

Stakeholder Consultations on Behalf of Animal Health Canada

On behalf of Animal Health Canada (AHC), the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council is pleased to announce that Synthesis Agri-Food Network has been selected to support AHC in conducting an inventory assessment and gap analysis of Canada's animal health event prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery in order to support the development of a new governance model.

Specifically, the work includes taking inventory of activities and initiatives to identify gaps that will help inform the development of a new governance model for animal health in Canada. An integral component requires consultation with stakeholders in Canada's planning, preparedness, response and recovery to gather accurate, detailed and relevant information to accurately assess the status of Canada's current animal health system.

Working closely with Dr. Megan Bergman, Executive Director of the NFAHW Council and the AHC Working Group, Synthesis will contact stakeholders to set up meetings (via web or in-person) to gain a clear understanding of what is working well, areas in need of change, and areas that would be bolstered by coordination and synergy with other groups and/or initiatives. Additionally, Synthesis will conduct on-line surveys for broader stakeholder consultation to identify gaps and test insights collected in the initial phase.

The Synthesis team will collate the information gathered to comprehensively assess gaps that may include communication between stakeholder groups, traceability/movement reporting along the value chain, quarantine zones, and information/data management among others. Links between initiatives will be mapped and options identified that will reduce fragmentation, ensure timely reporting and efficient communication, and increase cohesiveness in decision-making to ultimately strengthen the system. Stakeholders will be engaged again towards the conclusion of the project to validate and share learnings.

Animal Health Canada's vision is a sustainable agriculture and agri-food sector strengthened by an inclusive industry-governments partnership protecting the health and wellbeing of farmed animals. Animal Health Canada will provide leadership in building a collaborative, multi-partner model that clarifies the respective roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of each partner implementing an animal health strategy for Canada, beginning with emergency management.