CANADIAN ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

2021/2022

Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System **CAHSS**

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CAHSS ACHIEVEMENT REPORT
2021/2022

CAHSS **APPROACH, FOCUS & VISION**

OUR VISION

National collaboration and information sharing leading to effective, responsive, integrated animal health surveillance in Canada.

OUR MISSION

To bring together and use data-driven information to demonstrate animal health, minimize impacts of disease and guide surveillance planning from a national perspective.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

CAHSS is a distinct division of **Animal Health Canada (AHC)**. AHC incorporates distinct divisions and projects and 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.

ABOUT
CAHSS

LETTER FROM
CAHSS

DR. THERESA BURNS
CAHSS DIVISION LEAD

I am pleased to present the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System 2021/2022 Achievement Report. I would like to thank the CAHSS members, the CAHSS Leaders Group (Steering Group and Network Leads) and Animal Health Canada members for your support of the CAHSS vision throughout 2021/2022, even in the face of the COVID pandemic, and multiple animal health and climate emergencies.

This has been a very productive year for CAHSS, as we continued to expand services and undertake projects that enhance animal health surveillance in Canada. In order to accommodate expansion, we have made some exciting changes. The first is that we have been able to hire Dr. Doris Leung (DVM, MPH) as a full-time staff member in the role of CAHSS Coordinator. I know many of you have connected with Doris, and will be as pleased as I am to have her join CAHSS in this expanded capacity.

As a division of Animal Health Canada (AHC), we have also benefited from increased access to policy resources, training, and organizational efficiencies. Throughout the year, we increased efficiency and positive impact by working in synergy with other AHC divisions and projects; the Animal Health Emergency Management Project (AHEM), the African Swine Fever (ASF) project, the National Farmed Animal Care Council (NFACC), and the Canadian Livestock Transport Program (CLT).

For CAHSS, some 2021/2022 highlights included:
- The expansion of the CAHSS network family to include Aquatic and Companion animal networks,
- Collaboration with the Community for Emerging and Zoonotic Disease on an interactive library of One Health initiatives and organizations in Canada,
- Continued collaborations with partners such as the Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network and FPT governments on CanSpotASF, enhanced early detections surveillance for African swine fever

Things we are excited about for 2022/2023 include:

- Working with the other AHC Divisions and Projects to lead an interactive event at the Animal Health Canada forum in September 2022,
- Presenting on the work of CAHSS at the Canadian Animal Health Laboratory Network (CAHLN) meeting in June 2022, and at the International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics conference (ISVEE) in August 2022,
- Continued collaboration with diagnostic laboratories and provincial abattoir inspection services on bringing together data to generate intelligence,
- Continued national collaboration on One Health challenges such as antimicrobial use and resistance surveillance, including in the equine sector,
- Developing and implementing a sustainability plan for CAHSS for 2023 and beyond, including confirming funding for the next 5 years of CAHSS operations

In the next few weeks, AHC will be sending an impact survey to CAHSS members. The survey will be used to understand and analyze the effects and impacts of AHC and CAHSS' resources, tools, and networking platforms. I would ask you to please complete the survey. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact **tburns@animalhealthcanada.ca**.

Again, thank you for your contributions to CAHSS in 2021/2022. Our organization is made successful through engagement of dedicated partners in industry, federal and provincial governments, and academic institutions, working alongside our staff and contractors. We look forward to ongoing progress in the coming year. ∎
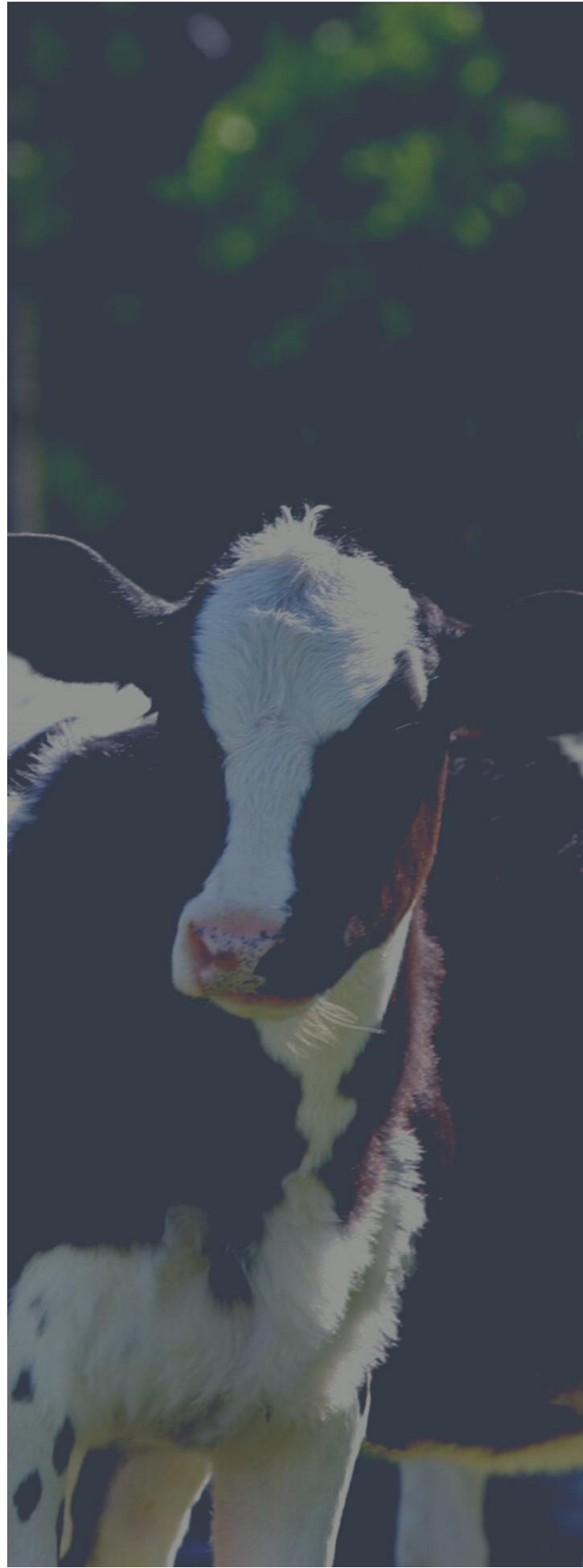
LETTER FROM
AHC

