with University of British Columbia's Finance Office in order to process your honorarium. Participants who attempt the interview but leave early will still be compensated.

Risk: This interview is about understanding your perspectives and opinions and there are no foreseeable risks associated with your participation. You may choose not to answer any question for any reason. By consenting to participate, participants have not waived any rights to legal recourse in the event of research-related harm.

Benefits: The information you share in the interview will be used to better understand how you receive, interpret, and act on bird flu information, to improve communication with BC producers about bird flu prevention and management.

Confidentiality: The interview will be audio-recorded and transcribed. All transcripts will be reviewed by the interviewer, Sherry, and any identifiable data that may be linked to you or your farm (e.g., names) will be removed. If you wish to receive the study findings, your email will be retained for the purpose of sharing the published study and summarized reports, after which time it will be deleted. Alternatively, you may choose to not receive the findings from the study, which we will confirm your preference of at the end of the interview.

The audio files will be automatically transcribed for Zoom and phone call interviews, and using MacWhisper software for in-person interviews. All transcripts will be de-identified by the interviewer and shared with you to allow for any changes for up to two weeks. The de-identified transcripts will be stored and shared securely among team members using UBC-hosted Microsoft OneDrive. The de-identified transcript will be analyzed using Nvivo software and stored

securely on UBC OneDrive for 5 years after publication, only accessible by the research team members. After 5 years, the transcripts will be securely destroyed by the principal investigator.

Any quotations that may be used from your interview when sharing the findings of this study will not contain names or any other identifiable information.

Data Access: Research team members will have access to the transcript of your interview, which will be stored in UBC Microsoft One Drive, which is password-protected and encrypted. This data will then be de-identified so that it cannot be traced back to you. Only the Principal Investigator will retain identifiable data on a password-protected and encrypted UBC One Drive folder until the study is completed and shared with participants. We will retain the de-identified transcripts for five years on Microsoft One Drive after publication to allow for analysis and publication. After this five-year period, the transcript will be destroyed.

Withdrawal: You may decide to remove your data from the study within two weeks of receiving the transcript by writing (contact and email).

Study Results: The information you provide in this interview will be analyzed and the findings will be shared in several ways. We may use quotations from the interview when sharing the findings of this study in reports or academic publications. These quotes will be de-identified so that they are not attributable to you. We may provide a demographic table that includes aggregated data of the numbers of participants by poultry farm type. You may also sign up to have a report of the findings emailed directly to you. Study findings will also be shared with the academic community, government agencies, and poultry industry/marketing boards in an open accessed peer-reviewed publications, through conference presentations, infographics, and other creative forms of information sharing. Therefore, once data are made publicly available, they cannot be withdrawn.

Conflict of Interest: There are no perceived conflicts of interest in this study.

Contact for Information About the Study: The principal investigator for this study is Dr. Shannon Russell. If you have questions about this study, please contact **Dr. Shannon Russell** (Shannon.russell@bccdc.ca).

Contact for Ethical Concerns Information: If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact

the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.

In verbally consenting to participate in this study, I acknowledge that:

- I have read and understood the information in this consent form.
- I have been able to ask questions and have had satisfactory responses to my questions.
- I understand that all of the information collected will be kept confidential and that the results will be used for scientific purposes and sharing study findings which may include de-identified quotes.

- I understand that my participation in this study is voluntary.
- I understand that I am not waiving any of my legal rights as a result of signing this consent form.

Taking part in this study is entirely up to you. You have the right to refuse to participate in this study. If you decide to take part, you may withdraw your information up to two weeks after your interview has been conducted.