

SEPTEMBER 23 & 24, 2025

INFINITY CONVENTION CENTRE OTTAWA, ON

## PRELIMINARY AGENDA

(Some items subject to change)

## **DAY 1 – SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

1 pm Opening Remarks

1:15 pm Keynote: 15 years of Collaborative Evolution

Speaker: Kim McConnell, Founder and former CEO, AdFarm

2:15 pm The Public-Private Partnership at World Organisation for Animal Health:

**Successes and Challenges** 

Dr. François Caya - Deputy Director General of Institutional Affairs and

Governance, World Organisation for Animal Health

Demonstrating the strategic importance of public-private partnerships in achieving Canada's animal health goals. This session will offer a national or international perspective, best practices, and practical recommendations to strengthen AHC's position as a trusted national coordinator in Canada's animal

health environment.

3:45 pm 15 Years of Progress: Reflecting on AHC's Journey and Looking Ahead

Moderator: TBD

Panelists:

o Dr. Leigh Rosengren, AHC industry co-chair

Kathleen Sullivan, Maple Leaf Foods Vice President,
 Government and Industry Relations

 John Kelly, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFA)

5:30 pm Wine & Cheese cocktail hour and AHC Awards Ceremony

8 pm Awards evening ends

## **DAY 2 - SEPTEMBER 24, 2025**

7:30 am 8:30 am	Networking Breakfast Opening Remarks
8:40 am	Crossroads of Animal and Public Health: Responding to HPAI Facilitator: Dr. Murray Gillies, Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) Interim Division Director  California's Response to HPAI in Dairy and Poultry, presented by Dr. Natalie Ward, California Department of Food and Agriculture Human Health Perspective – Dr. Maulik Baxi, Medical Health Officer - Medical Director, Population and Public Health, Fraser Health How Canada is Handling the Emerging Disease – Dr. Geneviève Toupin, Canadian Food Inspection Agency
10:00 am	BREAKOUT SESSION - Lessons Learned from HPAI in Dairy Cattle and How to Apply These to FMD Work Facilitator: Dr. Murray Gillies, CAHSS Interim Division Director
11:00 am	Outbreak Support Network Discussing recommendations to improve support for producers and private veterinarians involved in a federally reportable disease investigation.  Dr. Betty Althouse, Outbreak Support Network lead (a CWSHIN project)
1:00 -2:15 pm	<ul> <li>Challenges and Successes of Implementing a New Code of Practice</li> <li>Facilitator: Jackie Wepruk, National Farm Animal Care Council Division Director</li> <li>Egg Farmers of Canada – Elyse Germain, Manager, Program         <ul> <li>Development</li> </ul> </li> <li>Dairy Farmers of Canada – Dr. Melissa Moggy, Manager, Sustainable         <ul> <li>Production</li> </ul> </li> <li>Canada Mink Breeders Association - Catherine Moores, Executive         <ul> <li>Secretary</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2:45 pm	Motivating Change: Include Motivation and Behaviour Change when Improving Animal Health  Exploring the core principles of human behaviour and decision-making in the context of animal health. Grounded in behavioural science and change theory, this session sheds light on what motivates stakeholders—such as producers, veterinarians, and regulators—to act (or not act) in response to emerging animal health threats.  Dr. Jolanda Jansen, St Anna Advies
3:45 pm	End-of-day Keynote: Takeaways on the Importance of Working Together  • Steve Roche, ACER Consulting
4:15 pm	Closing remarks