DR. MELANIE BARHAM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As stakeholders know, during the past year, the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council changed its name to **Animal Health Canada**. The name change is only part of the process, and is a small step in recognizing a much larger vision and mission for collaborative problem solving in animal health and welfare within the Canadian animal agriculture sector.

When we undertook strategic planning for the organization's new direction, it was clear surveillance was a core focus for stakeholders, alongside other strategic pillars like emergency management, and animal welfare. The nature of surveillance makes it inextricably linked to emergency preparedness and management, like the second side of a coin.

We look forward to continued advancements through collaborations and engagement in the coming year, and will be seeking input from CAHSS and AHC stakeholders as we look to the future of surveillance as the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) comes to a conclusion.

Thank you to all contributors, the CAHSS Steering Group, and our internal team who have molded CAHSS' evolution to be well positioned to support effective, responsive and integrated animal health surveillance in Canada. ∎

MESSAGE FROM CAHSS
STEERING GROUP

DR. GLEN DUIZER
STEERING GROUP CHAIR

The needs for a national coordinated approach to animal health surveillance in Canada have been recognized for decades. As so very evident today, those needs continue to grow with the ever-present threats of emerging and re-emerging disease to public and animal health.

As chair of the CAHSS Steering Group, I believe that CAHSS represents a culmination of the lessons learned and experience gained across the decades and passed on to us from many dedicated and passionate people working across the spectrum of animal health in Canada.

I see that dedication, passion, and breadth of experience carried forward in the people and organizations that make up CAHSS today, where independent nodes partner and collaborate by sharing information, methods and ideas to detect threats and determine risks to animal health.

The Steering Group is a small leadership group that represents the expertise, experience, and commitment of CAHSS, and is building on the organization and collaboration to ensure CAHSS continues to represent the best approach to national, coordinated animal health surveillance. ■

DR. ASHLEY WHITEHEAD
STEERING GROUP
VICE CHAIR

CAHSS grew to what it is today from a very basic need that all animal sectors identified independently – improved animal health surveillance. Over the last couple years, all of Canada has seen the need for quality animal surveillance programs and reporting from different animal species - from poultry, to mink, to horses, to cattle, and even our companion animal pets.

As the Steering Group, we represent each of the animal sectors – with such a diverse group of leaders, we can cross-pollinate the various nodes with ideas and solutions to problems that everyone is encountering in animal health surveillance.

As vice chair of the CAHSS Steering Group, I am constantly impressed by the level of dedication and enthusiasm that all of our members across every node in CAHSS bring to each network meeting. Animal health surveillance is not a particularly exhilarating topic, but when done well and in a timely manner, it does ensure that our animals are protected, our agricultural trade continues, and the livelihood of many Canadians can continue thrive.

The dedication to improving our national animal health surveillance by our CAHSS members is a source of pride and I look forward to learning and engaging with all our stakeholders. ■

YEAR IN
REVIEW

CAHSS' **NETWORK OF NETWORKS**

The success of CAHSS is largely credited to its **network of networks** model that is built on established animal health groups and partnerships in Canada. CAHSS acts to ensure that animal health surveillance activities are conducted effectively and efficiently. CAHSS leverages surveillance partners and members for guidance and leadership, as well as the sharing of information and best practices for surveillance within our **seven species specific** (Aquatic, Beef, Companion Animal, Dairy, Equine, Poultry and Small Ruminant) and **two special topics** (Antimicrobial Use/Resistance and Vector-Borne Disease) networks.

Each CAHSS network model is the same, but partnerships vary within each network. We are proud to work in collaboration with partners across sectors and disciplines, with representation from the animal and agri-food industry organizations and associations, federal/ provincial/ territorial governments including agriculture, animal health and public health, and environment, animal health laboratories, universities, provincial and regional surveillance networks, and more.

We currently have **549 members within CAHSS**. Not only are our CAHSS network members active participants in information sharing at our virtual meetings through the cross-Canada roundtable, members also contribute by identifying surveillance priorities and developing resources and tools to advance and improve animal health in Canada.

From 2021 to 2022, CAHSS organized a total of **24 network meetings** for our network members, with **over 1100 hours** of information and resource sharing that occurred across multi-sectoral groups and agencies.

DRIVEN BY
OUR MEMBERS

2021/2022 **CAHSS MEMBERSHIP**

CAHSS membership has **grown 60%** since last year. We currently have 549 members within CAHSS.

