

NFAHW Council update – February 2017

Teleconference February 9, 2017

Working groups reported on progress on development of their work plans for the year and any related activities. The Council will meet on March 2-3, 2017 in Toronto and the updates provided background information in addition to the March Council meeting package.

Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020 (FAHW2020)

Dr. Jeffrey Spooner has been engaged for the next stage of development which will involve engaging all industry partners in the process, ending with the development of an internal (not public) example report of activities. This will include those industry partners involved in the earlier stage of the development process which was reported at Forum 2016. Industry partners will be contacted in the next few weeks to introduce Dr. Spooner who will follow up the initial contact. The project report will be provided at Forum 2017.

The WG will begin discussions with federal and provincial government partners to assess how these partners can be included in a national report and what type of information is important to include.

AMU/AMR WG

The AMU/AMR WG anticipates having the opportunity to review an early version of the draft pan-Canadian AMR Framework document prior to the March meeting of Council. The WG has requested a presentation at the March meeting by Lindsay Noad, PHAC, who is leading the development process.

During 2017, the working group plans to:

1. Continue to monitor the development of the pan-Canadian Framework and ensure that the Framework accurately reflects the needs and activities of animal agriculture while addressing AMR.
2. Develop action plans for several recommendations in the Council report “Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animal in Canada” (2016). This will provide the basis for Council leadership on actions which impact areas identified in the pan-Canadian Framework on AMR.

One Welfare WG

The WG met to develop their thinking on this work area which builds on issues identified at the international One Welfare Conference (September 2016), the keynote address by Dr. Richard Rusk at Forum 2016 and the work of Dr. Andria Britton-Jones at OVC.

A scoping document will be provided to Council to lead discussion at the March meeting.

Emerging Issues WG

The Emerging Issues WG will focus its activity on a study of slaughter capacity in Canada in disease events. The study will build on the work of the Livestock Market Interruption Strategy (LMIS) which considered slaughter capacity and availability for humane slaughter and disposal in a foreign animal disease event. The issue of slaughter capacity was identified in the Council reports, “Domestic Market Access in the 2014 Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Outbreak” and “Preparing for an Emerging Issue” both published in 2016. It is also related to the study of the transport of cull dairy cows which is underway.

The WG will continue to monitor emerging issues and the system requirements to effectively manage them with an eye to identifying urgent issues for consideration.

Transport of Cull Dairy Cows

The report of the meeting of the expert committee on the transport of cull dairy cows is posted on the Council website. While developed in the context of cull dairy cows, the Council recognizes that the same issues apply to culled animals in the beef sector. It is noted that culled and end of production animals in other sectors face issues.

Dr. Fraser raised the importance of providing comment on the Transport Regulations which were open for comment at the time of the call.

Forum 2017

Forum 2017 is being planned for November 28 and 29, 2017 in Ottawa. Based on the growing size of the event and the comments received from Forum 2016 participants, alternate hotels are being explored. The impact of “Canada 150” celebrations are also being considered. Watch for more information.

Council website – www.ahwcouncil.ca

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

Would your board like an update from the Council?

Member organizations are invited to request a presentation from Council at board or committee meetings. These can be done in person or electronically. nfahwcouncil@animalhealth.ca