



NFAHW Council – Rapid Report Forum 2019

NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

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Vision

“Canada values and supports the health, care and welfare of the farmed animal population and its contribution to the well-being people, the environment and the Canadian economy.”

Farmed Animal Health
and Welfare 2020
(2014)



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Current Council Board Members

- René Roy
Industry Co-Chair
- Dre Hélène Trépanier
Government Co-Chair
- Dr. Debbie Barr
- Dave Taylor
- Marco Volpé
- Dr. Jim Fairles
- Dr. David Fraser
- Colleen McElwain
- Rob McNabb
- Dr. Jane Pritchard
- Luc Marchand
- Dr. Nicole Wanamaker
- Steven Sternthal
- Dr. Jaspinder Komal
Ex-Officio



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2019 Council Activities

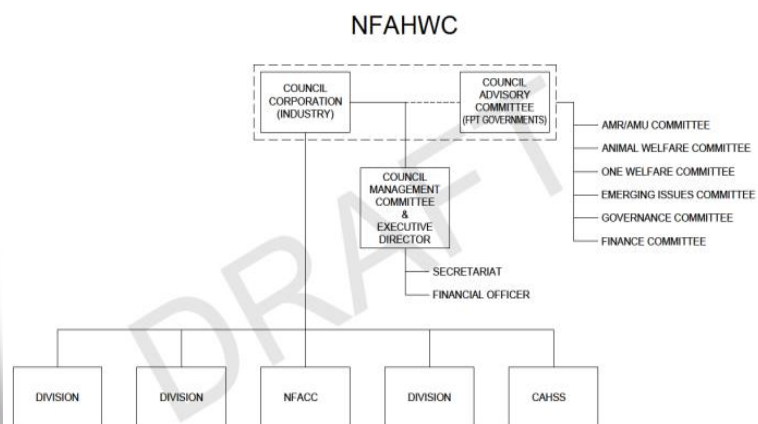
In 2019 Council has developed:

- modernized by-laws to better enable collaboration between partners working in similar areas
- Budgetary planning to ensure long term sustainability for current Council activities



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Proposed Organizational Structure



NFAHW
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2019 Council Activities

- Enhanced Communication through:
 - Updated newsletter format
 - Blog
 - Webinar
 - Website upgrades
 - Member outreach calls
 - Development of a Council value proposition

<https://www.ahwcouncil.ca/communications>

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The National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council is the only national organization that brings together industry, federal, provincial and territorial partners to provide collaborative guidance on a cohesive, functional and responsive farmed animal health and welfare system in Canada. The Council engages expertise to address important topics such as animal welfare, emerging diseases, animal health surveillance, antimicrobial use and resistance, and the emerging theme of 'one welfare'. The Council hosts a forum annually which is the premiere event for industry and government representatives to find opportunities for partnership and to share information on issues, activities and accomplishments in animal health and welfare in Canada.

Animal Welfare
After wide consultation ending in 2012 the Council developed 22 recommendations to strengthen and harmonize farm animal welfare in Canada (A National Farm Animal Welfare System for Canada 2012). Followed by a progress report on these recommendations in 2015, and updated recommendations in 2018.

The Council has also made recommendations to better harmonize animal welfare across Canada, increase Canada's animal welfare research capacity and convened expert meetings to address on improved management of equine animals including colic, dairy cows and male dairy calves.



Emerging Issues:
The Council evaluated challenges associated with emerging diseases and provided recommendations to help Canada better prepare for disease events, while at the same time undertaking a more in-depth evaluation of the impacts to market access resulting from the emergence of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea in Canada. These activities also led to the exploration of slaughter capacity in Canada in the face of a disease event.

