



DOMESTIC PILOT PROJECT - PHASE I

Asian Longhorned Tick Incursion into Alberta and Ontario

PROJECT PURPOSE

- ◆ Move us further upstream in the process of identifying and communicating disease risks
- ◆ To enable rapid communications and acceptable information sharing in emerging/zoonotic disease situations before information is public

DETAILED OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Test CEZD activity triggers and methods
- ◆ Develop/identify the designated domestic network capabilities, including identifying linkages with other networks
- ◆ Identify if the signal is early warning or early detection
- ◆ Establish technical methods for timely confidential exchange of domestic early warning information
- ◆ Identify when/if the designated domestic network can inform the broader community (CEZD and Animal and Public Health Communities in Canada)

DOMESTIC NETWORKS

ALBERTA

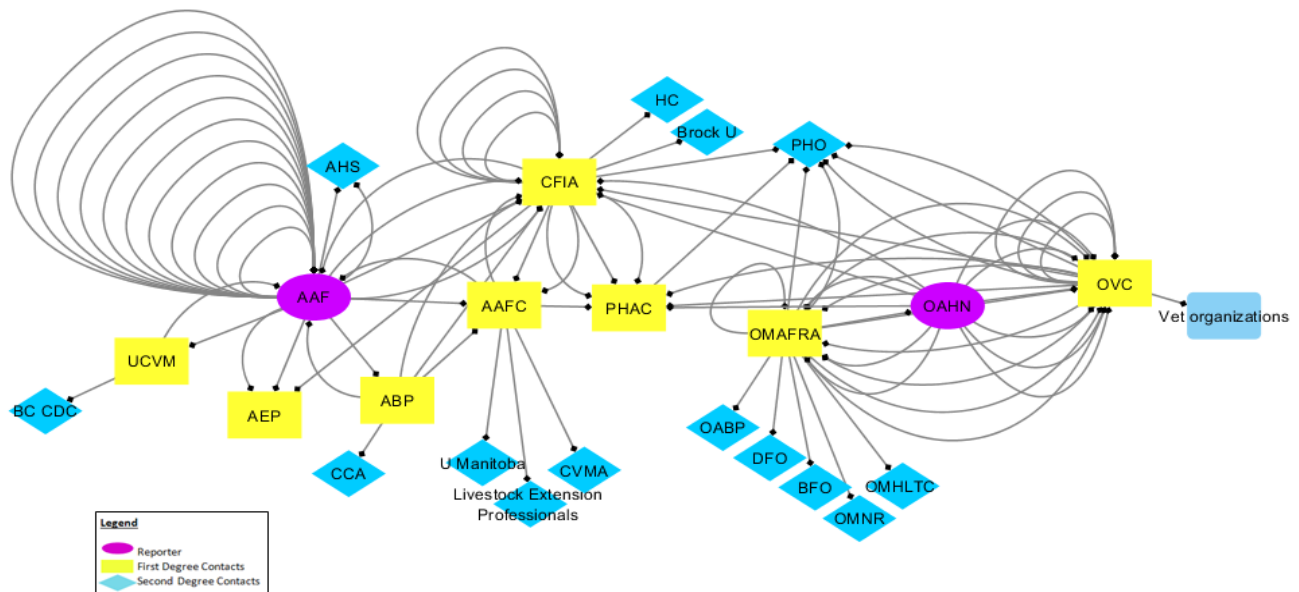
- ◆ Domestic network is strong, minor gaps present (hunters, pest control experts, acarologists)

ONTARIO

- ◆ Domestic network is strong, minor gaps in expertise are present (environmental/ecological experts, international expert with experience in parasite management)

SHARED NATIONAL LINKAGES ENGAGED IN BOTH SCENARIOS

Public Health Agency
Agriculture and Agrifood Canada
Canadian Food Inspection Agency





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REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

ALBERTA

Action requires amendments to:

1. *Alberta Reportable and Notifiable Diseases Regulation*
- or
2. *Alberta Pest and Nuisance Regulation*

Risk assessment required to list as a pest

ONTARIO

Reporting of Hazards and Findings Regulations are immediately applicable

Risk assessment required to determine actions taken

FEDERAL

Health of Animals Regulations
Reportable Diseases Regulations

1. No implications unless a reportable/notifiable disease is suspected

Risk assessment may be required, situation dependent

INFORMATION SHARING

ALBERTA

- ◆ Information can be shared with all CEZD members **after confirmation** of the tick identification
- ◆ Via CNPHI group notification

ONTARIO

- ◆ Information can be shared with all CEZD members **after confirmation and public release** of the information
- ◆ Via CNPHI group notification

SUMMARY OF GAPS

- ◆ Regulatory Amendments are required in Alberta.
- ◆ Risk assessments are required to guide decision making for all authorities; type of risk assessment required is variable by authority.
- ◆ Diagnostic capability to test ticks for pathogens is present, but tests need validation before use.
- ◆ Additional expertise will be required if the ALHT actually shows up in Canada.

ATIP and LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (Federal)

Access to Information and Privacy

- ◆ All records maintained by CFIA employees are subject to ATIP requests
- ◆ ATIP officers will determine which information is protected or must be shared

Legal Implications

- ◆ Any signal which triggers suspicion of a reportable disease must be reported
- ◆ Any signal in a 'grey area' must undergo an evaluation to determine if the duty of care is triggered for the CFIA
- ◆ Existing information sharing agreements in place with the Provinces must be respected

EARLY WARNING VS EARLY DETECTION

- ◆ Early warning is what we have now as the ALHT has not been introduced to Canada at this time
- ◆ Definitions of early warning and early detection need clarification as it was not clear which this scenario represented.

NEXT STEPS

- ◆ Currently unable to engage partners in more pilot projects due to COVID-19
- ◆ Draft policy and procedures for non-public domestic signals in preparation for phase II of the project