

**2021-2022
ANNUAL
REPORT**

Message from the Chair



It has been an honour to serve as the Chair of CAHI's Board of Directors over the past year and I look forward to continuing to serve our industry and guiding the important work of CAHI in the upcoming year. I would especially like to thank our outgoing Past Chair, Jair Garcia of Zoetis, and the Board of Directors for their leadership and dedication.

I would also like to thank Colleen McElwain, who was an invaluable asset to the CAHI staff as our Programs Director since 2016. Colleen has left CAHI to pursue a great opportunity with Animal Health Canada, I am sad to see her go but also very excited for her and know that she will continue to do great things. By the same opportunity, I would like to welcome Dr. Emily Bond to the CAHI team as the new Program Director.

The emergence of complex international problems over the past few years have highlighted the impacts of our globalized society. Globalization has led to both benefits and challenges that have far reaching consequences on animal health and welfare. The rapidly changing world will challenge our industry in coming years as we continue to tackle future emerging diseases, extreme weather conditions, production issues, supply chain disruptions and staffing shortages. Leadership from the Canadian animal health industry on multisectoral issues and the continuation of collaborative efforts with government and industry stakeholders will help us respond in an effective and innovative manner.

The commitment of the players in the Canadian animal health industry is unparalleled. I continue to be humbled by the passion of colleagues who are devoted to the greater good of our unique animal health industry here in Canada, and I would like to thank my industry colleagues for their continued engagement.

Healthy livestock and healthy pets are the result of every member of our association working together in a partnership to serve Canadians. We are all committed to healthy animals for a healthier Canada.

CAHI acts as the voice of the animal health industry in Canada, and I am pleased to present the 2021-22 Annual Report which outlines the continued and important work of the Institute over the past year.

Dr. Robert Bell, Chair
CEO, Bio Agri Mix



Message from the President & CEO

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for how much we accomplished in the face of unprecedented challenges, our collective resilience, creativity, and unwavering commitment to healthier animals for a healthier Canada.

This year we were thrilled to finally be able to host delegates in person again at our 2022 Annual Convention In Quebec City, with virtual participation for those unable to attend in person. It was my first real opportunity to meet many of our members in person after three long years of being limited to virtual interactions due to the pandemic, and while not everyone was able to attend, I am glad to finally be able to put so many more faces to names!

The past year also brought a number of operational changes to the CAHI office, as we continued to modernize and improve how the staff team works and interacts with our members. We moved to a virtual operations model at the beginning of 2022, which allowed us to cast a much wider net during our recruitment for Colleen's replacement in the Programs Director position, and our current recruitment for a CAHI Communications Manager. Dr. Emily Bond, our new Programs Director, lives in Drummondville, QC, and has quickly become a vital part of our staff team.

Looking ahead at the coming months, there is no doubt that even as we have finally emerged we face new challenges and opportunities. The pace of change in our industry is accelerating, and we must stay nimble and innovative. Let us approach the coming year with the same determination and enthusiasm, confident in our ability to create a future of continued success.

Dr. Catherine Filejski
Canadian Animal Health Institute



Domestic Regulatory Updates

Consultations

CAHI participated in several public consultations over the year including:

1. CFIA's proposed changes to the *Feeds Regulations in Canada Gazette*, Part 1
2. Management of regulatory submissions guidance (MORS) Guidance
3. Proposed Quebec Regulations for Veterinary Pharmaceutical Collections
4. Draft Guidance on Veterinary Drug Labelling
5. Targeted Review of the Pest Control Products Act
6. Treasury Board – Competitive Assessment Tool

Quebec's Règlement sur les conditions et modalités de vente des médicaments

In February of 2021, CAHI contacted Quebec's Office des professions with a request for modification of Annexes IV and V of Article 17 of Règlement sur les conditions et modalités de vente des médicaments. Prescription veterinary drugs are listed in Annex IV and veterinary drugs that must be sold under veterinary supervision are listed in Annex V.

The requested modification to the Annexes asked for the removal of monensin and salinomycin from Annex IV and their reclassification into Annex V, as well as the removal of imidacloprid and glycosaminoglycan (for oral use) from Annex V and their reclassification as non-classified substances.

