



Annual Report

2017-18



NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

Strategic Direction

Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020 – a strategy for animal agriculture in Canada

Priorities

- Emergency management
- Social License
- Leadership Capacity

Strategic Outcomes

- Safe animal food products are accessible to Canadians.
- Canada protects the health of farmed animals, people and the ecosystem (One Health).
- The Canadian farmed animal industry is profitable and sustainable.
- Canada protects the welfare of farmed animals.
- The Canadian farmed animal health and welfare system is trusted worldwide.
- The Canadian farmed animal health and welfare system is coordinated and constantly improved.

Progress on the priorities and strategic outcomes will be achieved through the efforts of all stakeholders in Canada's animal health and welfare system. Stakeholders will be asked to participate in a national report demonstrating initiatives which influence progress on the strategic outcomes and priorities of FAHW2020.

Council Achievements 2017–18

Full reports when complete are available at www.ahwcouncil.ca/documents

Strategic Positioning

The Council has been identified as a body well suited to collaborative governance as envisioned in the Plant and Animal Health Strategy and other initiatives. Council is actively developing a plan to assume responsibility for the “coordination of implementation role” for the animal side of the Plant and Animal Health Strategy (PAHS), a leadership role for the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS), a home for Animal Antimicrobial Stewardship Canada, possibly a leadership role for the Community for Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (CEZD) and a more active relationship with the FPT Regulatory ADMs Committee.

Antimicrobial Use/Antimicrobial Resistance

Antimicrobial Use and Antimicrobial Resistance continues to be an important work area for the Council. Council was an active participant in the development of the pan-Canadian AMR Framework. This framework and the subsequent pan-Canadian AMR Action Plan will provide guidance for all stakeholders in animal and human medicine. The Council anticipates being an active participant in work on AMR including the development of the pan-Canadian AMR Action Plan which is anticipated in 2018-19. The Action Plan will demonstrate Canada’s leadership in the global initiative to address antimicrobial resistance.

The Council report, [Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada \(2016\)](#), continues to be cited as work on AMR Stewardship and Infection Prevention and Control proceeds.

Council was a sponsor of the [Canadian Academy of Health Sciences forum](#) in September 2017 which focused on AMR and was titled “**Strategies to control the antimicrobial resistance tsunami: Is Canada doing its part?**” The forum started the process of examining “*the current state of knowledge on the socio-economic impact of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) on Canadians and the Canadian health care system*” as requested by the Public Health Agency of Canada with support from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

The Council participated in the “**Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine Leadership Workshop on Antimicrobial Use and Resistance: Building the Antimicrobial Stewardship Leadership Plan for Animal Health in Canada**”. The workshop, held in Ottawa, October 3-4, 2017, was led by the Ad Hoc Committee on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Canadian Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine and supported by the Public Health Agency of Canada. The purpose of this workshop was to bring together a small group of key partners from the animal health sector in Canada to discuss leadership in antimicrobial stewardship. The creation of **Animal Antimicrobial Stewardship**

Canada was proposed. The Council was seen as the most appropriate home for this new group which would be a resource to the farmed animal industry and the veterinary profession.

Emerging Issues

The Emerging Issues working group completed a study in partnership with the Livestock Market Interruption Strategy Steering Committee to assess factors which impede access to slaughter in the event of an emerging disease. This study was a preliminary study which may lead to further work in this area. The Council is grateful to the Canadian Animal Health Coalition who managed this project funded through the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Growing Forward 2 programing.

One Welfare

Council continued its study of One Welfare in animal agriculture. An [interim report](#) was published in November 2017. Forum 2017 included a [presentation](#) by Pierre-Nicolas Girard of the Union des Producteurs Agricoles du Québec (UPA) supported project to address the issue of mental wellness among Quebec producers.

Animal Welfare

Over the year, the animal welfare working group has been reviewing the recommendations in [A National Farm Animal Welfare System for Canada \(2012\)](#) with a focus on updating and revising the document to reflect what has been achieved since the paper was released and the current realities. A revised paper is anticipated in 2018-19.

The working group has also been monitoring the implementation of the recommendations in [The Management of Cull Dairy Cows in Canada \(2017\)](#) as well as monitoring some related projects that are underway.

Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020 – a strategy for animal agriculture in Canada

The working group continues to progress toward the development of a national report of activities which contribute to progress on FAHW2020. The Council is targeting late 2019 to early 2020 for the initial report. Dr. Jeffrey Spooner has been contracted to begin collecting industry stakeholder information in early 2018 and will work with a writer to bring the report together. In 2019 final information will be collected. The working group will identify what information can be presented from FPT government stakeholders.

Forum 2017

Held in Ottawa in November, Forum 2017 showcased the activities of the Council and other stakeholders in advancing animal health and welfare. The theme of the Forum was “Strategic Direction”. Over 125 participants received a full update on Council activities and had the

opportunity to provide input. The annual Forum is a strong networking opportunity. The [full agenda and most presentations](#) can be found on the Council website.



The [opening address by Dr. Tim McAllister](#), Lethbridge, entitled “Collaboration in Scientific Research”, demonstrated the power of collaborative approaches in expanding influence and impact. These tools were adaptable to the collaborative governance approach being used in animal agriculture.

The program included a section that addressed some of the changes being proposed for the Council. Keith Deering, co-chair of the FPT Reg ADM Committee, Dr. Jaspinder Komal, CFIA and Rob McNabb, co-chair of the Council addressed the changing focus on collaboration, while being proactive and innovative to enhance global growth and industry competitiveness. The PAHS also supports this collaborative approach. Council has been identified to assume the coordination of implementation of PAHS role in animal agriculture.

Reporting to Stakeholders

- Council regularly reported to the FPT Regulatory ADM of Agriculture Committee during the year to demonstrate contributions to the committee’s priorities and update on Council work areas and publications.
- The Council engaged positively with the FPT Regulatory ADM Committee in the changes to the reporting relationship which includes Reg ADM Champions for the Council.
- Advisory documents were circulated to the Regulatory ADMs and all other stakeholders prior to posting on the Council website.
- Monthly newsletters
- Website, www.ahwcouncil.ca, provided information to all stakeholders during the year.
- The Council has an open offer to make presentations to boards and committees on request.
- The agenda and most presentations for [Forum 2017](#) can be found on the Council website.

Other activities

-  The Council was a sponsor of the [Canadian Academy of Health Sciences forum](#) in September 2017 which focused on AMR and was titled “**Strategies to control the antimicrobial resistance tsunami: Is Canada doing its part?**” Several Council members along with animal agriculture and veterinary representatives participated in the forum.
-  [OIE PVS assessment](#) – the Council has received preliminary reporting of the OIE PVS Assessment final report in order to review its content for accuracy. The final version of the PVS report was still to be published officially at the end of our reporting period.

🍁 The Council participated in the “**Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine Leadership Workshop on Antimicrobial Use and Resistance: Building the Antimicrobial Stewardship Leadership Plan for Animal Health in Canada**”.

🍁 [Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System \(CAHSS\)](#) - The Council initiated the formation of CAHSS at Forum 2015 and continues to maintain a keen interest in the development of this network of networks as an important component of Canada’s animal health and welfare system. The continued support of CFIA, AAFC and all network members is appreciated as the system and relationships develop. Council committed to a leadership role with CAHSS subject to appropriate and adequate funding being accessed.

🍁 Council was contracted by CFIA to do further revisions to the CAHSS website and to manage the contract for a graphic designer. The Council secretariat provides administrative support to the website administrators.

About the NFAHW Council

The Council was formed in 2010 as an outcome of the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (2009) to provide advice to the FPT Regulatory ADMs of Agriculture Committee and all other stakeholders on topics of importance to Canada’s animal health and welfare system. All issues are considered in a One Health context. It is a unique advisory group which is funded jointly by federal, provincial and industry/non-government stakeholders.

Membership - Council members are designated by stakeholders and include federal, provincial and industry/non-government members from both animal health and welfare and public health sectors.

Strategic Direction - [Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020](#) provides direction, strategic outcomes and priorities to 2020. All stakeholders in Canada’s animal health and welfare system are engaged in achieving progress on the strategic outcomes and priorities. The collective commitment to Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020 adds value to achievements. The Council is committed to considering issues in a One Health context.

FPT Regulatory ADMs Committee – During 2017, as part of the Regulatory Renewal process, the Council was assigned two members of the FPT Regulatory ADMs Committee as Champions. The Council has welcomed working with Debra Sikora, ON and Keith Deering, NL. In addition, the FPT Regulatory ADMs Committee is now more active in the Council’s work plan with an objective of ensuring all subcommittees of the FPT Regulatory ADMs Committee are moving forward collectively.

