

# Opportunity to get your Angus HD testing (includes parentage verification) and High Immune Response (HIR) testing at no cost!

The Canadian Angus Association, in partnership with Semex Beef, has been working on a project to develop a genomic test that identifies animals with the genetic potential for high immune response. The preliminary results are very encouraging. Preliminary estimates of heritability for high immune response are approximately 30%, indicating that genetic selection for cattle that naturally get sick less frequently, and recover faster if they do get sick, is possible.

Members who have participated in the HIR testing have received in herd comparisons of high immune response for their cattle as well as Angus HD testing (which includes GEPDs and parentage verification) at no cost, thanks to support from AAFC through Sustainable CAP. As this project comes to an end, these members will also receive HIR EPDs for their cattle.

In these final two years of the HIR project, we are looking to test the final 2000 head of cattle. The testing involves a 3-day commitment. Test animals need to be put through a chute on three separate days over a two-week period (day 0, 14, and 15). There is no age restriction for animals being tested, members can test their entire cow herd or their calf crop.

Members who are interested in participating in the final stages of this project are invited to contact CAA Director of Science and Technology, Kajal Latimer (403-537-5604, [KLatimer@cdnangus.ca](mailto:KLatimer@cdnangus.ca)) or our Research Technician Lucia Sanguinetti (403-537-5610, [LSanguinetti@cdnangus.ca](mailto:LSanguinetti@cdnangus.ca)).