Membership by CAHSS Species and Special Topics Networks

- Small Ruminant 8.5%
- Vector Borne Dz 7.9%
- Aquatic 12.8%
- AMU/AMR 15.7%
- Beef 11.2%
- Companion Animal 8.5%
- Dairy 10.6%
- Equine 12.4%
- Poultry 12.4%
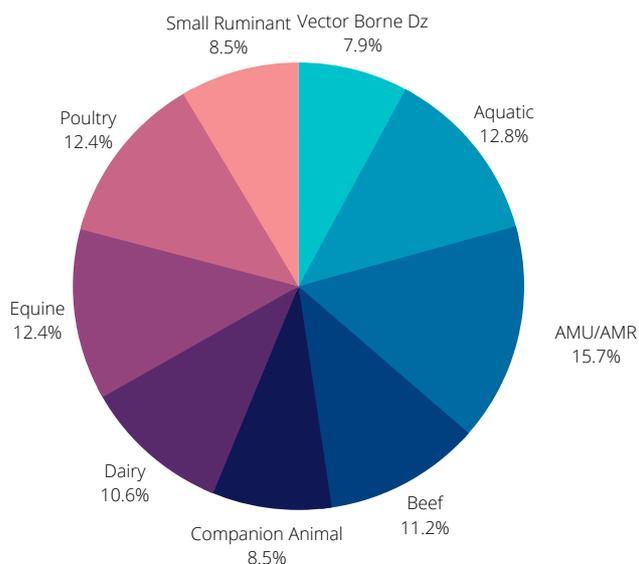
Membership by Organization or Agency

- Veterinary College/Association 8.4%
- Academia 9.4%
- Industry 19.6%
- Private practice 9%
- Laboratory 9.4%
- Government (F) 23.4%
- Government (P/T) 20.9%
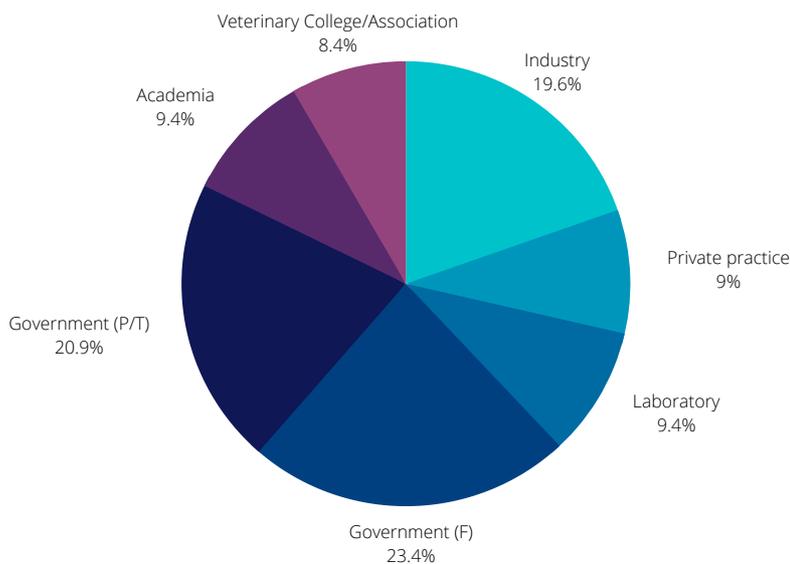
*We encourage our members to log on to the Portal (password protected) side of the **CAHSS website** and to update their member profile. Doing so allows us to compile the most up to date information about the composition of our CAHSS members.*

MEMBERSHIP
AT A GLANCE

CAHSS RESOURCES & TOOLS
SNAPSHOT

59K

59K PAGE VIEWS

There has been a total of **59,000** total page views of the **CAHSS website** from 2021 to 2022. This is a **54% increase** from 2020 to 2021.
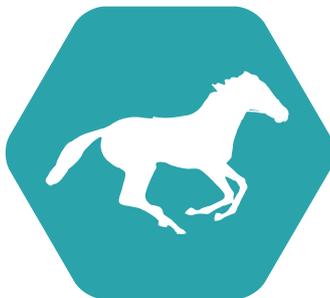
CAHSS EQUINE NETWORK

The top landing page for CAHSS networks is the **CAHSS Equine network page**. The network page includes links to the Equine Diseases Dashboard and an external link to the Equine Disease Communication Center.

CAHSS TOOLS

The most visited CAHSS tools and include the **Disease Alerts page**, **Resources Library page**, **SARS-CoV-2 Dashboard**, and the **Regulated Disease table**.

NEW DASHBOARDS

CAHSS created two new dashboards in 2022 to capture real time information from the **Resources Library** and **Surveillance Initiatives Inventory**.

ANIMAL HEALTH INSIGHTS

CAHSS's podcast series, **Animal Health Insights** released 10 new episodes from 2021 to 2022, with a total of 960 episode downloads on the CAHSS Podbean page.

CAHSS **SUSTAINABILITY**

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

CAHSS' organizational **Sustainability Plan** was finalized in Q4. The report addresses how CAHSS could obtain resources to carry out its organization's mission, and how sustainability could be assured in the medium-to-long term period.

Overall, the report highlights that the organizational model that **best supports CAHSS sustainability is to have CAHSS remain as a distinct division of AHC**. Key stakeholders interviewed for the process unanimously viewed the integration of CAHSS into AHC as a critical success factor of the organization.

