

Canadian
Animal
Health
Surveillance
System



CAHSS

Système
canadien
de surveillance
de la santé
animale



SCSSA

Overview of the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System

Protecting the U.S. Cattle Herd

Washington, DC

March 2017



- **Brief overview** on the **Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS)**, collaboration on animal health surveillance in Canada

Why CAHSS?



Some major weaknesses in the present surveillance system in organization and decision making, and in information and data sharing.

Surveillance in a time of transition in farmed animal health (2011)

Collaborative Governance the Best Approach:

- Several successful components operating well
- Informal networking established through several initiatives
- Recognized need for national leadership/coordination
- Raised profile required
- Opportunity to create an environment for success
- May lead to developments in other sectors





Examples of Animal Health Surveillance Systems

- Canadian Animal Health Laboratory Network (CAHLN)
- Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN)
- Council of Chief Veterinary Officers (CCVO)
- Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC)
- Provincial Networks (RAIZO, OAHN, Alberta VPS)
- Canadian Swine Health Information Network (CSHIN)
- Centre for Emerging and Zoonotic Disease-Information, Intelligence and Response (CEZD)
- CFIA led surveillance to establish animal disease status
- CIPARS
- Industry led surveillance
 - Antimicrobial usage
 - Trade limiting and Production limiting disease
 - Emerging disease/early warning
- Ad hoc and informal networking – PED virus





Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System

Effective, Responsive, Integrated Animal Health Surveillance

- **Federated network of networks**
 - Functioning independently but with stable connections
 - United by a common purpose and core principles
 - Guided by a common Directors Group, enabled by a Champions Group, supported by a coordinator and secretariat
 - Communal ownership of the entity
- **Encouraging innovation and creative solutions**
 - Supporting the Emergency Management Framework
 - Building from the ground up
 - Empowering members to lead
 - Ridding ourselves of limiting beliefs



What can a ***national collaboration*** do that no one else can?



Key Themes:

- 1. Advise on national animal health surveillance priorities**
 - Needs, strategies, gaps and capacity
- 2. Facilitate Data Gathering**
 - Multiple sources, untapped sources.
- 3. Help people exchange and use information**
 - Trust, lines of communications
 - Understanding needs and addressing them along the continuum
- 4. Help make information easily accessible**
 - Sharing information, analyses, reports
 - Ability to share data
- 5. Help remove artificial barriers to animal health surveillance**
 - Overcome jurisdictional issues, seamless approach to emerging or zoonotic disease, encourage bidirectional flow between public health and animal health

**Create the environment
for collaboration on
surveillance**

SO WHAT DOES CAHSS ACTUALLY DO?

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CAHSS

**Helping to Address
Long-standing Issues
with Surveillance**

**Convene and facilitate
meetings and workshops**

Communications

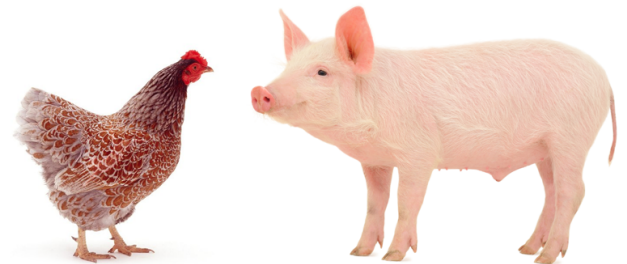
Current Status of CAHSS

- Implementation initiated in January 2015
- Champions Group
 - Enable and facilitate establishment of network
- Directors Group
 - Create and maintain a healthy environment for collaboration
- Shared purpose statement
 - “effective, responsive, integrated”
- Core principles
 - Basic rules on how we organize and work together ourselves
- Series of facilitated workshops, using *Participatory Action Research*, to determine priorities and next steps



Swine and Poultry Network Groups

- Workshops held in February 2016, leading to formation of network groups under CAHSS
- For Swine:
 - Work on multiple bilateral agreements, communications, defining specific surveillance needs
 - Workshop planned in March 2017 to address:
 - Surveillance needs for trade limiting disease
 - Next steps for Canadian Swine Health Information Network
 - Sequencing library for influenza/PRRS
- For Poultry:
 - Technology platform
 - CAHSS website for sharing information
 - Social Network
 - conference calls, Forum presentations and discussion on gaps
 - Trade Limiting Diseases



