



# Animal Health Canada

## ADVANCING ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE IN CANADA

Animal Health Canada brings together federal, provincial and territorial and industry partners to provide collaborative guidance on a cohesive, functional and responsive farmed animal health and welfare system in Canada. Be it animal welfare, emerging diseases, animal health surveillance, antimicrobial use and resistance, or One Health and One Welfare concepts, we work in partnership to elevate farmed animal health and welfare and accelerate results.

## TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ENHANCING THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES OF CANADA'S LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

1. We have developed an unprecedented collaboration between FPTIs to enhance African swine fever preparedness and response planning efforts.
2. We have created industry relevant resources to minimize the impacts of serious livestock diseases. This includes 13 national frameworks and provincial association-level plans, nine sets of producer-level handbooks, emergency response protocols, factsheets, and producer workbooks for planning at the farm level, customized to each commodity and region.
3. We offer training courses tailored to agriculture, including incident command system 100, mental health resiliency, emergency management, and an introduction to working with the media.
4. We developed a template to support mutual aid agreements between partners to share Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) resources in an emergency.
5. We are leading the planning and preparedness for Foot-and-Mouth Disease with FPTI. Stakeholders recognize that collaboration is key, and we have structures and processes in place that will make work more efficient.
6. We are working on an FMD vaccine strategy to compliment the CFIA's FMD vaccine bank and an environmental scan summary on biosecurity materials from the livestock stakeholders.

### COLLABORATIVELY LEADING FARM ANIMAL CARE AND WELFARE IN CANADA

1. Our NFACC division has undergone a fulsome governance review that reinforces and strengthens its uniquely deliberative and consensus-based approach to decision-making. [NFACC's approach](#) is a beacon in a time of increasing polarization on farm animal welfare issues.
2. A progressive new Code of Practice for the care and handling of [dairy cattle](#) was released in March 2023
3. A whopping five Codes of Practice are to be updated over the next four years to further advance farm animal welfare in Canada. They are the [beef cattle](#); [sheep](#); [equine](#); [pigs](#); and [chickens, and turkeys, breeders, and hatching eggs](#) Codes. Additionally, the [pullets and laying hens Code](#) will be amended to further progress animal welfare within the egg sector.
4. NFACC has welcomed one new Primary Member for a total of [28 Partner Organizations](#) whose diversity of perspectives brings strength and credibility to the decisions made around the NFACC table.
5. NFACC has welcomed three new [Associate Members](#) over the last year, growing this category of membership to 28.



## TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ADVISING ON NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE PRIORITIES AND DISEASE PATTERNS

1. Through the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) division, we are sharing resources and up-to-date information on the emerging disease of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) detected in dairy cattle in some states in the US, which is currently not detected in Canada.
2. CAHSS supports nine animal species and topics-focused surveillance networks across Canada. These networks form a cohesive 'network of networks' facilitating information exchange through cross-country roundtables. Together, they prioritize and engage in collaborative surveillance initiatives and activities. This includes our Aquatic, Beef, Companion animal, Dairy, Equine, Poultry, Small Ruminant, AMR/AMU, and Vector Borne Diseases networks.
3. CAHSS membership includes over 800 Canadian animal health stakeholders, with representation from federal/provincial/territorial government, national/provincial/regional producer and industry associations, veterinary medical associations, veterinary and agricultural colleges, animal health laboratories, council of Chief Veterinary Officers, provincial/regional/species surveillance networks and more.
4. CAHSS works closely to support the Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network (CSHIN), and they have been working closely at creating topical resources for Canadian swine practitioners, including bi-annual national reports on influenza A in swine.
5. CAHSS will continue data integration and synthesis within a One Health context over the next five years with the establishment of new surveillance projects and tools, including the CAHSS national data platform project, enhanced disease alerts tool/visualization dashboard, CAHSS network prioritization exercises, cross Canada webinars on priority topics/diseases, and more.
6. CAHSS is deepening its collaboration with the Emergency Management division to bolster surveillance capacity for animal health emergency scenarios, fostering increased partnership and preparedness across sectors and disciplines.

### ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR INCREASED ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPROVED HANDLING PRACTICES IN LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY TRANSPORT

1. Our Canadian Livestock Transport Program (CLT) is a comprehensive training course and support service for livestock and poultry truckers, shippers and receivers. It offers certification recognized throughout Canada and United States. To date, 1509 unique users have completed CLT training.

### SHAPING THE VISION AND STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN ANIMAL HEALTH

1. We have created a leadership team that will develop and implement a work plan to successfully move forward based on the priorities and areas for action in the Government of Canada's Pan-Canadian Action Plan (PCAP) for Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) from an animal health perspective.