Moreover, CAHSS' Strategic Plan 2020 to 2025 remains current and relevant for CAHSS. Its Vision, Mission and Principles are set along with five focus areas: gathering data and information, sharing information and communications, strengthening networks, operations and governance, and sustainability. As AHC is currently undertaking a strategic planning process, the Sustainability Plan highlighted the importance of CAHSS being integrated into AHC's strategic plan.

Critical next steps for CAHSS' sustainability planning are to ensure alignment of CAHSS and AHC strategic planning activities, and to focus on the incorporation and communication of CAHSS' value proposition back to its key stakeholders.
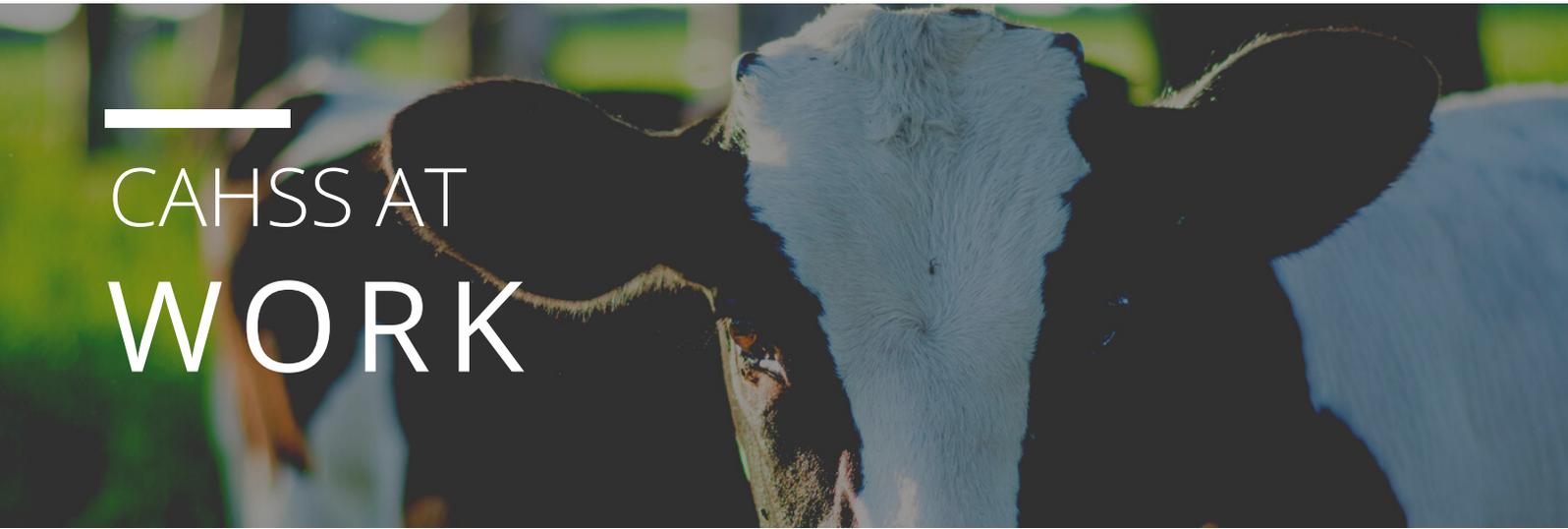
CAHSS AT
WORK

CAHSS **SUSTAINABILITY**

VALUE PROPOSITION

CAHSS's organizational Sustainability Plan highlighted the need to **develop a value proposition for CAHSS** that addresses all key stakeholder groups, including federal and provincial government, industry, public health organizations, laboratorians, and veterinary practitioners.

The overall value proposition is that CAHSS **fills a gap within the Canadian animal health sector** by bringing together multisectoral partners and agencies to support a robust and responsive surveillance system.

CAHSS's self-organizing, member-driven species specific and special topics networks efficiently identify opportunities for collaboration amongst key players within the Canadian animal health sector. Moreover, CAHSS acts as a convenor to provide expert input to allow Canadian surveillance initiatives to be operationalized in a manner that maximizes efficiency and effectiveness.

CAHSS AT
WORK

CAHSS **GOVERNANCE**

STEERING GROUP TO LEAD CAHSS

Overall leadership of CAHSS is provided by the AHC Council, as well as the CAHSS Steering Group, which includes representatives from CAHSS's species networks, as well as Community of Practice members. Community of Practice members are from organizations that provide insight into surveillance oversight and best practices,. This includes members from federal/ provincial/ territorial governments, Council of Chief Veterinary Officers (CCVO), and diagnostic laboratories.

The CAHSS Steering Group structure is designed for strong industry representation within CAHSS governance.