A decision from the Office des professions on the reclassifications requested by CAHI is still pending.

Federal Government Updates

Treasury Board - Competitiveness Assessment Tool (CAT)

The COVID-19 pandemic has served to amplify existing regulatory issues impacting the competitiveness of businesses and industry. Within this context, Treasury Board Secretariat recently launched the Competitiveness Assessment Tool (CAT) project, which stems from the Government's commitment to design and implement regulations that better consider their impact on the competitiveness of Canadian businesses.

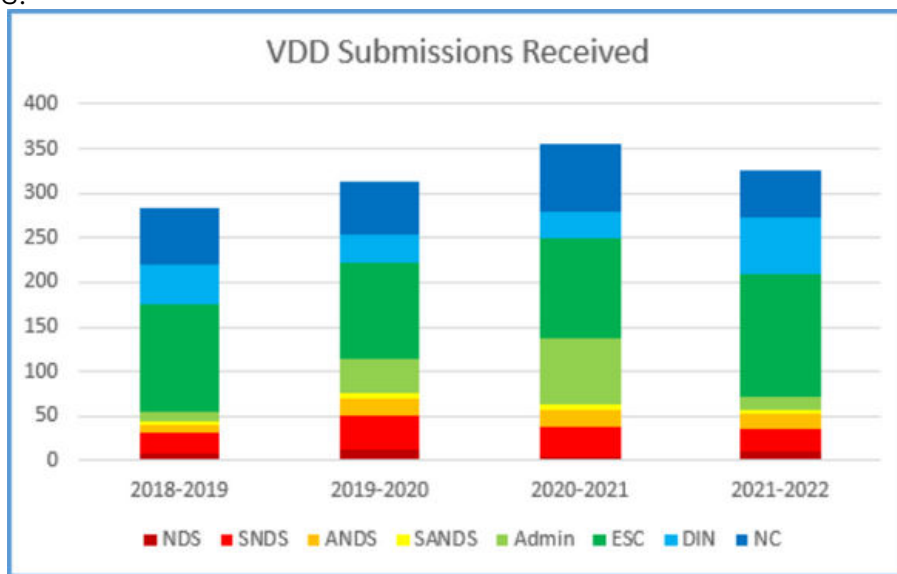
The CAT is a self-assessment style checklist designed to be used by regulators at any stage of the regulatory lifecycle to help:

- Identify opportunities for improvement;
- Avoid unintended impacts that create an unlevel 'playing field' for Canadian businesses; and
- Ensure that regulations are responsive to new technologies and changing realities.

Based on stakeholder feedback from initial consultations in the first half of 2022, the key policy pillars identified as being critical for a comprehensive approach to regulatory development or review are: economic growth and trade, innovation, investment attractiveness, cumulative effects of regulatory requirements imposed from all jurisdictions, and an understanding of barriers to competition.

Health Canada - Veterinary Drugs Directorate (VDD)

VDD has continued to deliver on key programs and services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic with some shifts in the way they operate such as virtual meetings, and an increased and continued focus on electronic tools. International collaboration, participation in joint reviews, identifying opportunities for further alignment, standardization and process improvements remain in their areas of focus.



DD acknowledges that Canada is a small market and continues to work with industry partners to facilitate filings, align requirements internationally and remain flexible. VDD will continue to work with ROEB and others to help sort out issues related to GMP requirements, drug shortages, and on-market product issues and disruptions as they arise.

Health Canada - Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch (ROEB)

As of April 1, 2021, Health Canada implemented a new cost recovery regime which grants remissions to fee-payers for missed service standards. With the new fees, HC continues to focus on delivering services within the established 250-day service standard and is committed to working on optimizing its drug establishment licensing approach to enable quicker authorizations and faster access to drugs for Canadians.

In 2021-2022 HC issued 95% of DEL applications within the 250-day service standard. The DEL applications inventory has decreased by 60% since April 2020. Industry can help alleviate HC's challenges by ensuring complete applications as per the guidance and responding to clarification requests in a timely manner. Approximately half of applications trigger pause-the-clock notices due to deficiencies or require clarifications.



