



# NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

## Animal Health Canada Gap Analysis Report

**Nov. 27 2019**

**Project Leads:** Rob Hannam and Lorraine Stevenson-Hall, Synthesis Agri-food Network

**Contact:** [Rob@synthesis.ag](mailto:Rob@synthesis.ag) or [Lorraine@synthesis.ag](mailto:Lorraine@synthesis.ag)



## Today's Focus

- Project Overview
- Highlights of Survey Findings
- Financial Investment Inventory and Analysis
- Assessment and Conclusions
  - Organizational and Structural Gaps
  - Technical Gaps

## Project Overview

### *Inventory Assessment and Gap Analysis of Canada's Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery from an Animal Health Event*

- Consultations and Gap Analysis
- Economic Impact Studies
- Inventory of Financial investment in animal disease management
- Overview of Risk Management Tools
- Resource library on the NFAHW Council website



WE GO BEYOND

3

## Resource Library

**NFAHW COUNCIL**  
National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council

Log Out | Français

**Resources**

Use the form below to search for resources.

Document Type: - All Types  
Species: - All Species  
Disease: - All Diseases (dropdown menu open showing: African Swine Fever, Avian Influenza, Bluetongue Virus, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Foot-and-Mouth Disease, H1N1, Porcine Circovirus Associated Disease, Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea, Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome, Salmonella Enteritidis)

Keyword:

Search

**Results**

Concept Paper Outlining a National Animal Health Strategy  
[Read more](#)