Work areas – Identified annually, the Council work areas are important to the enhancement of the animal health and welfare system and contribute to the priorities of the FPT Regulatory ADM of Agriculture Committee. The work areas are developed by working groups which may include external representation to provide technical or policy expertise. Council is engaged by the

working group during development and has final approval of the document and recommendations. The Council thanks all who have participated in working groups to ensure the best understanding of the topic.

Annual Forum - The annual Council Forum is an important meeting place for stakeholders in Canada's animal health and welfare system, providing an opportunity for all stakeholders to participate in the work of Council. More importantly, the Forum also provides an opportunity for stakeholders to update participants on their organization's activities which impact the strategic outcomes and priorities of Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020.

Appreciation - The Council extends its appreciation for the commitment of Council members, individuals who participated in working groups and supporters of the Council to enhancing Canada's animal health and welfare system. Working together, we will achieve progress.

The Annual Report can be found at
www.ahwcouncil.ca



Financial Report

National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council

Statement of Operations and Surplus

April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018

(Simplified)

Revenue

Industry support	104,500
Federal government	106,000
Provincial and territorial governments	108,160
Recovery of Support	20,000
Sponsorship of Forum	10,000
CFIA – CAHSS website Communications	8,345
CFIA – CAHSS Website Enhancements	5,495
	<hr/>
	362,500

Expenditures

CFIA – CAHSS website communications	6,756
CFIA – CAHSS website enhancements	4,158
Communications	1,114
Forum expenditures	69,995
Honorariums	5,600
Meetings, office supplies	10,475
Professional fees and insurances	5,738
Research	51,450
Secretariat	94,728
Translation	7,783
Travel	44,464
	<hr/>
	302,261

Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses

 60,239

Surplus beginning of year 125,352

Surplus, end of year

 185,591

Complete audited financial statement is available at
www.ahwcouncil.ca

Members of Council

Non-Government

Rob McNabb – Co-chair

General Manager, Canadian Cattlemen's Association

Dr. David Fraser

University of British Columbia – Animal Welfare Program

Dr. Jim Fairles

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

Marco Volpé

Board Member, Chicken Farmers of Canada

René Roy

Board Member Canadian Pork Council

Barbara Johnstone-Grimmer

Board member Canadian Sheep Federation

Ed Friesen

Board Member Dairy Farmers of Canada

Ex-officio

Dr. Jaspinder Komal

*Executive Director and Chief Veterinary Officer for Canada
Canadian Food Inspection Agency*

Federal

Steven Sternthal

Director General, Centre for Food-borne, Environmental and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Branch, Public Health Agency of Canada

Dr. Debbie Barr

Director Animal Health, Welfare and Biosecurity Division, Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Donald Boucher

Director, Animal Industry Division, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Provincial/Territorial

Dr. Jane Pritchard

Chief Veterinary Officer, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture

Dre Hélène Trépanier

Médecin vétérinaire en chef pour le Québec, Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Dr. Megan Bergman - Co-chair

Chief Veterinary Officer, Manitoba Agriculture

Dr. Richard Rusk

Medical Officer of Health, Communicable Diseases Medical Manager, Public Health and Primary Care, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living

Council Supporters



Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Government of Alberta
Canadian Animal Health Institute	Government of British Columbia
Canadian Cattlemen's Association	Government of Manitoba
Canadian Food Inspection Agency	Government of New Brunswick
Canadian Hatching Egg Producers	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Canadian Federation of Humane Societies	Government of Northwest Territories
Canadian Livestock Genetics Association	Government of Nova Scotia
Canadian Pork Council	Government of Ontario
Canadian Sheep Federation	Government of Prince Edward Island
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association	Le Gouvernement du Québec
Chicken Farmers of Canada	Government of Saskatchewan
Dairy Farmers of Canada	Government of Yukon
Egg Farmers of Canada	Public Health Agency of Canada
Equestrian Canada	
National Farm Animal Care Council	
Turkey Farmers of Canada	

The NFAHW Council can be reached in the following ways:

www.ahwcouncil.ca

nfahwcouncil@animalhealth.ca

42894 Browntown Road, Bluevale ON, N0G 1G0