Santé
Canada

Health
Canada

Veterinary Health Products (VHPs) in Feed Pilot

CFIA and VDD continue to work on a pilot project for VHPs in Feed, which saw the completion of Phase 1 in the first half of 2022. VHPs may reduce the need to use conventional drugs, including antimicrobials. This initiative will complement a variety of infection prevention and control measures as suggested in the Pan-Canadian Framework for Action by providing access to additional animal health management tools to tackle antimicrobial resistance. Livestock producers have expressed a strong interest in having access to various health management tools available for use in feeds.

In August 2021, CFIA published the Compendium of veterinary health products for use in livestock feed (Compendium) which listed the veterinary health products (VHPs) that are allowed to be mixed in feeds. Twelve (12) VHPs were notified in July 2021 as part of Health Canada's (HC) pilot project, but were not allowed to be mixed in feeds until the Compendium was published.

The VHPs approved for use in-feed through the pilot could not be added to feeds containing another VHP, or a medicating ingredient (DIN product), and were also restricted to mixing in complete feeds only. This pilot project provided needed experience to HC and CFIA in approving these types of products and regulating their mixing into feed. Restrictions currently present in the pilot will be re-evaluated as the notification of in-feed VHPs continues to evolve, and regulators are seeking feedback from participants in the pilot on their Phase 1 experience in order to inform future approaches.

Guidance on the use of VHPs in feed, including labelling requirements is available on the CFIA website.



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

International Regulatory Updates

EU Article 118

Almost exactly one year after the European Commission public consultation for the criteria for identifying antimicrobials to be reserved for the treatment of certain infections in humans, in relation to the Veterinary Medicinal Products Regulation, a second public consultation was opened in the spring of May 2022 to create the list of actual antimicrobials to be reserved for human use only.

CAHI worked on behalf of our members, with our partners at ANAC (Animal Nutrition Association of Canada), NCFA (National Cattle Feeders' Association), TFC (Turkey Farmers of Canada), CPC (Canadian Pork Council), CSF (Canadian Sheep Federation), CABV (Canadian Association of Bovine Veterinarians), CCA (Canadian Cattlemen's Association), CMC (Canadian Meat Council) and CASV (Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians) to develop a joint submission in response to the consultation.

This joint submission on the draft *European Commission Implementing Regulation and Annex designating antimicrobials or groups of antimicrobials reserved for treatment of certain infections in humans, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the Council* was filed in May 2022 and contained the following two recommendations:

1. Within the Annex listing of Antimicrobials or groups of antimicrobials reserved for treatment of certain infections in humans, antimicrobial (1)(n) Macrocycles should be more clearly defined as:

(n) Macrocycles, ***excluding macrolides***

2. The Implementing Regulation should also lay out a clear and transparent process for future reviews of and modifications to the Annex, including the identification of triggers, and requirements for the (re-)assessment process.

Codex Alimentarius

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS

All Codex meetings continued to be held virtually over the past year. Important milestones achieved in 2021-2022 included the culmination of years of work by the Codex Ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) in the finalization of two important guidance documents:

- *Guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance* (CXG 94-2021); and
- *Revised Code of Practice to minimize and contain foodborne antimicrobial resistance* (CXC 61-2005).

Following the formal finalization and adoption of the two documents at the November 2021 meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the TFAMR was officially dissolved. While meetings of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) have been on hold, a return to in person meetings of CCRVDF is currently planned for early 2023.

VDD Roundtable on Veterinary Pharmaceuticals

Following a series of consultations with veterinary and producer associations related to the CAHI Priority Animal Health Needs initiative first launched in 2021, joint letters expressing growing concern about a lack of access to veterinary medicinal products in Canada were sent to the federal Ministers of Health, and Agriculture and Agri-food, and led to the establishment of a Roundtable on Veterinary Pharmaceuticals earlier this year. The first meeting of the Roundtable was held in February 2022, co-chaired by the Veterinary Drugs Directorate and Chicken Farmers of Canada, and brought together representatives from across the Government of Canada and 15 stakeholder groups. The objective of the Roundtable was to provide regulators and stakeholders with a common and up-to-date view of challenges and opportunities relating to product access, promote understanding across sectors, identify opportunities for bringing needed products to Canada, maintain products on the market and maximize available regulatory and operational flexibilities.

