



**Sanabil Halal Meat Farms Pleads Guilty
At Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency Hearing**

For immediate release

December 4, 2014 (Guelph, Ontario) – In a Hearing convened by the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (OSMA), Sanabil Halal Meat Farms, of 5309 Spring Creek Road, Smithville, Ontario, was convicted of Failing to Assess and Remit Required License Fees, charges having been laid in October 2014, and a finding of guilt made on December 3, 2014. Sanabil Halal was ordered to pay outstanding License Fees. The failure of Sanabil Halal Meat Farms to meet the terms set out by the Hearing for payment of the outstanding License Fees, will result in the suspension of its OSMA Sheep Slaughter License.

“While we regret the necessity of holding such Hearings, we are obligated to do so to ensure producers that all required license fees are being fully and fairly collected on their behalf, and to support marketplace integrity,” said Dennis Fischer, Chairman of OSMA. “The majority of fees are collected with the full co-operation of the submitting sources, any non-compliance by those involved is unacceptable and cannot be condoned.”

The Hearing was conducted under the authority of the Farm Products Marketing Act which permits the Board of Directors of OSMA to sit as a hearing committee to hear cases of non-compliance with the Farm Products Marketing Act, or of a Regulation, Direction or Order of the Agency.

Sanabil Halal Meat Farm failed to pay License Fees owed by them for the fees required to be collected on the slaughter of sheep or lambs in their premises over a significant period of time. They are required by legislation to collect said fees from persons having their product custom-slaughtered, and to remit the Fees to the OSMA within specified time limits.

License Fees are collected to fund the Agency, whose mandate is to enhance producer returns and provide consumers with safe, premium lamb and related products.