



NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

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NFAHW Council meeting September 27 & 28, 2016

Winnipeg

International One Welfare Conference

The NFAHW Council was a Partnering Sponsor of the International One Welfare Conference held in Winnipeg on November 26–27. Council members were encouraged to participate in the Conference as part of the Council's study of the relationship of animal welfare, hoarding and mental health.

Speakers from Canada, the US, the UK and Australia explored hoarding, animal welfare, workplace mental health and many of the social complexities that arise when dealing with these issues in plenary and special topic sessions. A psychological first aid course was offered to those interested following the conference.

Lt. General Roméo Dallaire provided a thought provoking address at the Keynote Dinner held at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. He wove the purpose of the conference through his presentation to effectively relate to those present.

Invited presentations

Plant and Animal Health Strategy – Greg Wolff, CFIA

Greg Wolff provided an overview of the current status of the development and consultation on the Plant and Animal Health Strategy that is being developed. The strategy is being developed as a national collaborative strategy rather than a CFIA strategy.

Organizations and individual stakeholders are invited to participate in an online consultation which is available at www.inspection.gc.ca to access the discussion paper and consultation.

A consultative meeting is planned for early December in Ottawa with invited participants.

Producer Stress – Dr. Andria Jones–Bitton, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph

Dr. Andria Jones–Bitton presented early results from the national survey on “Agricultural Producer Stress and Resilience” which was done between September 2015 and January 2016. The project explored the amount of stress, the impact of the stress, the stigma of acknowledging stress and resiliency.

The Council will continue to follow this work as it progresses. The intent is to use statistical analysis to identify risk factors and potential associations with demographic, lifestyle, employment characteristics, etc.

The impact of stress on productivity and sustainability in agriculture is of concern.

Project report – Dr. Jeffrey Spooner

Dr. Jeffrey Spooner was contracted by the Council to help in the process of continuing the development of a national report that will demonstrate progress on the strategic objectives and priorities of Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020. The current study was to use a pilot group of industry organizations to explore possible approaches. The study provided insight from participants in the pilot group on knowledge of the Council, sensitive areas, terminology and a more refined approach to the potential questions.

Work Areas

Antimicrobial Use/Antimicrobial Resistance

The Council is monitoring the development of the pan-Canadian plan for AMR being led by the Public Health Agency of Canada through regular updates and inquiries. The Steering Committee and Task Teams are populated and working to tight timelines to complete their work.

The Council made a presentation to the Stewardship Task Team on October 6 to highlight the content of the Council's report "[Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada – 2016](#)"

The Council report is referenced by the National Collaboration Centre for Infectious Disease in a recently released [publication](#).

AMU/AMR will continue to be a work area for the Council for the coming year.

Antimicrobial Resistance will be the topic of a half-day session on November 30 at Forum 2016.

Emerging Issues – Domestic Market Access in an Emerging Disease

A report on preparation for an emerging disease is in final stages of completion before release. The report builds on the study of the market access issues during the PED outbreak of 2014 and provides recommendations on preparedness requirements.

Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020

The report of Dr. Jeffrey Spooner was accepted. The working group will meet to continue development of a national report on progress on the strategic outcomes and priorities of FAHW2020.

Transport of Cull Dairy Cows

Dr. David Fraser reviewed the report of the expert committee which met in March 2016. With some refinements, this report will be released soon.

Work on the development of best management practices in the movement of cull dairy cows is continuing under the leadership of Dr. Jane Stojkov at UBC. A progress report will be made at Forum 2016.

NFAHW Council Forum 2016

Forum 2016 will be held November 29th and 30th at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Byward Market, Ottawa. There is no cost to participate in this event, however participants are asked to [register](#) by Friday, November 4th.

Forum 2016 will be of interest to all stakeholders interested in farmed animal health and welfare in Canada, including producers, associations, veterinarians, agri-food businesses, academia and government. Join other industry leaders in the effort of ensuring Canada continues to be recognized as a world leader in animal health and welfare. Click here for the [agenda](#).

Upcoming meetings

NFAHW Council meetings:

December 1, 2016 – Ottawa

Council website – www.ahwcouncil.ca

- The Council meeting schedule is posted under meetings.
- Public documents and audited financial statements 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

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.

www.ahwcouncil.ca

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