



## Canadian Animal Health Coalition Coalition canadienne pour la santé des animaux

*Promoting a collaborative approach to animal health  
Œuvrant pour une vision commune de la santé animale*

### NEWSLETTER

CAHC Board of Directors meeting, September 21 & 22, 2016 – Toronto

#### CARL BLOCK AWARD

The CAHC is pleased to call for nominations for the 2016 Carl Block Award. This award is given in recognition of individuals in non-government roles that have made highly significant contributions to policies, programs, implementation or delivery of Canada's animal health program. Visit the [CAHC website](#) for more information and to submit a nomination.

#### CAHC APPRECIATION RECEPTION AND PRESENTATION OF THE CARL BLOCK AWARD

The CAHC invites stakeholders to their annual Appreciation Reception where the Carl Block Award will be presented.

## CAHC MEMBERSHIP FEES

Through sound financial management and oversight by the Board of Directors accompanied with increased revenues through the various projects and programs that the CAHC operates, the CAHC Board determined they are able to maintain membership fees at the same level since 2012 while providing increased benefit to its members. Any organization that wishes to receive a presentation directly on the CAHC activities is encouraged to contact Executive Director, Mark Beaven. [mark@animalhealth.ca](mailto:mark@animalhealth.ca)

## 2017 MEETING AND TELECONFERENCE SCHEDULE

The 2017 CAHC meeting and teleconference schedule has been agreed upon and is posted on the [CAHC website](#).

## PRESENTATIONS

### **Producer Stress and Resilience Study – Dr. Andria Jones–Bitton, UofG**

The CAHC invited Dr. Andria Jones–Bitton to give a presentation on results of a national survey on Agricultural Producer Stress and Resilience, conducted by herself and colleagues from the University of Guelph (September 2015 to January 2016).

Dr. Jones–Bitton noted that even during relative times of calm, producers experience a wide range of occupational stresses, many of which are beyond their control. These stressors include: changing climate, changing government, changing regulations, disease, weather, significant financial burdens, and succession planning. Several studies worldwide have shown that producers have higher levels of psychological distress than the general population, and have elevated rates of suicide compared to other occupations. The results from the Canadian survey support these findings in that producers experienced elevated rates of stress, anxiety, depression, and burnout compared to the reference populations.

The CAHC will be scheduling an extra meeting in the coming months to discuss producer mental health and how the organization can help in this important issue.

### **Update on CFIA’s FMD Policy Direction – Dr. Tom Smylie, CFIA**

Dr. Tom Smylie gave a presentation on the strategy that CFIA is building to enhance emergency response during an FMD outbreak and allow earlier resumption of trade. He outlined three arrangements signed on the fringes of the OIE meeting in May of 2016:

1. International Animal Health Emergency Reserve – sharing of staff in an emergency
2. Sharing of vaccines for Foot and Mouth Disease – leverages Canada’s vaccine supply to provide additional doses
3. Supporting the recognition of zoning for foreign animal disease outbreaks – allows resumption of trade from areas of the country not affected by disease

Dr. Smylie also outlined the Quads (Australia, Canada, New Zealand and USA) proposal that was presented to the OIE in June, to allow the establishment of a containment zone during an outbreak. This would allow zoning to be established during an outbreak with resumption of trade from the area designated as free, for

those diseases that have official country status with the OIE. Dr. Smylie was very hopeful that this concept would be incorporated into the Terrestrial Animal Health Code in the coming years.

### **Community for Emerging and Zoonotic Disease (CEZD) – Mr. Harry Gardiner and Dr. Andrea Osborn, CFIA**

Mr. Harry Gardiner attended the CAHC meeting, supported by Dr. Andrea Osborn by teleconference, to give a presentation on CEZD noting that the purpose of CEZD is to provide early warning for emerging diseases in animals, and for those diseases that can be transmitted between animals and people. Since 2013 the CAHC has been working with multiple partners in the development of the Community for Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases.

The CEZD project phase is now complete, and the system is being implemented. The system combines automated computer searching of multiple public information sources, with human analysis of the signals identified in the computer algorithm.