HOME  
ABOUT US  
MEMBERS  
STATEMENTS AND REPORTS  
EAS  
E MATERIAL  
CATIONS  
MEMBER'S PORTAL  
COUNCIL MEMBERS

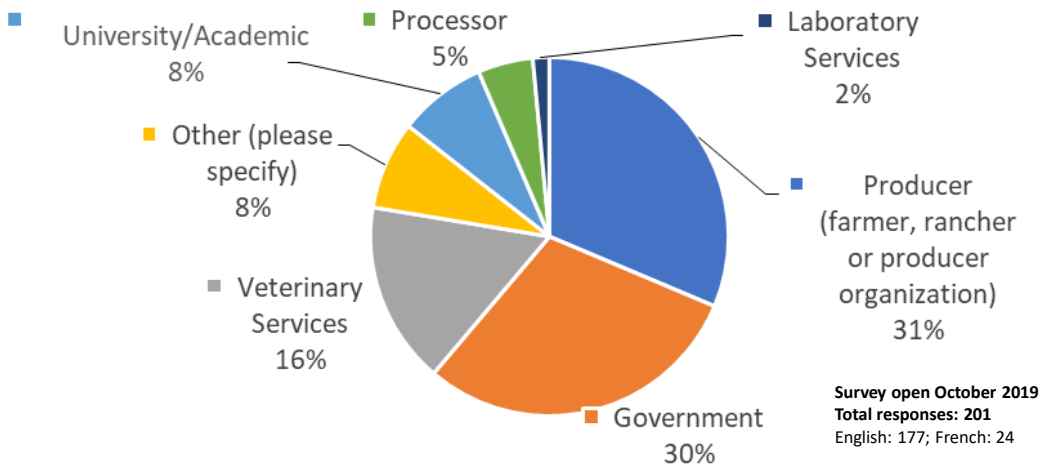


WE GO BEYOND

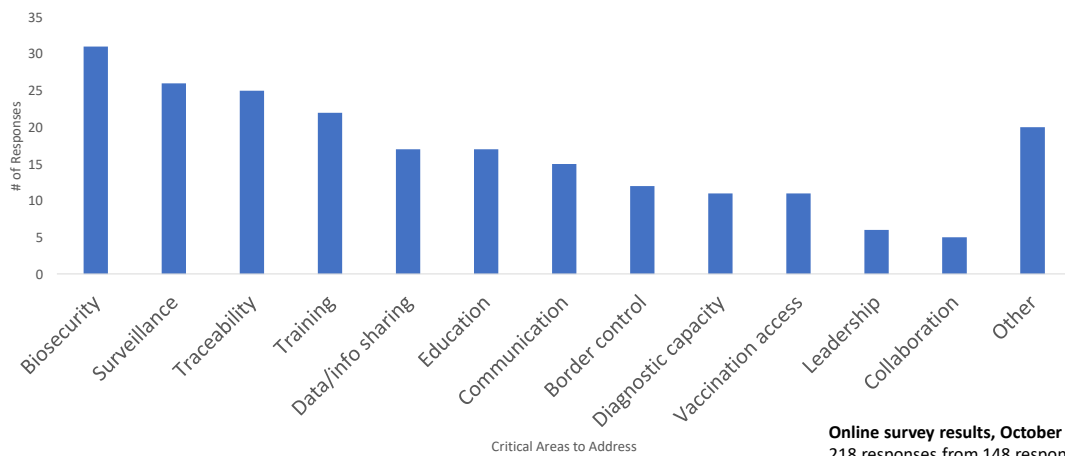
4

## Survey Results – Highlights

### Type of Organization

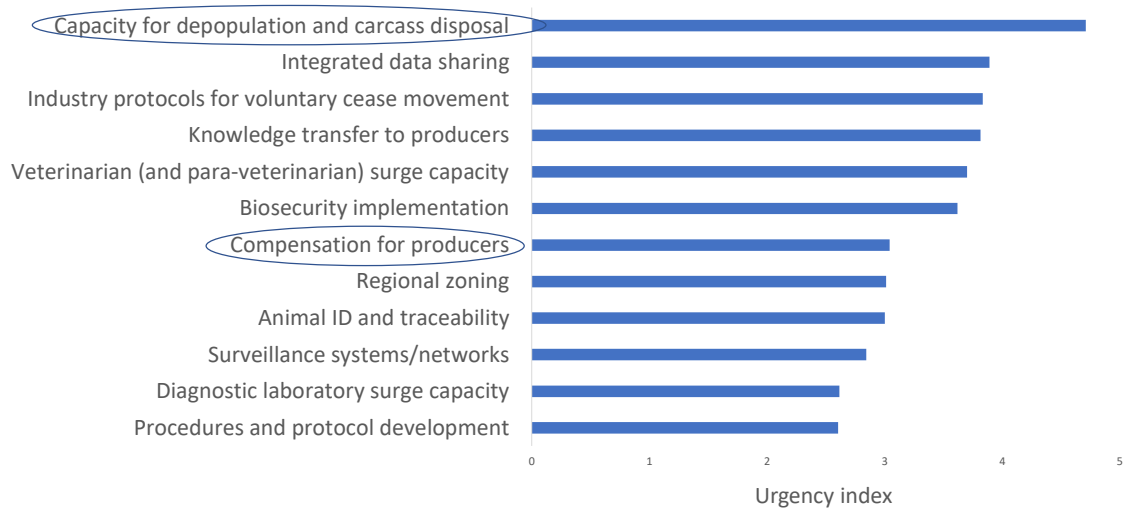


## What are the most critical areas that need addressing to better manage animal health risks?



Online survey results, October 2019;  
218 responses from 148 respondents

## Technical Gaps – Ranked by Urgency



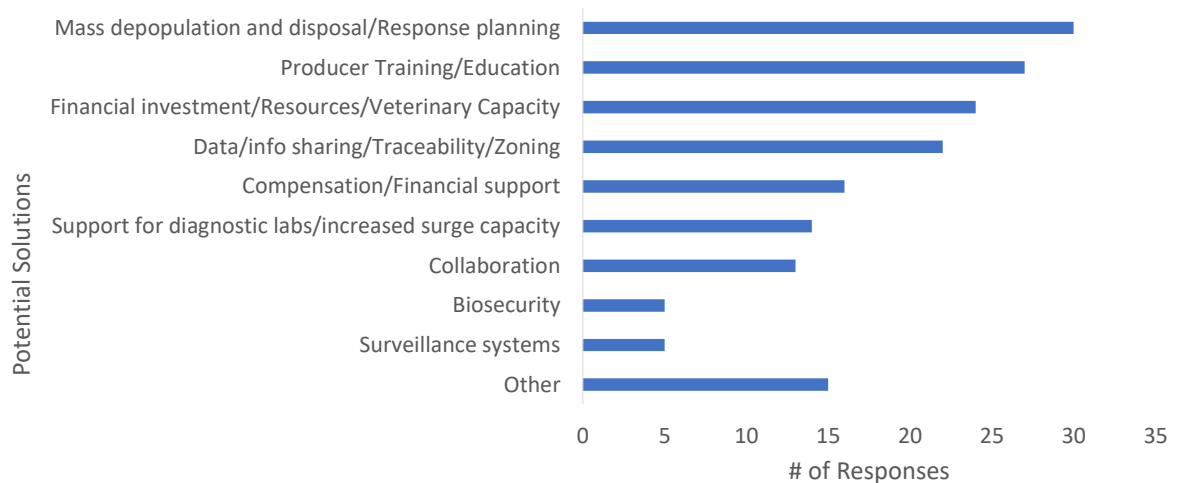
Urgency Index based on analysis of online survey results, October 2019, 201 responses (174 EN, 24 FR)