CAHI sits at the Roundtable and works closely with stakeholder groups to identify and prioritize needed products across the livestock and poultry sectors, inform regulators of any known shortages and explore solutions that can be worked on proactively. CAHI continues its outreach to industry to promote the value of the joint review and encourage filings through pathways of joint submission when possible and advantageous, and follows up with companies on underlying reasons for products in dormant status to improve understanding of specific product situations and recommend possible solutions to VDD/CCVB. Working to keep veterinary products on the Canadian market remains one of our core priorities.

Stakeholder attendance:

Canadian Sheep Federation

Canadian Small Ruminant Veterinarians

Canadian Cattlemen's Association

Canadian Pork Council

Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians

Canadian Association of Bovine Veterinarians

Equestrian Canada

Canadian Equine Veterinary Advocacy Alliance

Chicken Farmers of Canada

Canadian Association of Poultry Veterinarians

Dairy Farmers of Canada

Canadian Global Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank

Animal Nutrition Association of Canada



National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council transition to Animal Health Canada

Over the past year, the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council completed its transition to Animal Health Canada (AHC), formally changing its name on January 10, 2022. Under the leadership of a new Executive Director since the fall of 2021, AHC now provides a formal structure for industry-government collaboration on implementation of the animal health components of the Plant and Animal Health Strategy for Canada.

Identified AHC priorities for 2021-2022 included:

- Refining and formalizing AHC's governance structure;
- Determining funding and resource requirements;
- Enhancing communication, consultation and stakeholder outreach; and
- Supporting activities such as the African Swine Fever Executive Management Board Pilot Project, and the FMD Vaccine Bank Strategy Working Group.

Following the departure of Colleen McElwain from CAHI in the fall of 2021, CAHI continues to be well represented within AHC by CAHI's President & CEO, who has stepped in to finish Colleen's term on the AHC Board of Directors.

AMR/AMU Committee

Dr. Emily Bond, CAHI's new Programs Director is the CAHI representative on the AHC Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Committee (AMR/AMU Committee). The Committee meets regularly to review information and updates in legislation and science as they pertain to Canadian animal populations.

Key areas of focus include a review of how animal agriculture has already moved forward on some of the actions identified in the draft Pan-Canadian Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance, working with members and stakeholders to identify needs and models to guide policy and position development, and identifying next steps to move the One Health discussions related to the Pan Canadian Action Plan and the AMR Network forward.



HealthforAnimals

global animal health association

After two years of exclusively virtual meetings, the spring of 2022 saw the return of in-person HealthforAnimals meetings. CAHI attended the 2022 HealthforAnimals General Assembly, as well as the 89th Regulatory Strategy Team meeting, a Communications Team meeting, and the Member Associations Forum, which were all held in Paris, France, at the Maison de l’Amerique Latine between March 8-11.

A wide range of topics was covered in the Paris meetings, including new HealthforAnimals big data initiatives, global vaccination trends, sustainability, and planning for the upcoming 2025 Global Benchmarking Survey.

The Regulatory Strategy Team meeting was also attended by the OIE’s Director of the Department of Antibiotic Resistance and Veterinary Medicines, Javier Yugueros-Marcos, who presented the main activities led by his department in the field of diagnostics, parasiticides and other issues pertaining to the regulation of veterinary medicines.



HealthforAnimals General Assembly Meeting in 2022

Code of Marketing Practice

The CAHI's policy is that high ethical standards be the cornerstone of all our business activities. Holding our members accountable and responsible to a high standard of ethics may be our best strategy to ensure the orderly marketing and correct usage of our products in the marketplace. The Code of Marketing Practice emphasizes the importance in the public interest of providing accurate, fair and objective information on animal health products so that rational decisions for prescribing and use can be made.

The Code represents an act of self-discipline. Acceptance and observance of its provisions are a condition of membership in the CAHI. Member companies are always encouraged to make every attempt to resolve differences on their own before starting the official complaint resolution process.

