



Consumer Protection Alert

Service Alberta, Consumer Investigations Unit

Beekeeping Business Alert

Business Name:

- **Hiveworld Inc.**

Details:

The Consumer Investigations Unit is warning Albertans about a business that supplies live bees and beekeeping equipment in Alberta, Hiveworld Inc.

Director Barry Haughton entered into an [Undertaking](#) with the Director of Fair Trading on October 7, 2021 on behalf of his business Hiveworld Inc. The Undertaking established:

- A Quarantine Order was issued on Hiveworld Inc. by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development for all bees and beekeeping equipment associated with its operation, restricting movement and sales (Note: This quarantine order is still in place).
- After the Quarantine Order was issued, Hiveworld Inc., supplied bees in contravention of the Quarantine Order.
- The Director of Fair Trading asserts that there is reason to believe that the acts or practice of Hiveworld Inc., in regards to supplying bees in contravention of the Quarantine Order, constitutes breaches of the *Consumer Protection Act (CPA)*.
- Hiveworld Inc. acknowledged and admitted it failed to comply with the unfair practice provisions of the CPA.
- Hiveworld Inc. agreed to cease making representations that goods or services have sponsorship or approval, and to supply bees when there is a Quarantine Order in place, unless there is special permission issued from a recognized government department.



Consumer Tips / Instructions:

The CPA protects consumers from unfair business practices before, during, or after a consumer transaction. An unfair practice may occur even if you do not start or finish a consumer transaction. You cannot waive your rights under the CPA.

Service Alberta can investigate an alleged unfair practice if:

- The transaction was between a consumer and a business.
- The consumer or supplier lives in Alberta.
- The offer or acceptance is made in, or sent from, Alberta.
- The unfair practice is made or received in Alberta.
- The unfair practice involves an Alberta supplier or their representative.

If you suspect a business is contravening Alberta's consumer protection laws, report it at 1-877-427-4088.

The Alberta [Bee Act](#) and [regulations](#) form the framework to regulate Alberta's beekeeping (apiculture) industry. The legislation enables many of the necessary systems that quickly respond to threats of disease, pest outbreaks, and other emergencies that could affect the health of honey bees.

The legislation provides procedures for conducting inspections and surveillance, ordering treatments, controlling import and export of bees and used equipment, implementing biosecurity measures, and establishing quarantines, surveillance zones, and control areas.

The *Bee Act* requires anyone who owns bees or beekeeping equipment to [register with the Alberta Apiculture Program](#) and keep all information up to date.

For more information on the apiculture industry within Alberta, please visit <https://www.alberta.ca/bees-and-apiculture.aspx>.