



NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

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NFAHW Council meeting, June 13 & 14, 2018

Winnipeg

The NFAHW Council met in Winnipeg on June 13 -14, 2018. The location of the meeting was changed from the anticipated Toronto location to enable a workshop with CAHSS directors and the CAHSS support team on June 13. The Council held their scheduled face to face meeting on June 14.

Council – CAHSS Workshop

Participants: Members of CAHSS Directors, CAHSS support team and members of Council

Workshop objective: Consolidate plans for the transition of CAHSS into the NFAHWC.

Outcome:

- Description of a proposed governance structure
- Description of roles and responsibilities
- Identification of next steps and responsibility for completion

Final reporting of the meeting will be available to CAHSS members, Council and others following finalization of the meeting notes.

Working Group Reports

Strategic Positioning

- Executive Director – The NFAHW Council Executive Director selection process is well underway with final interviews being scheduled.
- Rob McNabb, as co-chair of the Council and a member of the Strategic Positioning WG provided an update on the evolution of the Council to the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) Executive and another presentation to the full NFACC Board.

Emerging Issues

The report, “The Identification of Issues Related to Access to Livestock Slaughter Facilities in Animal Disease Situations” prepared by Dr. Graham Clarke, in a Growing Forward 2 funded project managed by the Canadian Animal Health Coalition and the Livestock Market Interruption Strategy Steering Committee (LIMISSC) has been completed and will be the basis for future activities.

The objective of this study was to complete on-site interviews with senior management and/or establishment owners to discuss, document and compile into a report their willingness and ability to participate in a livestock cull under three scenarios.

The report has been posted on the Council website as an information document ([The Identification of Issues Related to Access to Livestock Slaughter Facilities in Animal Disease Situations](#)).

Animal Welfare

The Animal Welfare WG submitted Animal Welfare Law Recommendations for approval by Council at the June 14th meeting. These will be further discussed on the July teleconference before approval.

The WG also proposed a national consultation on how animal health and welfare are affected by the livestock marketing system. Discussion to maximize the consultation resulted in suggestions to alter the focus issues, and further Council feedback has been requested.

Finally, the WG has updated the National Farmed Animal Welfare System for Canada document recommendations and created some new recommendations. Stakeholders identified in recommendations will be consulted in the coming weeks.

Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020 (FAHW2020)

The Council has contracted with Dr. Jeffrey Spooner and Dr. Melissa Moggy to deliver this next phase in the development of the anticipated FAHW2020 reporting of stakeholder activities in a national report. During 2018 and 2019, the reporting process will be finalized so that a national report on the strategic outcomes and priorities of FAHW2020 can be completed.

Stakeholder groups will be receiving requests for participation in the coming weeks.

One Welfare

The One Welfare WG proposed that the Council sponsor a keynote speaker at the University of Sydney Centre for Veterinary Education's (CVE) One Welfare Conference in October 2019. The Council agreed that it would be a good investment if the conference will have a farmed animal welfare component. Therefore, the decision will be made once an agenda is made available.

The WG has been approached by Crisis Services Canada (CSC) to ask for the Council's assistance in growing and sustaining the Canada Suicide Prevention Service, a suicide prevention hotline that is available via online, voice, and text. The Council agreed that this needs to be expanded beyond the farmed animal sector to include all of agriculture at the provincial levels. Discussion with CSC will continue before making a commitment.

AMU/AMR

The AMU/AMR WG will develop a report on antimicrobial stewardship activities in the farmed animal sector. The WG has identified industry and professional associations/organizations and FPT governments which will be included. The final report will be presented at the Forum 2018 in November.

Plant and Animal Health Strategy (PAHS)

The Council continues to plan for coordinating the implementation of PAHS. The development of a plan and resources for this role will be the responsibility of the new Executive Director. Initial investigations on potential funding opportunities and resource requirements were completed by the Strategic Positioning working group.

Other

Dr. Melissa Moggy has assumed responsibility for secretariat services for the following working groups – Animal Welfare, AMU/AMR, One Welfare and Emerging Issues. Melissa is also working with Dr. Jeffrey Spooner on the FAHW2020 reporting project. Stakeholders may have contact with Melissa through her WG activities and the FAHW2020 reporting project.

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.

Upcoming meetings

- September 27–28 – Ottawa – NFAHW Council meeting
- November 27 & 28 – Ottawa – Forum 2018
- November 29 – Ottawa – NFAHW Council meeting
- The NFAHW Council holds teleconferences in those months when there is not a face-to-face meeting.

Council reports, meeting dates and other information can be found on the Council website at www.ahwcouncil.ca.

The NFAHW Council is composed of individuals designated or elected from the three stakeholder groups – industry, provincial/territorial government and federal government – which support the Council. Members are non-representational when working on Council. Animal health and welfare and public health are included in the Council membership. Additionally, Dr. Harpreet Kochhar sits as an ex-officio member in his role as CVO of Canada.

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