



Co-Chairs:

Irene Mentis

Acting Program Manager and
Area Microbiology Specialist,
Imported and Manufactured
Food Program
Canadian Food Inspection
Agency
145 Renfrew Drive, Unit 160
Markham, ON L3R 9R6
CANADA
PHONE:
905-513-5960
EMAIL:
irene.mentis@inspection.gc.ca

Carrie Rigdon

Rapid Response Team (RRT)
Project Planner
Dairy and Food Inspection
Division
Minnesota Department of
Agriculture
625 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN 55155-2538
USA
PHONE:
651-201-6453
EMAIL:
carrie.rigdon@state.mn.us

Great Lakes Border Health Initiative Food Protection and Defense Subcommittee

The Food Protection and Defense Subcommittee was created in 2007 in response to an increasing number of foodborne illnesses present in the United States and Canada, and subsequently had its Terms of Reference approved by the GLBHI Steering Committee.

This group's current focus is to grow relationships and facilitate communication between the GLBHI member states and Ontario's health, food and agriculture organization, which are critical in the event of a cross-border foodborne illness outbreak. To support this venture, the Food Protection and Defense Subcommittee has compiled a list of contact information for key individuals from the local, state, provincial and federal level who are involved in ensuring a safe food supply in Canada and the United States.

The Food Protection and Defense Subcommittee meets monthly to bi-monthly via teleconference and once yearly, in person, at the GLBHI annual conference.

The Food Protection and Defense Subcommittee is co-chaired by Irene Mentis of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Carrie Rigdon of Minnesota.

Useful Links:

[Agency Responsibilities for Food Illness In Michigan](#)

[About Health Canada](#)

[Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\) – Emergency Response Program](#)

[Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\) – Food Recall & Emergency Response](#)

[Niagara Region Public Health Department \(Ontario\) – Food Safety Program](#)

[Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – Food Safety Programming In Ontario](#)

[Ontario Foodborne Health Hazard and Illness Outbreak Investigations MOU](#)