STEERING GROUP MEMBERSHIP 2021/2022

Steering Group Members
- Species Network Representative (Beef): Dr. Joyce Van Donkersgoed
- Species Network Representative (Equine): Dr. Ashley Whitehead* (Steering Group Vice-Chair)
- Species Network Representative: (Poultry): Dr. Cynthia Philipe
- CFIA Representative: Dr. Jagvinder Dhanda
- PHAC Representative: Dr. Richard Reid-Smith
- CEZD Representative: Dr. Andrea Osborn
- CSHIN Representative: Dr. Christa Arsenault
- Provincial Epidemiologist: Dr. Glen Duizer* (Steering Group Chair)
- Diagnostic Animal Health Laboratory Director: Dr. Maria Spinato
- Provincial Chief Veterinary Officer: Dr. Jill Wood

Steering Group Observers
- Species Network Representative (Aquatic): Dr. Alexandria Oswell
- Species Network Representative (Small Ruminant): Jennifer MacTavish
- Species Network Representative (Dairy): n/a
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency: Dr. Ian Alexander
- Partner Network Representative (WeCAHN): Dr. Barb Wilhelm
- Partner Network Representative (OAHN): Dr. Tanya Rossi
- Partner Network Representative (RAIZO): Dr. Claudia Gagné-Fortin
- Partner Network Representative (AtCAHN): Dr. Nicole Wanamaker

CAHSS network chair representatives are also encouraged to participate in regularly scheduled CAHSS meetings held online with the collective group of **CAHSS Leaders**.
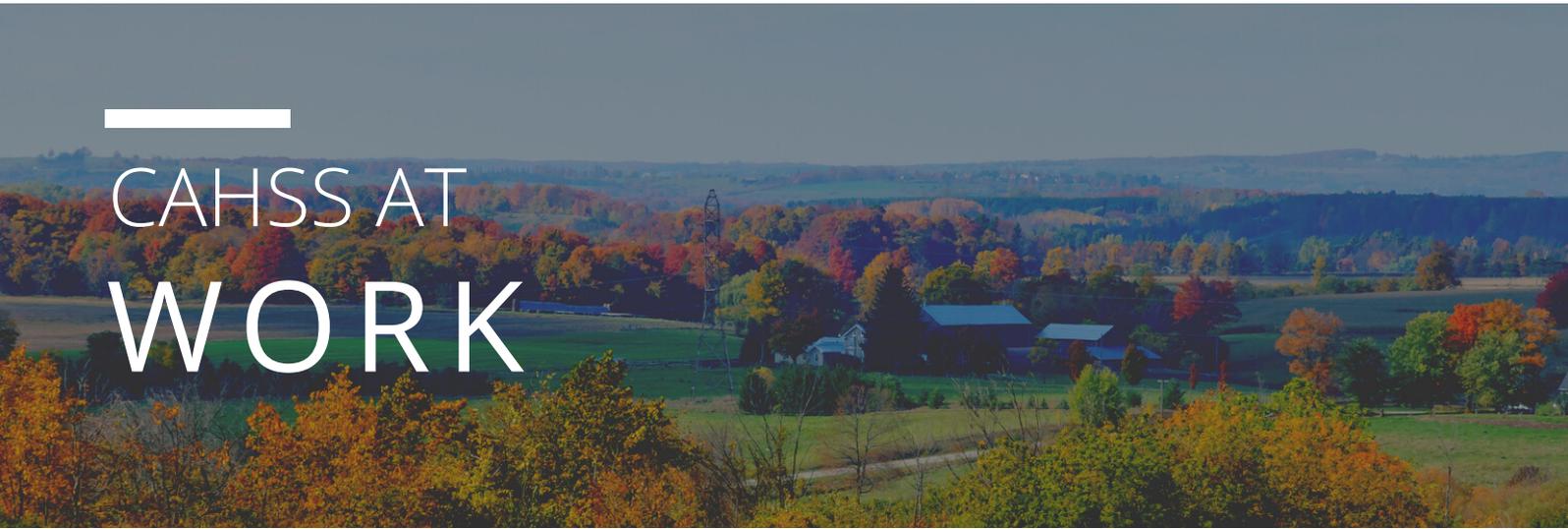
CAHSS AT
WORK

WORKING TOGETHER WITH
AHC COUNCIL DIVISIONS & PROJECTS

CONTINUING COLLABORATION AT AHC

Regular AHC team meetings in 2021 to 2022 allowed for AHC Council division and project coordinators to come together to implement opportunities for collaboration. In addition, CAHSS continues to regularly share relevant resources and events related to other AHC divisions and projects back to our network members.

AHC supports the following divisions and projects:

DIVISIONS

- National Farm Animal Care Council - NFACC
- Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System - CAHSS

PROJECTS

- Advancing Animal Welfare and Public Trust Through Codes of Practice – NFACC
- Enhance Collaboration, Data Integration, Analysis and Reporting – CAHSS
- Animal Health Emergency Management Project – AHEM
- Canadian Livestock Transport Program – CLT

FEATURED COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

CanSpot ASF
CanSpot ASF provides **national risk-based surveillance** for early detection of African swine fever (ASF) in swine in Canada since 2020. It is supported by the ASF Executive Management Board (EMB), a collaborative initiative of regional swine networks, the swine sector, and federal/ provincial/ territorial governments. Staff from CAHSS and AHC are part of the CanSpot ASF Technical Committee, a small group of technical experts working together to champion activities that enhance ASF surveillance.

Interactive Session at Forum 2022
In Q4, CAHSS, AHEM, and ASF National Project staff met regularly to plan for an interactive session for **AHC's Forum 2022** to be held in Ottawa in September 2022. Goals of the session are to highlight the importance of leveraging diverse resources and tools for emergency management and disease surveillance that would be helpful during peace time, that could also be used to deal with disease outbreaks and other situations.

