



## Alberta Thoroughbred Micro-chipping Project

The C.T.H.S. (Alberta Division) is very pleased to announce that the Minister of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has approved funding under the *Growing Forward 2* Traceability Pilot Program in order to support the C.T.H.S. pilot project entitled, "Alberta Thoroughbred Micro-chipping."

**Length of project:** August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015-February 28, 2018

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### Introduction

The Alberta Thoroughbred Micro-chipping Project is actively involved in investigating an alternative implantation site and developing accompanying software for the management of microchipped horses. Although microchips are not currently a requirement to register a Thoroughbred they will become a requirement of registration for foals of 2017 or later.

The implant site the Alberta Thoroughbred Micro-chipping Project is using the nasal area (above the dorsal aspect of the orbicularis oris muscle and underneath the depressor septi muscle). This is a new location to chip horses and initial trials are showing promise. This location will be safer and easier to manage for both horses and handlers.

### Objectives of the Project:

- Standardized method of identification and location that can be used as the Canadian industry standard for equine identification and management.
- Integration of microchips and software into breed organizations and comingling events.
- To implant Thoroughbred foals born over the next three years in Alberta with a microchip and assist breeders in adopting and integrating new management technologies such as software and chip readers into their business.
- To provide a template for other breed organizations and associations to adopt and follow in the future.
- To move the industry towards a high standard of equine identification and management.