



## 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, March 30 & 31, 2016 – Toronto

#### ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF CAHC

Jennifer MacTavish, Canadian Sheep Industry, was re-elected as Chair of the CAHC, while Michael Hall, Canadian Livestock Genetics Association, was elected as Vice-chair.

#### CAHC ANNUAL REPORT

Mark Beaven, CAHC Executive Director, presented the 2015 Annual Report to the Board of Directors. The report was distributed as a PDF with this newsletter; requests for printed copies should be directed to [samantha@animalhealth.ca](mailto:samantha@animalhealth.ca)

#### CAHC MEMBERSHIP

The CAHC is pleased to have the Registered Veterinary Technologists and Technicians of Canada as their newest members. For more information on CAHC membership, contact [Mark@animalhealth.ca](mailto:Mark@animalhealth.ca)

#### PRESENTATION

##### Avian Influenza in Ontario – Tom Baker, Feather Board Command Centre

T. Baker joined the meeting to give a presentation titled “Sustaining the Poultry Industry in the Face of Infectious Disease Outbreaks”. The presentation focused on the AI spread that led to the disease in Ontario, the subsequent collaborative response to the disease and lessons learned.

#### UPDATES

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

[National Farm Animal Care Council](#) (NFACC) is working with Code Development Committees to develop Codes of Practice for poultry – layers, poultry – meat, bison, rabbit and veal. The second fiscal year for this

project is nearing completion with all codes progressing on target. The estimated release date for the Poultry (meat) Code is in June, Poultry (Layer) Code is December, while the others are fall of 2017.

### **Building Capacity for Emergency Management in Canada's Livestock Industry– project proposal – Ron Barker, CAHC Project Manager**

An application for GF2 funding was submitted to AAFC in the fall of 2015 for a project that will scan and evaluate the current status of Emergency Management tools in Canada's livestock industry. Project activities will also include:

- Provincial and regional awareness workshops
- Commodity-specific association level plan and on-farm producer level guidelines
- Testing and revising plans and guidelines through provincial and regional simulations
- Finalizing plans and guidelines
- All commodity provincial and regional workshops
- Support the national strategy and action plans for critical infrastructure

News on project acceptance is expected within the month.

### **Cross Border Livestock Health Conference– CBLHC (via Pacific North West Economic Region) – Ron Barker, CAHC Project Manager**

Ron Barker provided information on the planning for the Cross Border Livestock Conference that he is assisting with. The conference will take place in Calgary on July 19–20, 2016. The conference addresses government (federal, state, and provincial) and industry issues and policies related to farm animal health and welfare, with a goal to increase cross border livestock trade.

### **Canadian Livestock Transport – Mark Beaven, CAHC Executive Director and Geraldine Auston, CLT Coordinator**

Mark Beaven and Geraldine Auston provided details around progress on CLTs online training platform development. The launch for the English is planned for May.

The Board was also notified that Geraldine Auston will be stepping down as CLT Coordinator. Geraldine has been with CLT since 2009 and was critical to the online platform development. Her decision to leave CLT was not an easy one, but she feels the CLT is in a good place and that the time is right. Geraldine's replacement is Stéphane Beaudoin, who has been a CLT instructor since 2009 and is very familiar with the program. Stéphane and Geraldine will work together for a transition period. The CAHC would like to thank Geraldine for her dedication and hard work with CLT and welcomes Stéphane to the team.

### **Canadian Veterinary Reserve Report – Mark Beaven, CAHC Executive Director**

Mark Beaven provided details around the CVR mock call out that was initiated in March. No results were yet available.

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

Mark Beaven provided an update on the CFIA Biosecurity Project that he co-chairs with Dr. Con Kiley from CFIA. The committee is developing a transport biosecurity standards module which will then be transferred to the online platform that is being built for CLT. The project is a very large undertaking but is progressing well with a draft document expected in the summer or fall.

### **CEZD-IIR update – Ed Empringham, CAHC Project Manager**

Ed Empringham provided the Board with an update on the CEZD-IIR project including that the group's sustainability plan has been accepted by CFIA with two years of funding.

## **OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

### **CAHC Advocacy**

It was agreed that the Coalition should play a larger role in assisting its' members in their advocacy activities. While the Coalition has been active in the past when it came to speaking to matters of farmed animal health and welfare in Canada, it is the desire of the Board to play an even more prominent role. Given this, CAHC is offering the Coalition staff to assist its' members in their efforts to improve the farmed animal health system. Examples of this assistance could be obtaining statistics, data or historical animal health information, facilitating or coordinating meetings of stakeholders, etc. CAHC members are encouraged to contact Executive Director, Mark Beaven to ask how the Coalition can help with any specific advocacy efforts. [Mark@animalhealth.ca](mailto:Mark@animalhealth.ca)

### **International One Welfare Conference – Mark Beaven, CAHC Executive Director**

A "One Welfare Conference" that will bring together experts in human and animal health and welfare to discuss the science, best practices, models and policies that have shown successes – or failures – in managing complex issues, including hoarding involving animals, as well as on-farm animal welfare issues often related to human health disparities, such as mental health, ageing, and socioeconomic status. The CAHC was asked to assist in the planning of the conference, but felt it did not have the capacity to take on the planning that was asked. The Board agreed to have the CAHC provide \$5000 sponsorship to the event. The conference will take place in Winnipeg from September 26 – 28, 2016. For more information and registration, please see the [International One Welfare Conference](#) website.

The CAHC will meet again in Toronto on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.