



Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada  
AMU/AMR WG Update  
Forum 2016

# What is Antimicrobial Stewardship?

Conserving the effectiveness of existing treatments through infection prevention and control guidelines, education and awareness, regulations, and oversight.

(Federal Framework for Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Use – 2015)

# Achieving Antimicrobial Stewardship

- The **cumulative impact of numerous interventions or actions** which will have a positive impact on reducing the risk of antimicrobial resistance.
- Multidimensional – changes proposed for agriculture need to be included in a pan-Canadian plan.
- Producers, commodity organizations, veterinarians, veterinary organizations, universities and colleges, the pharmaceutical industry, regulators and others all play a role.
- Coordination of roles and activities and the development of consistent messaging is required.

# Four principles of the NFAHWC stewardship recommendations

- **Decreased antimicrobial resistance in humans and animals and to preserve the effectiveness of antimicrobials**
- **The Council can provide leadership and direction** to Canadian agriculture, veterinary medicine and others involved in this complex and multi-stakeholder issue.
- **Focused on animal agriculture and limited to medically important antimicrobials. (Category I, II, and III)**
- **That antimicrobials are essential for treating bacterial infections in animals, and that prophylactic or preventative use of antimicrobials may be effective in reducing disease prevalence and the overall use of antimicrobials. Animal welfare issues may arise with unmanaged disease.**

# AMU/AMR Stewardship – key topics

- Role of:
  - Producers - Reducing need for antimicrobials
  - Sustainability/quality assurance programs
  - Veterinarians
  - Communications and extension
  - Regulation
- Surveillance and innovation initiatives will support stewardship

# Infection Prevention and Control

Producers reduce use of antimicrobials through:

- Biosecurity of facilities
- Controlled entry of new animals
- Vaccination
- Nutrition
- Genetic selection
- Housing and stockmanship
- Veterinary herd health management programs



# CVMA Leadership

## Draft Pan-Canadian Framework for Veterinary Oversight

VETERINARY OVERSIGHT OF ANTIMICROBIAL USE – A PAN-CANADIAN  
FRAMEWORK FOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR VETERINARIANS

Draft (6) - February 10, 2016  
Reviewed by and with comments from:  
CVMA Veterinary Pharmaceutical Stewardship Advisory Group (VPSAG)  
Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars (CCVR)  
Health Canada's Veterinary Drug Directorate (VDD)  
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)  
Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture  
Saskatchewan Chief Veterinary Officer  
Prince Edward Island Veterinary Medical Association (PEIVMA)  
Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA)  
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF)  
College of Veterinarians of Ontario (CVO)  
Ordre des médecins vétérinaire du Québec (OMVQ)

# Industry Leadership

- A history of activity on appropriate antimicrobial use for many years – producers, commodity organizations, CVMA, veterinarians, Ad Hoc Committee on antimicrobial use
- Many initiatives:
  - Contribute to finding solutions,
  - Communicate with producers and veterinarians,
  - Reduce risk of disease and
  - Foster appropriate use of antimicrobials.



# Quality Assurance Programs in Animal Agriculture

Well developed quality assurance programs of the livestock commodity organizations are an effective mechanism for reaching producers and for implementing changes in practices.

**Antimicrobials play an essential role in providing safe food as part of disease management and reducing any potential food safety problems**

## Common aspects of the different programs:

- HACCP based
- SOPs & Recommended Best Management Practices
- Upholding regulatory requirements
- Preserving consumer confidence in Canadian products by demonstrating responsible use
- Promoting a durable veterinary-client-patient relationship
- Educating producers about the prudent use of antimicrobial drugs

# The 15 recommendations of the NFAHWC



[http://www.ahwcouncil.ca/pdfs/council-updates/NFAHW%20Council\\_Recommendation\\_AMU\\_AMR\\_2016.pdf](http://www.ahwcouncil.ca/pdfs/council-updates/NFAHW%20Council_Recommendation_AMU_AMR_2016.pdf)

AMR is a global problem  
Critical threat to human and animal medicine  
Focus on Health Canada Classification I,II and III  
Animal Agriculture needs to be part of the solution

Collaboration

Education

Need Reduction

Regulation

Innovation



Coordination

Communication

Surveillance

Pan-Canadian

Objective  
Effective antimicrobials for animal and human use in the future.