WORKING IN
COLLABORATION

2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

CAHSS'S FOUR WORK AREAS
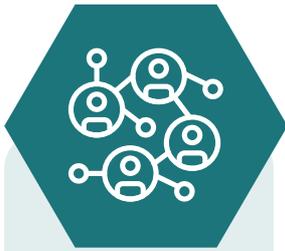
Work Area 1:
Building people networks
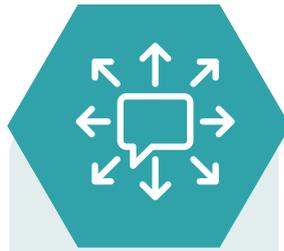
Work Area 2:
Information sharing

Work Area 3:
Building national capacity

Work Area 4:
Collaborative surveillance projects

WORK AREA 1: BUILDING PEOPLE NETWORKS

A fundamental component of CAHSS is our **network of networks** structure, with members from diverse sectors and organizations that come together via online meetings within our CAHSS network calls that are scheduled every quarter. CAHSS's networks currently include Aquatic, Beef, Companion Animal, Dairy, Equine, Poultry, Small Ruminant, Antimicrobial Use/Antimicrobial Resistance and Vector Borne Diseases.

In Q2, CAHSS's **Companion Animal** network was created to bridge gaps related to information sharing and collaborations in companion animal health and surveillance in Canada. The inaugural meeting of the CAHSS Companion Animal network saw members from private practice, non-for-profit shelter organizations, private and public laboratories, academia, industry (pharmaceutical), and government participating in the cross-Canada roundtable for information sharing.

CAHSS AT
WORK

2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

WORK AREA 1: BUILDING PEOPLE NETWORKS (CONTINUED)

Moreover, in Q2, CAHSS's Finfish network changed its network name to the **Aquatic network** to expand scope to include molluscs and crustaceans. The Aquatic network page on the CAHSS website has been updated to reflect these recent changes.

The CAHSS supported **Smallholder Working Group** remained active with two meetings held in Q2 and in Q4. The Working Group consisted of members from surveillance partner network groups, industry, government, and research. Discussions among the group focused on small flock poultry and small lot pigs, and types of resources that were useful and practical for the Canadian smallholder. The CAHSS Smallholder page had been widely shared as a centralized resource page for smallholder producers and veterinarians since Q2.

In Q4, CAHSS staff highlighted the need for **identifying surveillance priorities and disease topics of importance** within several CAHSS networks. Only the Beef network had previously undertaken a prioritization exercise, which was completed in 2018. The surveillance priorities framework of the Beef network proved to be an important document to be revisited by the network in 2021. It was also a useful template for other networks as they continued to develop their own priorities. Surveillance topics and disease topics of importance were identified from previous network meeting minutes. Electronic surveys were sent to CAHSS network members, where they were encouraged to participate in the prioritization exercise and to identify additional topics of interest and importance. Surveillance priorities and next steps with actionable goals within each network will be outlined in the near future.
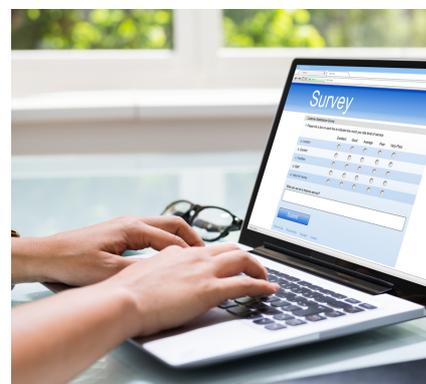
CAHSS AT WORK

2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

WORK AREA 2: INFORMATION SHARING

As a centralized source for real-time information sharing, CAHSS continued to support surveillance partners and members in the past year. In addition to sharing information during network calls, CAHSS regularly shared relevant resources and information on Canadian animal health and surveillance topics on the CAHSS website, and on CAHSS' social media platforms (Twitter, LinkedIn, and Youtube).

CAHSS hosted several educational webinars in Q2. The online webinar, **Update on Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy** included 70 online participants, and the webinar recording accumulated over 200 views on CAHSS's Youtube channel. A four-part series, **Smallholder Swine Course for Veterinarians** provided 230 online participants with more than 8 hours of practical information that prepared veterinarians to provide health services to smallholder swine farmers. Topics of the course included general health and pig production practices, methods to approach a sick pig, best practices for diagnostic workup and treatment, and more.

CAHSS
Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System

FREE RACE Approved Continuing Education (CE) Credits for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians

Smallholder Swine Course for Veterinarians

This course will prepare veterinarians that provide health services to smallholder swine producers. Topics include general health and production practices; approaching the sick pig/ herd; performing a diagnostic workup; and vaccination strategies.

Date: Every Tuesday from October 26 to November 16, 2021 (four seminars in total)
Time: 5:00 to 6:30pm EST
RACE-approved CE: 1.5 hours per seminar
Register: Email **cahssinfo@ahwcouncil.ca** to register

Speaker:
Dr. Suzanne Burlatschenko
DVM, ABVP, MPH

Update on Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy

This webinar provides up to date information on equine herpes myeloencephalopathy (EHM) caused by equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV-1). Topics include EHM diagnosis, prevention, and management. Following the presentation, a roundtable of experts from across Canada will discuss the Canadian situation.