WE GO BEYOND

7

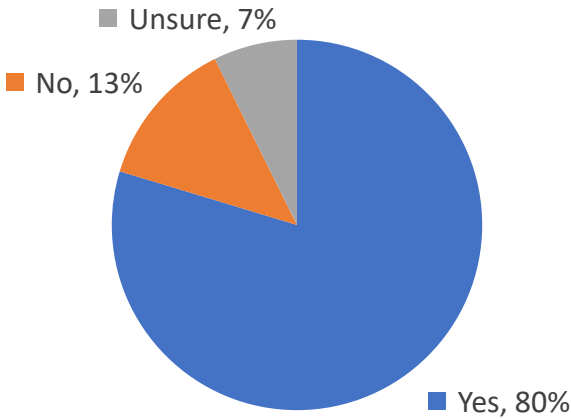
## Thinking about the items ranked with low “readiness”, what potential solutions do you see?



WE GO BEYOND

8

Do you see opportunities to simplify or streamline the animal health stakeholders, organizations and networks?

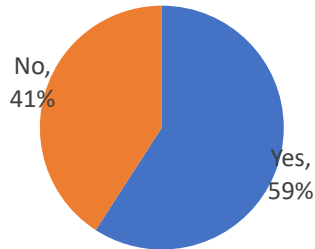


Opportunities to simplify or streamline the animal health stakeholders, organizations and networks

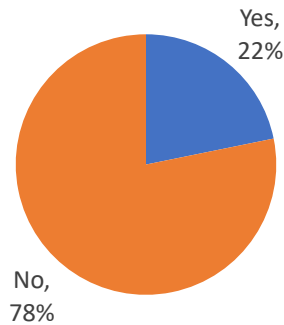


## Are roles and responsibilities clear when considering...

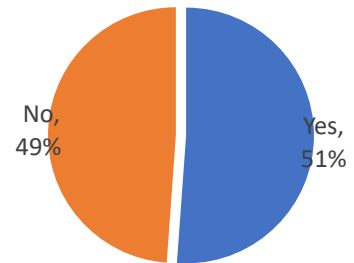
Reportable diseases



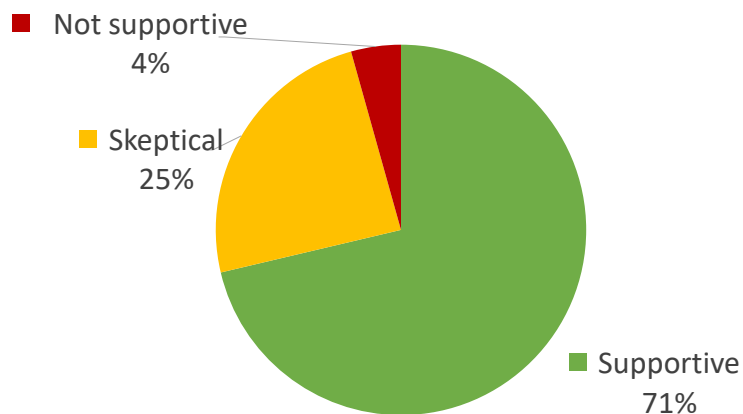
Emerging diseases



Endemic diseases



## What is your reaction to the Animal Health Canada vision and mission?



*"There is lots of good work going on...  
How do we pull all the pieces together?"*

## Assessment and Recommendations

## Organizational and Structural Gaps

**Overall, the largest gap is the lack of a cohesive national approach.**

This leads to inefficiencies, missed opportunities for synergies and slower decision making.

