



Annual Report

2016-17



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.

Council Achievements 2016-17

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

Antimicrobial Use/Antimicrobial Resistance

Antimicrobial Use and Antimicrobial Resistance is an important work area for the Council as an active participant in the development of an AMR plan for Canada which will provide guidance for all stakeholders in animal and human medicine. The Council anticipates being involved in the foreseeable future in the global initiative to address antimicrobial resistance.

The Council report "[Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada \(2016\)](#)" was used by the Stewardship Task Team and the Infection Prevention and Control Task Team providing input to the pan-Canadian AMR Framework. In addition, it was used as a resource in a document developed by the National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCCID) – "[The Role of Human Health and Animal Health in Antimicrobial Resistance](#)". The report includes a series of recommendations on Stewardship of antimicrobials in food animals which includes "Infection Prevention and Control" which was separated out in the pan-Canadian AMR Framework.

The Council AMU/AMR working group reported to the Stewardship Task Team and provided comments on drafts of the Stewardship and Infection Prevention Control task team reports before they went on the pan-Canadian AMR Framework steering committee for consideration in development of the framework. The focus of the working group was to ensure a fair and balanced representation of animal agriculture in the stewardship of antimicrobial use.

Emerging Issues

The Emerging Issues working group completed two papers in 2016. The first, "[Domestic Market Access in the 2014 Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Outbreak](#)" was a study of the difficulty experienced by producers in accessing the domestic market during the Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea outbreak of 2014. This led to the second report "[Preparing for an Emerging Issue](#)". While both reports provide similar recommendations, the broader focus of the second report provides strong direction for stakeholders to be involved in the emergency preparedness planning activities.

Transport of Cull Dairy Cows in Canada

An expert committee was convened in March of 2016 to begin this project. The "[Cull Dairy Cow Expert Consultation: Consensus Statement](#)" (2017) is posted on the Council website.

An [interim report](#) of the study which is supported by Loblaw at the University of British Columbia under the direction of Dr. David Fraser was made at the Council Forum 2016. The project continues into 2016-2017 under the leadership of the Council working group.

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. Dr. Jeffrey Spooner was contracted for a pilot project as a first phase of this development. [Dr. Spooner reported at Forum 2016](#) on this phase of the development. The next phase of the project will take place in 2016-2017.