Date: November 2, 2021
Time: 7:00 to 8:30pm EST
RACE-approved CE: 1 hour
Register: Email **cahssinfo@ahwcouncil.ca** to register

Speaker:
Dr. Nicola Pusterla
DVM, DVSc, DACVIM

More information on CAHSS can be found on our website at http://cahss.ca. Funding for CAHSS activities has been provided through the AgriAssurance Program under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

CAHSS AT
# WORK

2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

WORK AREA 2: INFORMATION SHARING (CONTINUED)

In Q3, CAHSS hosted another online webinar, **Cross Canada Check-in on Companion Animal Surveillance**, which left more than 90 participants with up-to-date information on how veterinarians could be useful data providers and users of new companion animal surveillance initiatives across Canada. Another resource, the **SARS-CoV-2 dashboard** created by various One Health partners in Canada and hosted on the CAHSS website, allowed for rapid and flexible information sharing, while increasing CAHSS's webpage traffic by five-fold.

In Q4, **dashboards** were created for the CAHSS Resources Library and Surveillance Initiatives Inventory, where CAHSS members and website users interacted and learned about the different resources and surveillance initiatives within the inventories. Dashboard results were filtered by animal type, disease agent, organization, region, production system, or subject. As of Q4, there were 258 total resources within the resources library, and 177 total initiatives in the surveillance initiatives inventory.
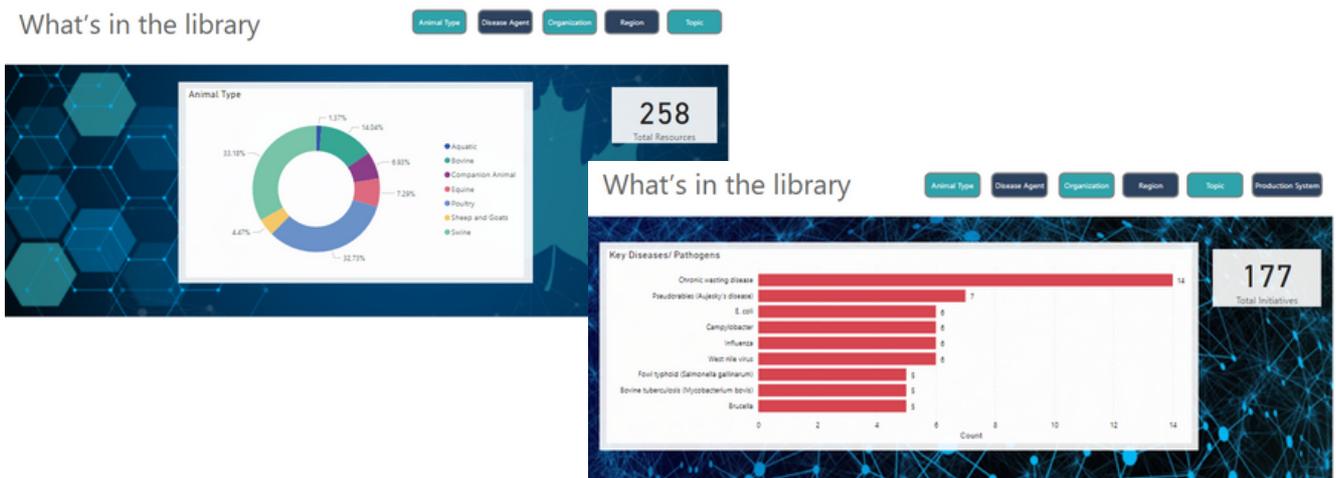
CAHSS's podcast series, **Animal Health Insights** remained active with increased listenership since its initial launch, with 10 new episodes released from 2021 to 2022. The podcast series introduced listeners to the people and organizations that supported animal health in Canada. The goal of the podcast was to share information of interest to veterinarians, producers, and other stakeholders. Podcast topics in 2021 to 2022 were truly diverse and ranged from small ruminant gastrointestinal parasites, Whirling disease in wild fish populations, producer mental health, to the discovery of the Asian Giant Hornet in British Columbia. CAHSS is excited to continue the podcast series for the next year, and encourages members to collaborate, or to provide ideas for future episodes.
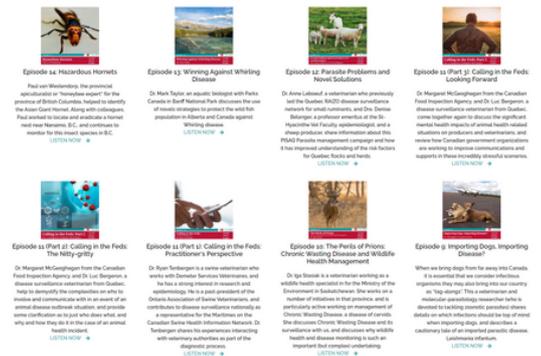
2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

WORK AREA 3: BUILDING NATIONAL CAPACITY

From Q2 to Q4, CAHSS worked hard to strengthen and build skills necessary for capacity building of national surveillance systems, and to maximize efforts and address complex problems at the animal, human, and environment interface. Specific projects included the Minimum dataset for animal health surveillance (MDSAH) project, the provincial abattoir project with condemnation data, as well as the Influenza A Surveillance in Swine workshop.

The **Minimum dataset for animal health surveillance (MDSAH) project** involved updating the core dataset developed by public sector epidemiologists in 2011, while leveraging new collaborations with an expanded surveillance community with public and private sector members, as well as including feedback from a genomics expert panel to gain insight on how genomics is used within laboratory data. Online meeting platforms and interactive tools were used for engagement with surveillance groups, with a total of 340 participants providing feedback on the project. The results of the updated minimum dataset were finalized, and a manuscript is currently being drafted for scientific publication purposes. CAHSS staff will be presenting the results at the CAHLN (Canadian Animal Health Laboratorians Network) conference in June 2022.