To be successful, CEZD requires input from everyone that may be affected by emerging and zoonotic diseases. You are invited to join the CEZD community, and to review and rate the intelligence signals presented daily on the Public Health Agency's CNPHI platform; as well as share information on local, regional or national disease issues for community perspectives on the risks that are posed to Canada.

Staff from national and regional associations, veterinarians, and others involved in animal health are welcome to join and share their perspectives. If you are already monitoring animal disease information on a regular basis, and looking at the risks within Canada or from abroad, CEZD is developing a community of practice to provide early warning of emerging risks. More details to follow.

The CEZD intelligence reports will now be shared with all CAHC members. Your feedback on the report content is requested to inform the community of your intelligence needs. Direct feedback on the intelligence reports can be sent to [Andrea.Osborn@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Osborn@inspection.gc.ca).

A questionnaire to assess the intelligence needs of CAHC members will follow.

Any questions on CEZD can be directed to [samantha@animalhealth.ca](mailto:samantha@animalhealth.ca)

### **Emergency Management Project – Matt Taylor**

Mr. Matt Taylor attended in person to deliver his presentation on Enhancing Animal Health Emergency Management in Canada's Livestock & Poultry Industry. The purpose of the project is to assist Canada's livestock & poultry industry in preparing for a sector-wide, animal health emergency by providing the resource and professional expertise necessary to assist provincial commodity groups to develop an Association-Level Plan and a Producer-Level Guidelines document specific to their sector.

Stakeholders may be approached by Ron Barker (project manager) or Matt Taylor (project coordinator) on this topic.

## UPDATES

### **Market Relevant Codes and Communication Leadership Project update – Ron Barker, CAHC Project Manager and Jackie Wepruk, NFACC General Manager**

The Poultry (meat) revised Code was released on June 15, 2016. The Poultry (layer) Public Comment Period (PCP) has been completed with over 3200 submissions received. Progress on all other Codes is proceeding expediently to PCP. The Rabbit and Veal Cattle Code Development Committees (CDC) met in July and Bison CDC in June. More information can be found on the [NFACC website](#).

### **Canadian Livestock Transport –Stéphane Beaudoin, CLT Coordinator**

CLT training sessions continue to be busy with launch of CLT online and the team is working hard to launch CLT online. Planning is in the works to update existing CLT modules this fall based on new Industry guidelines (new feedlot assessment; Chickens, Turkeys and Breeders Code of Practice and Poultry – Layers Code of Practice).

### **CFIA Biosecurity Project Report – Mark Beaven, CAHC Executive Director**

CAHC (Mark Beaven, CAHC Executive Director and co-chair of the committee) and CLT (Stephane Beaudoin, CLT Program coordinator) attended the Livestock, Poultry and Deadstock Transportation Biosecurity Standard meeting in Ottawa on Oct 4th. A completed draft document is expected in January 2017 for the CAHC and stakeholders to review and provide input. Shortly after the consultation period, this biosecurity training will be made available online using the CLT online training platform.

### **Cross Sectoral Critical Infrastructure Network – Ed Empringham, CAHC Senior Project Manager**

An intersessional multi-sectoral meeting is proposed for October 26 in Ottawa to review a study of the interdependencies between the 10 critical infrastructures.

## OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

### **APF Framework Discussion**

With consultations coming up for GF3, the CAHC Board discussed their role in providing comments on needs for animal health. An additional meeting will be scheduled for the Board for further discussion on this topic likely in January. This will be combined with discussions on producer mental health.

The CAHC will meet again by teleconference on October 26<sup>th</sup>, and then in Ottawa on November 29<sup>th</sup> for their AGM.

### **NFAHW Council Forum 2016**

As secretariat to the NFAHW Council, the CAHC is pleased to announce that registration is open for the NFAHW Council Forum 2016 taking place in Ottawa on November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found at [www.AHWCouncil.ca](http://www.AHWCouncil.ca). Click here to [register](#).

**The CAHC invites requests to make a formal presentation to your organization outlining in detail the many activities that the CAHC is currently undertaking.  
Contact [samantha@animalhealth.ca](mailto:samantha@animalhealth.ca)**