# Next Steps

- **WG Recommendation –**  
Expand the WG to include a range of external expertise including representatives from producer and veterinary organizations; academia; and governments.
- **Objective:**
  - Consider the Pan-Canadian Framework on AMR and the related themes and priorities
  - Facilitate coordinated actions to influence inclusion of these key themes and priorities in the agricultural policy framework and stakeholder communications.
- **Input from Forum participants**



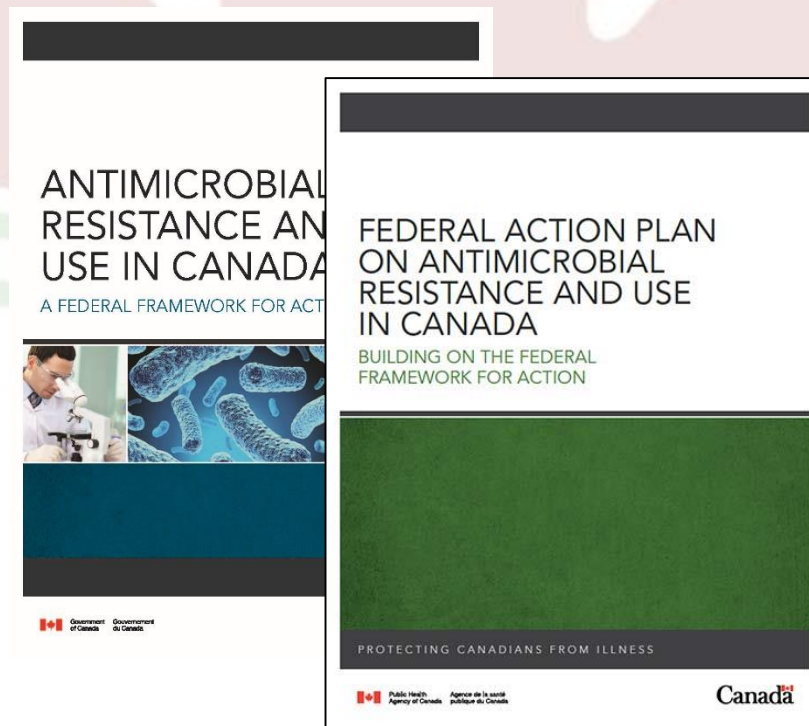
*Thank you*

**National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare  
Council**

[www.ahwcouncil.ca](http://www.ahwcouncil.ca)

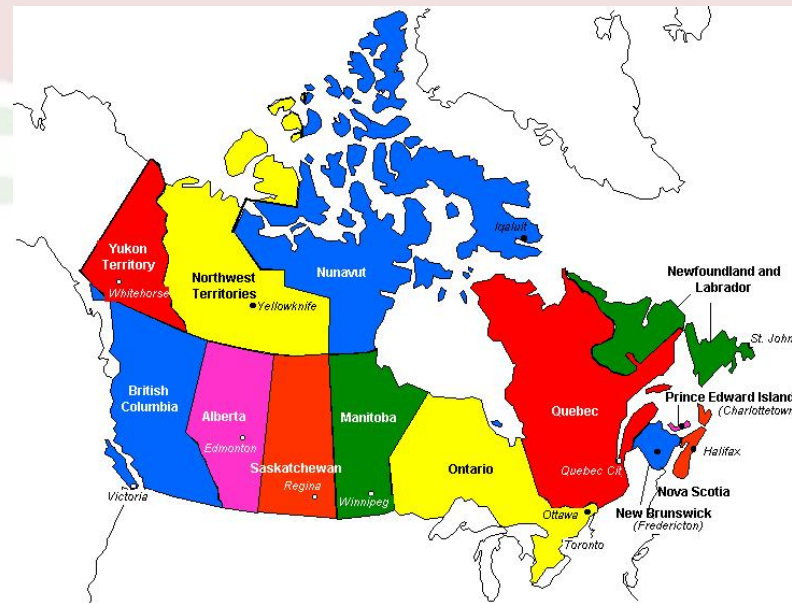
# Recommendation 1

**That all stakeholders in animal agriculture support the Federal Framework for Action and the Federal Action Plan for antimicrobial resistance.**



