



Animal Health Canada

November 2018

NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

Recent disease challenges have increased the intensity of discussion on Canada's animal health system.

- Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea, Bovine Tuberculosis, H1N1
- Foot and Mouth Disease would collapse the red meat industry in Canada
- Canada has tremendous animal health capacity
 - fragmented landscape



A History of Crisis & Consequence



Spanish Flu 1918-19	→	Canada's first Department of Health
Tainted blood scandal/Krever Inquiry 1998	→	Canadian Blood Services Agency
European food safety crisis (BSE, dioxin, etc.) in late 1990s	→	European Food Safety Authority
FMD in UK 2001	→	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFF dissolved)
SARS 2003	→	Public Health Agency of Canada
Listeriosis 2008	→	Safe Food for Canadians Act
Parliament Hill Attack 2014	→	Parliamentary Protective Service



African Swine Fever is the latest example

- New and emerging reportable disease that poses a risk
- Challenges:**
- No national hazard specific plan
 - Roles and responsibilities are not clear
 - Do the stakeholders have the resources to prepare for an emerging disease?
 - A border closing disease impacting multiple species will cost industry and government billions.



There is agreement that a new way of doing things is required.

National Plant and Animal Health Strategy

- Assess other countries' approaches for domestic partnerships for feasibility in the Canadian context
- Develop mutual resource-sharing agreements, including those for surge capacity, between key partners
- Develop a process for enabling targeted partnerships for carrying out activities
- Incorporate industry as signatory to Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan (FADES)

Vancouver 2018: FPT Ministers agree on “the importance of putting measures in place to support the sector in dealing with animal health emergency issues”

The processing sector: is taking on a larger role as they begin to appreciate the risk to their businesses.

Sept 19, 2018: meeting of livestock, meat and dairy leaders including major processors to discuss how to approach a new animal health model for Canada

The livestock industry remains committed.



Leaders aligned on action

Organization	Name	Title
Cdn. Animal Health Coalition	Jenn MacTavish	Chair
Cdn. Animal Health Coalition	Matt Taylor	Project Manager, Animal Health Emergency Management
Cdn. Cattlemen's Assoc	David Moss	General Manager
Cdn. Cattlemen's Assoc	Dan Darling	Past President
Cdn. Meat Council	Chris Nash	Director of Regulatory Affairs
Cdn. Meat Council	Chris White	President & CEO
Cdn. Pork Council	Rick Bergmann	Chairman
Cdn. Pork Council	John Ross	Executive Director
Cargill	Bill Thoni	Vice President, Cattle Procurement
Cargill	Mike Windisch	Food Safety, Quality & Regulatory Affairs Operations Lead
Conestoga Meat Packers	Arnold Drung	President
Dairy Farmers of Canada	C. Schroeder	National On-Farm Program Manager
Dairy Farmers of Canada	David Wiens	Vice President
Dairy Processors Assoc of Canada	Mathieu Frigon	President & CEO
JBS Foods Canada	David Colwell	President
Maple Leaf Foods	Rory McAlpine	Senior VP, Government & Industry Relations
Maple Leaf Foods	Michael McCain	President & CEO
Maple Leaf Foods	Iain Stewart	Senior VP & GM, Pork Complex
National Cattle Feeders Assoc	Bryan Walton	President & CEO
National Cattle Feeders Assoc	Ryan Thompson	Chairman
NFAWC	Rob McNabb	Co-Chair
NFAWC	Megan Bergman	Executive Director
PSF Agri-Advisory Services	Dr. Allan Preston	Principal
National Sheep Network	Marc Carere	Chair
Olymel	S. Fournaise	VP of Food Safety and Technical Services
Olymel	Casey Smit	Vice-President, Swine Production, Western Canada
Sofina	Kerry Towle	Director, Government Relations
Cdn. Sheep Federation	C. Patterson	Executive Director
Cdn Sheep Federation	Phil Kolodychuk	Chair
Canadian Bison Association	Terry Kremeniuk	Executive Director
Hylife Foods	Claude Vielfaure	President



But it can't just be small, incremental change. We must construct a new reality, a new culture.

- A Real Industry-Government Partnership
 - Policy, operational and financial
- With Collaborative Decision Making
 - Not just industry consultation as input to the FPT Process
- Recognition of industry resource contribution
- An acknowledgment that there is a shared risk and that we share the responsibility of addressing these risks
- A better understanding of what resources are being employed and where additional resources might be needed.



Many Canadian good initiatives and collaborations

- Great Initiatives:
 - National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council
 - Canadian Animal Health Coalition
 - Livestock Markets Interruption Strategy Steering Committee
 - Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System
 - Canadian Animal Health Laboratory Network
 - National Farm Animal Care Council
 - Traceability
 - Provincial-level activities led by industry and/or government or not at all

How Do We Pull All of the Pieces Together?



An Opportunity for Better Governance

- It is our objective to present a proposal to FPT Ministers in July 2019 that would secure their commitment to develop and implement ***Animal Health Canada*** by July 2020.



What could success look like?

“Animal Health Canada”

- A new governance model to enhance Canada’s capacity for animal disease prevention, preparedness, response and recovery
- A true industry, federal and provincial government partnership
- Industry -government collaborative management and decision making with resource sharing and financial commitment



Animal Health Canada Guiding Principles

1. Industry-government collaborative decision-making and management, with an independent and enduring mandate;
2. A model underpinned by industry-government resource sharing and financial commitment;
3. A multi-species, “Team Canada” approach that maximizes the strength of “front line” resources in disease prevention and emergency response;
4. A model that helps drive action across a comprehensive, evergreen Animal Health Strategy
5. A fresh approach, undertaken with ambition and pragmatism, striving for progress not perfection, with accountability resting on the most senior industry and government leaders.



Current Status

- A letter was sent to federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Agriculture to seek support for the Animal Health Canada concept
- 13 Executives representing industry groups and processors have signed to date, with industry pledge of \$130,000



Next Steps

- A CEO level government and industry “Champions Steering Committee” will be established to demonstrate the importance of the initiative, ensure project timelines are met, encourage government engagement and support, and guide the efforts of the working group.
- Ongoing outreach to industry stakeholders and FPT Governments to seek engagement
- Commitment from participating stakeholders (FPT Governments, companies and associations) to identify human and/or financial resources to support the building process.



Next Steps

- Participating industry stakeholders are committed to engaging in a “building process” to develop the new model
 - make recommendations for decision by FPT Ministers in summer 2019
- Review models from other countries, and other programs
- Develop the model then integrate organizational mandates and resources where possible



The question for today's discussion.

“Do we agree that Canada could benefit greatly with the creation of Animal Health Canada, a true industry government partnership including collaborative decision making?”

