

October 20, 2015

NFAHW Council update

Teleconference October 8, 2015

New Council Members

Gary Bowers, designated by Dairy Farmers of Canada, replaces Pierre Lampron on the Council. Gary begins his term on Council immediately. The Council thanked Pierre Lampron for his contributions to the Council since February 2014.

Gary Bowers owns and operates Ferme Lencrest Inc., a dairy farm in Coaticook, Quebec. The Jersey herd consists of 115 head of which 50 are milking females. Extensively involved in the dairy industry for 35 years, Gary is the current Vice-President of the Semex Alliance, President of the Canadian Dairy Network (CDN), member of the Board of Directors of the Dairy Farmers of Canada, Member of the Dairy Farmers of Canada proAction Committee, Chair of the Dairy Farmers of Canada Bio-Security Committee and Member of the Dairy Farmers of Canada Livestock Traceability Committee. Gary has also been a director/executive member of other industry organizations including CIAQ, CQRL, Jersey Quebec and Jersey Canada. Gary has travelled extensively to about 15 countries as an International Dairy Judge.

Dr. David Fraser and **Dr. Barbara Johnstone Grimmer** were also confirmed as industry representatives to the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare (NFAHW) Council. Their terms will begin in January 2016.

Dr. Fraser continues to add tremendous value to the Council as one of the pioneers in the field of animal welfare science. He is a renowned international expert in animal welfare, with a career spanning over 40 years in agriculture and animal welfare. He has served on the NFAHW Council since its inception in 2010, contributing valuable visionary guidance to farmed animal health and welfare policy in Canada.

Dr. Grimmer is a sheep producer, board member of the BC Sheep Federation and on the executive of the Canadian Sheep Federation. She has experience raising cattle, sheep, swine, goats, poultry and rabbits. Barbara was a research assistant at university and private labs, established animal care programs for research animals (poultry, cattle, sheep) and was involved in research projects studying stress in poultry. She is currently researching sustainable animal agriculture systems.

Council received updates on the following work areas:**Emerging Issues**

The working group is studying the loss of domestic market access in an emerging disease using the experience with Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea as a model. The working group has met twice by teleconference to gather and validate information. There are some areas requiring more input which will be followed up on.

The core working group will meet with CFIA staff by teleconference in November 2015 to continue the review of the CFIA "Decision-Analysis Tool for the Characterization of CFIA Involvement and Role in Animal Health Events" which is being considered for use in disease management. Several diseases have been identified which will be used in the review.

AMU/AMR

As part of its commitment to securing broad input, the AMU/AMR working group was expanded to include a number of non-Council members. Their extensive experience with the file will be very helpful in ensuring a successful outcome. The current work of the Council focusses on the Stewardship pillar of the Federal AMR Action Plan.

The working group will provide an update to stakeholders at Forum 2015 (November 23-24, 2015) as part of a larger session on AMR

Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020

The working group has identified a number of issues in developing an online survey to gather information on activities of stakeholders which contribute to progress on the Strategic Outcomes and Priorities of Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020. The working group will schedule a meeting with an expert on the topic in the near future.

An update will be provided at Forum 2015.

Transport of cull dairy cows

The Council project to study the transport of cull dairy cows and make recommendations is moving forward. A PhD student will gather an expert focus group and develop a paper with the working group.

Forum 2015 – November 23-24, 2015 – Ottawa

The Council's annual stakeholder meeting, Forum 2015 provides an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input to enhancing Canada's animal health and welfare system.

Theme: Innovation enhances farmed animal health and welfare

Keynote speakers: Dr. David Fraser, Dr. Theresa Bernardo and Dr. Theresa Tam

Agenda sessions: Council Update, Animal Welfare, Surveillance, AMU/AMR

Click here to [register](#) for Forum 2015

The agenda can be found on the Council's [website](#)

We look forward to your active participation.

Council will meet in Ottawa on November 25, 2015

Council website – www.ahwcouncil.ca

- The Council meeting schedule is posted under *meetings*.
- Public documents are posted under *documents*