



Animal Health Canada - Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030

MISSION:

As a leader in One Health and One Welfare, Animal Health Canada brings together federal, provincial and territorial governments and industry organizations in partnership to protect and advance the health and welfare of farmed animals in Canada.

Goals	Key Results/Outcomes	Core Initiatives
Strengthen disease prevention, preparedness and response capacity	1. Projects focus on priority disease challenges (e.g., Foot-and-Mouth disease (FMD), African swine fever (ASF), highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)) 2. Integrated Emergency Response Plan (IERP) for foot and mouth disease. 3. Gaps in ASF response plans identified and addressed. 4. Lessons learned in responding to HPAI inform the FMD and ASF discussions. 5. Biosecurity measures extend from Canada's international border through the supply chain and on to individual farms. 6. Canada's biosecurity, surveillance and traceability systems enable international recognition of Canada's zones and compartments.	1. Support the Foreign Animal Disease Executive Management Board (FAD EMB) in prioritizing activities of greatest need. 2. Address issues identified through the ASF Executive Management Board. 3. Support national HPAI activities 4. Facilitate the testing of national, provincial and local level response plans. 5. Incorporate the lessons learned from disease simulation exercises and the HPAI response into Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) planning. 6. Lead efforts to address multi-stakeholder files such as wild pigs. 7. Emergency management training.



Resilient disease surveillance	1. The status of diseases impacting Canada's livestock and poultry sectors is known. 2. Emerging diseases are detected. 3. Canada can quickly expand its surveillance activities to help manage a disease outbreak or track the emergence of a new disease.	1. Data integration and synthesis 2. Building core competencies. 3. Strengthening disease outbreak surveillance.
Strengthen antimicrobial resistance/antimicrobial use (AMR/AMU) activities	1. Food animal sectors are contributing to achieving the objectives identified in the 2023 Pan Canadian Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance. 2. Stakeholders understand Canada's antimicrobial stewardship practices. 3. Surveillance data is available to track sector's progress. 4. Increased understanding of the costs of antimicrobial resistance to livestock and poultry producers.	1. Identify and support collaborative actions to expand AMU/AMR activities. 2. Develop a comprehensive website to support the sharing of actions that advance the stewardship of antimicrobial use in food animal agriculture. 3. Enhance the collection and sharing of surveillance data related to AMU/AMR.
Advance farmed animal welfare	1. Credible, implementable codes are available for all farmed animal species. 2. Livestock and poultry sectors are implementing pan-Canadian animal care assessment programs.	1. Codes of Practice for the care and handling of farmed animals. 2. Animal welfare training (e.g. Canadian Livestock Transportation).



	3. Expanded reach of Canadian Livestock Transport (CLT) training. 4. Improvements to farmed animal welfare are widely communicated. 5. Future-focused discussions address emerging issues.	3. Engage in initiatives that address current and emerging farmed animal welfare issues.
Improve long-term organizational resilience	1. Member retention and growth 2. Financial Management: a. Unqualified audits for AHC and National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) b. Full utilization of project funds. There are no holdbacks. c. Establish a \$1,400,000 reserve fund. 3. Animal health and welfare is recognized as a critical component of the 2028 agriculture and agri-food policy framework.	1. Promote AHC's value among its members and prospective partners. 2. Increase member participation through targeted outreach. 3. Diversify revenue streams. 4. AHC data and recommendations are referenced in 2028 framework consultations and drafts.



Measuring Progress and Success of the Strategic Plan

Strategic Goal	Indicators	Link to the Strategic Result/Outcome
Disease Prevention and Response	• Number of provincial and national-level Integrated Emergency Response Plans (IERPs) maintained for ASF, HPAI, and FMD • Lessons learned from FAD exercises show increased readiness (fewer, more specific lessons) • Decreased national and regional response time to outbreaks (depopulation) • Canada meets its disease status reporting obligations to the World Organization for Animal Health	Demonstrates improved preparedness, faster containment, and real-time learning.
Resilient disease surveillance	• The status of diseases impacting livestock/poultry is known • Emerging diseases are detected • Canada can quickly expand surveillance activities during outbreaks	Measures early detection capacity and integrated response coordination.
Strengthen AMR/AMU activities	• Animal sectors contribute to the Pan-Canadian Action Plan on AMR • Benchmarking data is available to track sector progress • Widespread understanding of stewardship initiatives	Tracks success in antimicrobial stewardship and alignment with national AMR action plan.
Advance farmed animal welfare	• Public opinion polling shows Canadians have positive views on producers and animal care (AAFC/Canadian Centre for Food Integrity) • Number of clients receiving CLT training • X% of sectors with animal care assessments integrated into on-farm programming	Reflects animal welfare practice adoption and improved social license.
Organizational Resilience	• AHC receives unqualified audits annually (Auditor's management letter) • Full utilization of project funds (no holdbacks) • AHC has sufficient financial reserves • AHC's members represent all major stakeholders, and revenues support active workplan	Indicates fiscal health and key long-term organizational sustainability.
Membership Engagement <i>(crosscutting with resilience)</i>	• Industry/government leaders chair AHC committees • Federal/provincial agencies are actively represented and participate in AHC • AHC's members represent the major stakeholders in Canada's food and animal production sectors.	Reflects members' engagement, governance quality and cross-sector collaboration necessary to implement all strategic goals.