The end result is increased risk and overall cost for both government and industry.

## Organizational and Structural Gaps



## Recommendations

### 1. Create a national co-ordinating organization:

We recommend that a central organization, such as the NFAHWC, be the national co-ordinating organization.

- Take a holistic approach to co-ordinate activities at the national level.
- Rationalize the number of organizations, coalitions and initiatives under one co-ordinating body.



## Recommendations

### 2. Reduce provincial differences

- It may be appropriate to manage some diseases at the Federal level.
- Where it would make sense for Canada, work toward more of a regional approach to reduce provincial differences

### 3. Focus on Diseases that matter

- Use a risk-based approach to assess
- Focus on diseases of economic significance

## Recommendations

### 4. Increase Disease Emergency Simulations

- Mock simulations of disease outbreak ***make it real*** for everyone
- A clearer understanding around roles requires getting into details
- Implementing improvements based on learning during simulation exercises will greatly improve preparedness.

*Practice Makes  
Perfect*

## Recommendations

### 5. Strengthen Communications and Education

- Strategy should include three main components:
  - Prevention awareness
  - Disease response education and training
  - Response communications protocols

### Key Success Factors

- Purposeful integration of industry into decision-making process.
- Authority, roles and responsibilities need to be clear
- Trust, openness and higher levels of transparency
- Communications need to be clear, consistent and simultaneous.
- Improved co-ordination
- Flexibility and agility
- Effective response a combination of data/information, practical knowledge and understanding of the environment

## Technical Gaps



## Technical – Gaps Major Progress Needed



## Major Progress Needed

- Depopulation strategies and capacity
  - Capacity for high volume and rapid on-farm depopulation is lacking or non-existent for most species.
- Industry protocols for voluntary cease movement
  - Quickly stopping movements in a local zone in advance of subsequent federal restrictions
- Biosecurity implementation
  - Continuous improvement and year-round focus needed at all points in supply chain for all species
- Compensation for producers and impacted parties
  - A gap for neighbouring producers; key to encouraging the 'right behaviours'

## Major Progress Needed

- Veterinarian (and para-veterinarian) capacity
  - Lack of capacity with experience in livestock and/or disease control programs
- Regional zoning recognition and compartmentalization
  - International recognition; linkages between provincial and federal zoning needed
- Animal identification and traceability
  - Movement reporting not in place nationally for most species

## Technical – Gaps Continued Progress Needed



## Continued Progress Needed

- Communications and knowledge transfer
  - Needed for disease response protocols at the producer level and beyond the farm gate
- Surveillance network integration
  - Regional systems would be enhanced through national coordination
- Diagnostic laboratory capacity and regional approach
  - Limited capacity in some provinces can cause delays in sample analysis; variable surge capacity reported

## Continued Progress Needed

- Procedure and protocol development
  - Producer level-handbooks and resources for commodity organizations have been developed; continued progress needed for response protocols
- Canada – US regulatory alignment and co-operation
  - Room to better align regulatory systems and border controls

## Technical Gaps Recommendations

### 1. Form an Executive-level task force

- Similar level of authority as the ASF Executive Management Board
- Or expand the scope of the current Board
- Include other commodities and diseases

### 2. Identify one or two highest priority technical gaps

- Based on gap analysis and survey results
- Use urgency indexes or indexes related to highest risk diseases

### 3. Develop action plan and responsibilities for top issues

**Note:** The work of the Animal Health Emergency Management projects are helping address technical gaps. This work is important and should continue.



## Thank you

### Comments/Questions?

**Project Leads:** Rob Hannam and Lorraine Stevenson-Hall,  
Synthesis Agri-food Network

**Contact:** [Rob@synthesis.ag](mailto:Rob@synthesis.ag) or [Lorraine@synthesis.ag](mailto:Lorraine@synthesis.ag)