EVALUATING AND REPORTING ON THE ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRESS IN THE PLANT AND ANIMAL HEALTH STRATEGY

What is the project about?

Developed in 2017, the Plant and Animal Health Strategy (**PAHS**) presents a national vision to address and prevent evolving risks to plant and animal health in Canada. The PAHS is a partnership-based strategy that reflects the commitment between governments, industry, academia, and other partners to protect plant and animal health. The National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council (**NFAHW Council**) is leading the coordination and reporting on Canada's animal health progress as it pertains to the PAHS. To fulfill the Council's reporting mandate, a project steering committee was established to help guide the development of a national animal health progress report. ACER Consulting was brought in to support Council in these efforts.

What are our goals?

The primary goals of this project are to:

1. Develop a national animal health progress report that describes the activities, successes, and opportunities relating to the PAHS;
2. Capture stakeholder perspectives on the value and utility of the PAHS in guiding organizational planning, policies, and activities as it relates to animal health; and,
3. Facilitate conversations with Council members and stakeholders in animal health and welfare to facilitate strategic alignment in preparation for the NFAHW Council's evolution to Animal Health Canada.

If you have any questions or concerns about the project, please contact
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WHAT IS THE PLANT AND ANIMAL HEALTH STRATEGY FOR CANADA?

National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council Forum

Background

A persistent challenge for Canadian animal health partners in safeguarding plant and animal health is that they must balance their limited resources across numerous activities related to the prevention and mitigation of risks, preparedness, response and recovery. In order to strengthen the overall approach and make it sustainable, partners must embrace opportunities to use their collective resources more efficiently and effectively.

The Plant and Animal Health Strategy (**PAHS**) for Canada presents a national vision to address and prevent evolving risks to plant and animal health in Canada. Championed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (**CFIA**), and first implemented in July of 2017, the PAHS was one of the key deliverables under the Emergency Management Framework for Agriculture in Canada. The National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council (**NFAHW**) leads the coordination and reporting on Canada's animal health progress as it pertains to the PAHS. A key component of the PAHS is partnership between government, industry, academia, and major stakeholder groups. Collaboration and coordination between these partners are a key focus for the strategy and will aid in the goal to improve animal and plant health through prevention and risk management.

Purpose

Although certain strategies for plant and animal health exist separately within Canada prior to 2017, there was a need to create a cohesive strategy that addressed major issues related to plant and animal health and welfare; a strategy that complements (but does not duplicate) current and ongoing animal health activities. The PAHS was created in 2017 to:

1. Coordinate all relevant stakeholder groups to facilitate a cohesive approach to safeguard plant and animal health
2. Set the direction for improvements to our current approach to risk management and disease prevention
3. Identify plant and animal health priorities and actions for the short and long term
4. Direct partners' efforts towards evolution in accordance with changes in their needs, risks, and capacities

Vision

The PAHS was developed with a vision to ensure Canada's plant and animal resources are safeguarded, contributing to economic growth and protection of human health and the environment.