CANADIAN ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

MINIMUM DATA SET FOR ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE (MDSAH) PROJECT

Led by the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System, this project will update the minimum data set work with considerations of a changing surveillance environment in Canada.

BACKGROUND

In Canada, animal health laboratories are critical sources of data and information for animal health surveillance. The minimum data set project for animal health (MDSAH) will update the work completed in 2011 to develop a recommended minimum set of animal health laboratory data elements required for surveillance in Canada.

The 2011 project resulted in publication of a minimum dataset anticipated to allow meaningful analysis of collated results from the various public sector provincial, academic and federal animal health laboratories for the purposes of disease detection and characterization, syndromic surveillance, and disease control. The original project was directed by public sector animal health epidemiologists from the F/P/T community in Canada, with input from laboratorians and decision makers.

CORE ELEMENTS OF MINIMUM DATA SET FOR ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

- Unique identifier
- Premises identification
- Date submitted
- Geographic location
- Species
- Farm type
- Group type
- Total population of tested species

- Number sick
- Number dead
- Test(s) performed
- Disease agent
- Test result
- Disease classification by submitter
- Final laboratory diagnosis

(Nloeze et al, 2011)

WHAT IS NEW ABOUT THE MDSAH PROJECT

- The project will leverage new collaborations within the expanded animal health surveillance community to gain focussed input from current users and producers of animal health surveillance data and information about what should be included in a current minimum dataset.
- The project will engage an expert technical group to gain insight on how genomics data is produced by diagnostic laboratories and how it might be effectively used for animal health surveillance.

ANTICIPATED RESULTS

- An updated recommended minimum data set for animal health surveillance
- A preliminary report examining how to incorporate genomics data into animal health surveillance
- The project will run from May 2021 to March 2022.

For more information about the project, please contact us at cahssinfo@ahwcouncil.ca. For more information on the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System, visit http://cahss.ca

Canada | CAHSS

CAHSS AT
WORK

2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

WORK AREA 3: BUILDING NATIONAL CAPACITY (CONTINUED)

Additionally, the **provincial abattoir project with condemnation data** was another way in which CAHSS hopes to build capacity in a national scale. The project aimed to create a central database where data routinely collected by abattoirs could be collected to identify disease signals and increase national surveillance capacity.

Lastly, CAHSS facilitated a first-of-its-kind **Influenza A in Swine Surveillance workshop** alongside the Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network (CSHIN) and the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) in Q2. A total of 38 participants attended the virtual session, with a welcoming statement from Dr. Mary Jane Ireland, Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer (CCVO). The session discussed the importance of two-way information flow between public health and animal health surveillance systems, and highlighted gaps and strategies that could be used to enhance surveillance of influenza in swine. Next steps will be for the swine sector to further determine and identify the "who" and "how" of proposed strategies and solutions to be implemented to enhance influenza in swine surveillance in Canada.

CAHSS AT
WORK

2021/2022 **ACHIEVEMENTS**

WORK AREA 4: COLLABORATIVE SURVEILLANCE PROJECTS

A few collaborative projects and products related to animal health and surveillance that were created from 2021 to 2022:

CROSS-CANADA SURVEILLANCE SNAPSHOT: AMU/AMR SURVEILLANCE
The one-page infographic available in English and French provided users with an easy to comprehend visualization of key surveillance initiatives for antimicrobial use/antimicrobial resistance (AMU/AMR) in animals within Canada. This infographic was made with CAHSS in collaboration with feedback from government members from the AMU/AMR network in Q1.
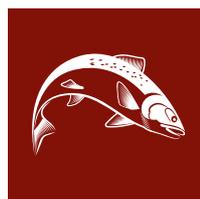
FINFISH HEALTH TRACKER TOOL
The mobile and desktop app was launched in Q2 and allowed anglers and others who spent time outdoors to report normal and abnormal fish sightings. The ongoing program added important data on fish sightings across Canada, provided important information about fish health, and increased understanding of fish species and where they were found in Canada. This program was lead by CAHSS in collaboration with CWHC and CFIA, with a dedicated Working Group from the CAHSS Aquatic network that provided expertise during app development.
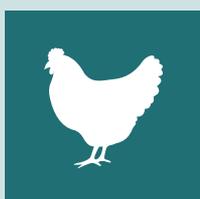
HPAI RESOURCE SHARING
A webinar was organized by CAHSS and WeCAHN in Q4 which provided participants with an update on highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in the context of small flock poultry. In addition, CAHSS regularly compiled HPAI resources from other industry and government partners and regularly disseminated these resources with the CAHSS Poultry network and Smallholder Working Group, as well as on social media platforms.
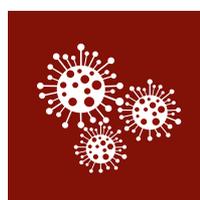
COVID-19 AND ANIMALS
An informative page detailing SARS-CoV-2 susceptibility amongst different animal species was supported by CAHSS and CEZD in Q4, and hosted on the CEZD webpage.

ONE HEALTH INITIATIVES INVENTORY
In Q4, CAHSS and CEZD collaborated to develop the early stages of the One Health Initiatives inventory, which included Canadian organizations and agencies that worked in One Health.