One Welfare:
Council recognizes that the well-being of farm animals is closely linked to the well-being of the farming community and the various professions that work with them. In 2017 the Council began to explore these 'one welfare' links and has since published an interim report, as well as presented recommendations to the Agricultural Standing Committee in 2019 on how to enhance Canada's agricultural well-being through a One Welfare Approach.

version 16.07.2019

NEW INITIATIVES

- 1 Plant and Animal Health Strategy:**
Since the development of the Council's Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2018 Strategy, the broader Canadian Plant and Animal Health Strategy was developed in 2017. The Council has been asked to lead the coordination and reporting on Canadian animal health progress as it pertains to the Plant and Animal Health Strategy. As a result, the Council is now working towards finalizing the tools and information collected under the Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Strategy for an approach that can be utilized to advance activities under the animal health component of the Plant and Animal Health Strategy.
- 2 Surveillance:**
The Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) is an initiative of the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council (NFAHW) with broad based collaborative support of industry and governments. It has been designed to fill the need for strengthened animal health surveillance in Canada, as identified in the NFAHW's report, "Surveillance as a Line of Defence in Farmed Animal Health". CAHSS is now transitioning to the NFAHW Council in order to fully realize the vision to strengthen animal health surveillance in Canada through a true partnership among animal health stakeholders. The Council submitted a funding application to the Canadian Agriculture Program to support Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System activities. Federal Assistance Funding was utilized to support 2018/2019 CAHSS activities. More information can be found in the CAHSS Interim Report. The Council also partnered in an application for funding to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's Strategic Innovation Fund to enhance animal health diagnostics and surveillance in Canada.
- 3 Animal Health:**
The Council has been supporting the initiative of Animal Health Canada to explore enhanced partnerships with government and industry and new governance models for Animal Health in Canada.

GENERAL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

- The Council is also updating and modernizing its bylaws and terms of reference to better align with partners working in the animal health and welfare sphere including the Canadian Animal Health Coalition and the National Farm Animal Care Council.
- An Executive Director has been hired to provide full time leadership that will allow the Council to take on its new roles in the Plant and Animal Health Strategy and the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System, and to enhance the Council's outreach and engagement.
- Effective communication is a critical tool for any organization. The Council's annual Forum allows significant sharing of information among stakeholders. From 2013 will be focused on risk management in animal health and welfare in Canada. The Council is also exploring new ways to engage and consult with stakeholders. This includes an updated quarterly newsletter, a Blog to allow the Council and its stakeholders to share information and insights beginning with one hosted in May 2019 on "Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada: Progress on Recommendations and Stakeholder Activities".

Member Consultation Feedback - What Have We Heard?

- Continue enhanced communication
- Continue clarifying organizational structures and roles
- During this time of transition ensure a strategic review of the Council, it's mandate and priorities
- Ensure robust approach to consultation on Council products
- Ensure that the support of Animal Health Canada does not draw away from normal operating of Council

2019 Council Activities

Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS)

- Secured funding from the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, AgriAssurance Program to support activity under the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System
- Hiring of CAHSS Co-Ordinator
- Initiation of governance implementation
- Initiation of activity to support enhanced animal health surveillance reporting in Canada
- Work to be undertaken to develop a sustainability plan



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2019 Council Activities

- Work underway to secure funding to support reporting for the animal component of the Plant and Animal Health Strategy



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Thank you

To all individuals and organizations who have contributed to the Council through:

- Financial and in-kind contributions
- Participation in working groups
- Further distribution of Council communications
- Providing input and feedback to Council
- Participating in Council activities
- Commitment to a collaborative approach



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Antimicrobial Use and Resistance

Committee Lead
Steven Sternthal



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Council reports – AMU/AMR

Four reports developed

- Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Use Initiatives in Humans and Animals in Canada - 2012
- Antimicrobial Use and Antimicrobial Resistance - Strategies for Animal Agriculture - 2014
- Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada – 2016
- Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals Progress on Recommendations and Stakeholder Activities - 2019



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Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals Activities Report - 2019

Focus

Completion of Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals Progress on Recommendations and Stakeholder Activities

Outcome

- Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals in Canada published in 2016 is the reference document.
- Will provide a baseline for the pan-Canadian Action Plan
- Joint webinars with the Council and CFIA to review the report and Action Plan status



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AMU/AMR Next Steps

- Support the panCanadian Action Plan
- Collectively advance AMR initiatives in collaboration with the commodity groups and veterinary groups
- Determine role of the Council in conjunction with various stakeholders to support the pan Canadian Framework and Action plan without duplicating effort.



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Questions?



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