

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION ANNOUNCEMENT

Suggested Media Instructions:

Please run at your discretion.

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As per the MCK Communications Protocol, all media requests must be arranged through the Public Relations / Communications Unit

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 detected in the Quebec region

(Kahnawà:ke – 19, Kenténha/October 2022) Kahnawake Shakotiia'takehnhas Community Services Environmental Health Service and the Public Safety Division of Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke would like to advise the community that the presence of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 has been detected in birds throughout the Quebec region.

As it has already been confirmed in our region, community members are being asked to take the following steps below should you decide to get rid of the carcass yourself:

- Avoid touching the carcass with your bare hands.
- Use a lined plastic bag. Wear disposable nitrile or latex gloves if available.
- Enter your hands into the bag and grasp the carcass through the bag. Gradually flip it over onto the carcass by gently lifting it up and into the bag without touching it.
- Tie a knot in the bag.
- Put the bag and gloves in the garbage.
- Wash your hands with soap and water, or use a hydroalcoholic solution with a concentration of at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose during and after handling.
- Avoid eating, drinking, or smoking when handling the carcass.
- Wear goggles and a procedure mask if there is a risk of droplet splashing during handling. Stand with your back to the wind so the droplets naturally move away from you.
- Avoid contact with poultry. If this is unavoidable or if you own farmed birds, be sure to strictly follow prevention and biosecurity measures.
- If you notice a band on a bird, you can write down the band number or take a picture to report it online at reportband.gov or leave a message at 1-800-327-BAND (2263).
- If community members notice dead wild birds or suspected cases in domesticated birds, they need to report this by calling 1-800-567-2033, or locally at 450-768-6763.

Further information on Avian Influenza is available at the following links:

- Surveillance and control of avian influenza
- The Facts about Avian Influenza
- Avian Influenza Information for Hunters and Gatherers

The Public Safety Division can be reached at **450-632-0635**. Environmental Health Service can be reached at **450-635-9945**.