

February 18, 2015

NFAHW Council update notes

Teleconference February 12, 2015

On February 12, 2015 the Council met by teleconference to receive reports and briefings in advance of their meeting on March 12-13, 2015 in Toronto. At the March meeting, potential work areas will be explored and scope of work determined. Working Group assignments will be made.

As always, the Council monitors current activities and issues to determine if there is something that should be added to the work plan. The following work areas are included in the draft work plan for 2015.

Emerging Issues – Council received a report from the Emerging Issues WG which met by teleconference recently to review the CFIA Disease Prioritization Tool. The tool is not in use at the present time but is designed to provide a methodology to determining the role for CFIA and the CVO for Canada in a particular situation. In an environment of fiscal restraint and a collaborative approach to disease management, it is important to have a mechanism to determine roles and responsibilities.

Implementation of the animal health surveillance governance model – The governance of animal health surveillance model that was presented at the Forum 2014 is being implemented. A Coordinator, Dr. Cheryl James, CFIA and a Secretariat, François Bédard, AAFC, have been named. The positions on the Champions and Directors groups are being filled. The first meeting of the Champions was held on February 6, 2015 in Ottawa.

Animal Welfare Research Capacity – The Co-chairs reported on their presentation to the FPT Regulatory ADMs of Agriculture on the Animal Welfare Research Capacity project which was completed in 2014 and reported at Forum 2014. The Regulatory ADMs were asked to help in facilitating some of the recommendations in the report.

International One Health One Welfare Conference – A report was received regarding a conference supported in principal by Council and being planned by Manitoba Health and Manitoba Agriculture. The conference will discuss the complex challenges experienced at the interface between farmed animal welfare and human health. Examples of this type of issue would include animal hoarding or mental health challenges directly impacting not only the individual but also the welfare of their animals on the farm. The conference is being planned for the spring of 2016.

83rd General Session of the World Organisation of Animal Health (OIE)

The NFAHW Council will nominate someone to the Canadian OIE delegation at the request of Dr. Martine Dubuc who will lead the delegation.

The Council will also be monitoring the implementation of recommendations made in its previous advisory statements throughout the year.

Council website – www.ahwcouncil.ca

- The Council meeting schedule is posted under events.
- Public documents are posted under documents
- Forum 2014 presentations can be accessed from the link on the home page under news