



The Director General

Organisation  
Mondiale  
de la Santé  
Animale

World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal

Paris, 4th April 2012

Our Ref.: SK/CC 60.6027

Ms Alexandra Morton  
[gorbuscha@gmail.com](mailto:gorbuscha@gmail.com)

Dear Ms Morton

Thank you for your email dated 30 March 2012 regarding the ISA virus (ISAV) in British Columbia (BC). In relation to the decisions taken by agencies of the Canadian Government, I encourage you to take up your questions with the relevant jurisdictions.

I am pleased to confirm Canada's financial support for the work of the OIE. However, I do not see this action as an endorsement of any particular OIE standard. In my opinion, the Canadian Government endorses the important role of OIE standards in preventing the spread of animal diseases and improving the animal health situation globally.

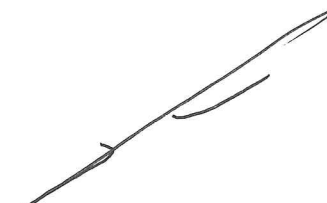
The OIE is aware that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has been investigating reports of ISAV in wild salmon in British Columbia. I am informed that testing of samples by the CFIA national reference laboratory for the national aquatic animal health programme, using the methods recommended in the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*, were negative. Samples were also shared with the Norwegian national laboratory and were reported as negative. Consequently, CFIA is not under any obligation to report the presence of ISAV on the west coast of Canada.

I would like to emphasise that, amongst the 178 OIE Member countries, Canada has been diligent in meeting its disease reporting obligations. In the case of Nova Scotia, the CFIA confirmed a finding of ISAV on the east coast with an immediate notification to the OIE. You can access the CFIA's immediate notification and the follow-up report in the OIE World Animal Health Information Database at following links:

[http://web.oie.int/wahis/public.php?page=single\\_report&pop=1&reportid=11733](http://web.oie.int/wahis/public.php?page=single_report&pop=1&reportid=11733)

[http://web.oie.int/wahis/public.php?page=single\\_report&pop=1&reportid=11755](http://web.oie.int/wahis/public.php?page=single_report&pop=1&reportid=11755)

Thank you for writing to the OIE on this matter.



Bernard Vallat

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