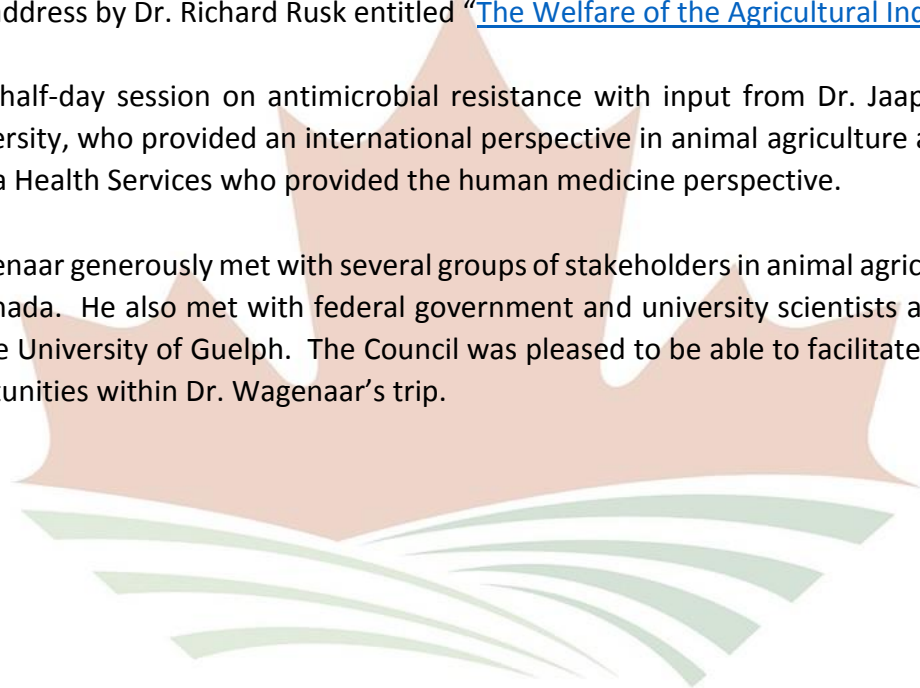
Forum 2016

Held in Ottawa in November 2016, the Forum showcased the activities of the Council and other stakeholders in advancing animal health and welfare. 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 program included key issues of the day and introduced the concept of One Welfare through the opening address by Dr. Richard Rusk entitled “[The Welfare of the Agricultural Industry](#)”.

There was a half-day session on antimicrobial resistance with input from Dr. Jaap Wagenaar, Utrecht University, who provided an international perspective in animal agriculture and Dr. John Conly, Alberta Health Services who provided the human medicine perspective.

Dr. Jaap Wagenaar generously met with several groups of stakeholders in animal agriculture when he was in Canada. He also met with federal government and university scientists and made an address at the University of Guelph. The Council was pleased to be able to facilitate these value added opportunities within Dr. Wagenaar’s trip.



Reporting to Stakeholders

FPT Regulatory Assistant Deputy Ministers of Agriculture Committee

- 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 provided input to the strategic planning process undertaken by the FPT Regulatory ADM Committee to improve the effectiveness of the committee and its subcommittees in achieving outcomes.




All Stakeholders

- Advisory documents were circulated to the Regulatory ADMs and all other stakeholders prior to posting on the Council website.
- Monthly newsletters and updates
- 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.

Forum 2016

- The [agenda and most presentations](#) can be found on the Council website.

Other activities

-  The Council was a partnering sponsor of the International One Welfare Conference held in Winnipeg in September. Council members actively participated in the conference. The conference raised the awareness of Council of issues related to One Welfare and a One Welfare working group was formed. The One Welfare working group will be active in 2017-18.
-  [OIE PVS assessment](#) – the Council met by teleconference with the OIE Assessors in the Canadian Performance of Veterinary Services assessment conducted in March 2017. The value of the collaborative approach of governments and industry/non-government organizations considering issues in a One Health context was recognized.
-  [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 was contracted by CFIA to revise the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System website and to develop a database for CAHSS. 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.

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 of 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, 2016 – March 31, 2017

Revenue

Industry support	104,500
Federal government	106,000
Provincial and territorial governments	108,490
Sponsorship of Forum	9,500
CFIA – CAHSS website and database	24,826
Miscellaneous	206
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	353,522

Expenditures

Uncollected support	20,660
CFIA – CAHSS website and database	22,660
Communications	1,668
Forum expenditures	67,347
Honorariums	7,700
Meetings, office supplies	9,987
Professional fees and insurances	8,963
Research	53,028
Secretariat	92,649
Translation	19,659
Travel	31,739
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	336,060

Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses 17,462

Surplus beginning of year 107,890

Surplus, end of year

125,352

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

Marc Cormier (to March 2017)

Board Member, Chicken Farmers of Canada

Gary Bowers (to November 2016)

Board Member Dairy Farmers of Canada

David Duval

Board Member Canadian Pork Council

Barbara Johnstone-Grimmer

Board member Canadian Sheep Federation

Alain Brandon (to February 2017)

Loblaws Companies

Ed Friesen (From November 2016)

Board Member Dairy Farmers of Canada

Ex-officio

Dr. Harpreet Kochhar

Associate Vice President - Operations, 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

Lucie Dubois (to May 2016)

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

Donald Boucher (from June 2016)

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

Provincial/Territorial

Dr. Jane Pritchard

Chief Veterinary Officer, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture

Dre H el ene Tr epanier

Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer – minist ere de l'Agriculture, des P echeries et de l'Alimentation du Qu ebec

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

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