Equine Surveillance Workshop

- Equine Surveillance Workshop, co-hosted by Equestrian Canada, was held Nov 3 and 4, 2016
- Purpose was to bring together a very diverse industry and government representatives to identify needs, strategies and next steps for equine surveillance
- Shared Purpose:
An effective equine surveillance system will protect the health and well-being of horses, other equines and humans, safeguard the Canadian herd and permit movement and continuance of trade, and ensure the prosperity of Canada's equine industry.
- A network group was formed to help implement identified key priorities, such as:
 - Sharing information on reportable and notifiable diseases; list of equine contacts
 - Explore funding options for equine surveillance, identify potential projects, initiatives
 - Prepare case definitions for diseases of interest
 - Look at mapping options for disease outbreaks
 - Organize summit of decision-makers in equine sector to garner support



Dairy Cattle Surveillance Workshop

- Dairy Cattle Surveillance Workshop, co-hosted by Dairy Farmers of Canada, was held Feb 28 and Mar 1, 2017
- This group is very well-organized, has many surveillance initiatives across the country. Main need is to “knit” surveillance activities together and make better use of data generated.
- Key priorities identified by the group:
 - Build the foundation with strong stakeholder engagement
 - Create a national information sharing platform
 - Build on current data resources through data mining and integration
 - Expand service across Canada for bulk milk tank screening tests for diseases of interest
- Current Status: final report is drafted, workshop participants consulting with their organizations
- Next Steps: workshop group to be formed to implement agreed upon actions



Antimicrobial Use (AMU) Surveillance

- Producer-oriented workshop held in October 2016
 - Workshop purpose to explore the role of producers and producer associations in AMU surveillance
 - Shared Purpose Statement

AMU surveillance is necessary to inform decision-making to objectively address AMU stewardship and to maintain public trust in the sustainable production of safe and affordable food from humanely-raised animals
 - Decision to form ad hoc group to collectively proceed with discussions, led by Public Health Agency of Canada, to develop a minimum data set; commodity groups have committed to determine how the data will be collected and shared for analysis and reporting
 - First meeting was held at end of January.



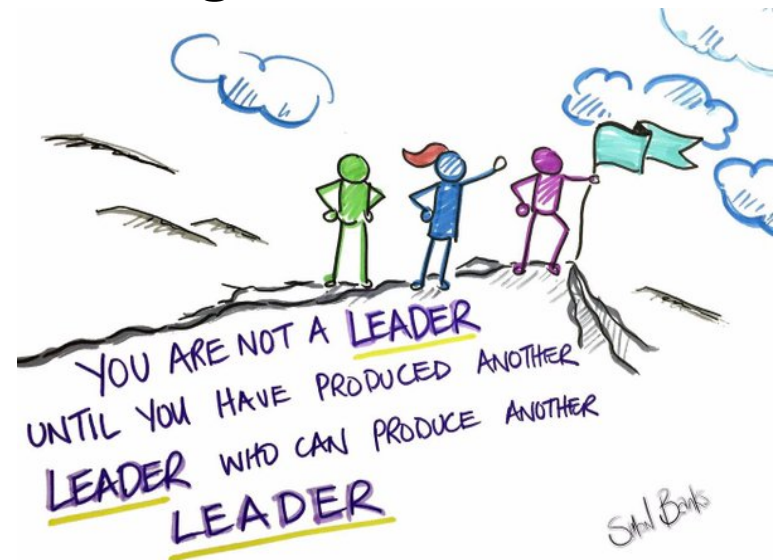
CAHSS Web Site

- CAHSS web site is live at cahss.ca
- Intended to be a central clearing house for all animal health surveillance activities in Canada
- Contact information for those involved in surveillance
- Public site contains information on CAHSS and public information and links for surveillance
- Private site for CAHSS members to exchange information with each other
- Communications is key in a network of networks



Looking ahead.....

- Beef Surveillance Workshop (September 2017)
- Wildlife surveillance workshop (June 2017)
- Aquaculture workshop (Fall 2017)
- Small ruminant workshop?
- Longer term – data standards and integrated data systems
- Communications
- Leadership development





Thank you

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cahss.ca