# Recommendation 2

**That all stakeholders in animal agriculture support and participate in the development of a pan-Canadian strategy to manage antimicrobial resistance.**





# Recommendation 3

Within the context of a pan-Canadian strategy for AMR that the **NFAHWC assume a national leadership role to bring stakeholders together to coordinate:**

- their respective leadership roles;
- communication and education activities and
- the development of an effective partnership with those involved in human initiatives on antimicrobial resistance.

## Recommendation 4

That **Health Canada advance proposed regulatory amendments to establish limitations and controls on the antimicrobials** imported under the provisions of **Own Use Importation** or as **Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients**.

## Recommendation 5

That the **pharmacy regulators be engaged in the stewardship of antimicrobial use in animal agriculture** to ensure pharmacists are aware of their legislated responsibilities regarding selling or dispensing antimicrobials for animals.

## Recommendation 6

That the **livestock commodity organizations enhance communications with producers** (for example via their sustainability or quality assurance programs) **on the importance of reducing antimicrobial resistance** through prudent and judicious use of antimicrobials.

## Recommendation 7

That **livestock commodity organizations lead the development of an action plan for their commodity producers to engage their veterinarians in the assessment of the use of antimicrobials, the validity of that use, the alternatives that are available and the management practices that might reduce risk.**

## Recommendation 8

That a **continuing education program** for current and future producers, veterinarians, feed suppliers and other allied service providers to animal agriculture be developed at a national level and widely disseminated provincially **to promote a culture of antimicrobial stewardship in Canadian agriculture and veterinary medicine.**

## Recommendation 9

That **veterinary regulators and veterinary associations develop awareness, education and training for veterinarians** on the responsibilities of veterinarians in working with clients and treating animal with regard to addressing antimicrobial resistance.

## Recommendation 10

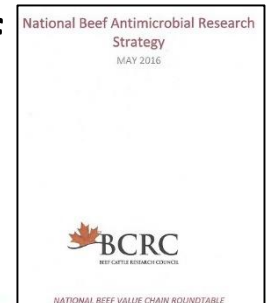
That **all stakeholders make efforts to build on the success of the Canadian Integrated Program for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (CIPARS)**, for the purpose of monitoring the effects of the new stewardship approaches and identifying and responding to emerging problems in a timely way.

## Recommendation 11

That the **federal government develop with its provincial/territorial partners, and industry and other stakeholders, a robust system of collecting antimicrobial use data at the national, provincial, commodity, farm and veterinarian level, for the purpose of “benchmarking” and supporting continuous improvement**

## Recommendation 12

That the **national commodity organizations include research priorities which address the issue of antimicrobial resistance and optimal use of antimicrobials when establishing research priorities.**



## Recommendation 13

The NFAHW Council recommends a **harmonized, pan-Canadian, regulatory framework for antimicrobial stewardship in agriculture and veterinary medicine** that meets international standards.

## Recommendation 14

That **Health Canada develop regulatory enabling processes for low risk animal health products intended for food animals and for feed additives with physiological and health benefits.**

## Recommendation 15

That **Health Canada advance harmonization of regulations** with the United States and meet international standards.

# The 15 recommendations of the NFAHWC



[http://www.ahwcouncil.ca/pdfs/council-updates/NFAHW%20Council Recommendation AMU AMR 2016.pdf](http://www.ahwcouncil.ca/pdfs/council-updates/NFAHW%20Council%20Recommendation%20AMU%20AMR%202016.pdf)

# National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council

- Formed in 2010 as an action from the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Strategy
- Advisory to the Regulatory ADMs and all stakeholders
- Considers issues in a One Health context
- Representation on the Council from industry/non-government, federal and provincial governments – animal health and welfare and public health
- Funded equally by industry/non-government, federal and provincial governments

[www.ahwcouncil.ca](http://www.ahwcouncil.ca)