Over the next year, the Code of Marketing Practice will be coming up for a review to ensure that it continue to:





- Address emerging issues;
- encompass the different aspects of business activities in the rapidly evolving animal health industry; and
- align with current regulatory requirements.

In 2021-2022, no disputes over the marketing of animal health products were escalated to the complaint resolution process of the Code.

Social Media

Implementation of the new social media strategy launched last year is continuing. Over the course of the year, management of all four of our social channels, including twitter and Facebook was outsourced to a social media company, in order to allow CAHI staff to focus on member services and programs.

Below is a quick snapshot of how well we are performing across our four main social channels between May 2020 and July 2022.

	45 new followers	↑ 5.86%
	998 new page likes	↑ 359%
	56 new followers	↑ 74%
	252 new followers	↑ 769%

CAHI Online

CAHI staff have been working on the development of a new members' portal, which is expected to be launched fall 2022. Members who attended this year's CAHI Annual Convention already had a chance to use a small section of the new platform during the registration process.

The platform will allow for a directory of the members, different workspaces that provide a designated space for collaboration for the Drug committee and the Stewardship committee and other projects, as well as message boards for easy access to industry news and updates. Staff will be hosting training webinars on the new portal in the upcoming months.

Virtual Office

After almost two years of the CAHI staff team working from home under pandemic conditions, CAHI has joined the long list of companies and businesses that have made the leap to a permanent remote working model as the COVID-19 pandemic starts to wind down.

We moved out of our physical office space in Guelph in December of 2021, freeing up much-needed resources that will be used to better serve our members' needs and expand the staff complement.

CAHI staff can now work from anywhere and this move allowed us to access a much broader talent pool in our recruitment for a new Programs Director in the spring. With the establishment of a Toronto-based physical address for correspondence, the CAHI phone number was also updated. Please take note of our new contact information.



Looking to the future

CAHI will be updating our brand with a new logo and website redesign. Watch for our new logo which will be unveiled in fall 2022 followed by a new website in early 2023. The new website will:

- Modernize the content and create a useful online resource for anyone looking for information on the Canadian animal health industry; and
- Utilize effect Search Engine Optimization (SEO) to ensure the CAHI website ranks higher on the search engine results pages.

Website redesign had been identified as a priority for the coming year in order to increase value to our members. Identified goals include (1) increasing our website traffic, (2) building the industry's profile and, (3) strengthening our outreach to the Canadian public.

CAHI Welcomes New Members



P3 VETERINARY PARTNERS
Pets. People. Practice.

P3 Veterinary Partners is an innovative Canadian veterinary group, grounded in their focus on Pets, People and Practice. With an unwavering commitment to these three 'Ps', they strive to provide the best veterinary health care in best hospital environments across Canada.

NVA Canada supports a community of veterinary practices in Canada. NVA is a global community of veterinary practices and pet resorts that represent five countries and over 1200 locations.



Dispomed is a family-owned business founded in 1982. Dispomed designs and manufactures quality veterinary equipment and supplies, such as anesthesia machines, dental units and Vet-tables range of products.

Univet Coopérative Vétérinaire is the largest group of independent veterinary owners in the companion animal sector in Quebec. They provide support their 124 members across the province, with services such as: business solutions, benchmarking, training, HR services, etc.



Canadian Aquaculture Industry Alliance (CAIA) is the national association that speaks for Canada's seafood farmers, representing their interests to Ottawa to regulators, policymakers and political leaders. CAIA is a passionate advocate for the quality and sustainability of farmed seafood.

EVAH Corp. is a proud Canadian biotechnology company based in Quebec that is focused on developing animal health technologies. Their mission is to find better ways to feed the planet, address consumer needs for non-antibiotic protein, and increase sustainability of food by fostering innovation.



LEVOYA Inc. is a small team of animal health insiders providing consulting services to companies of all sizes. Their main area activity is centered in the development of partnerships (access to innovation, market access) mostly in the Americas and Europe.

Annual Convention

After 2 years off due to the pandemic, CAHI was thrilled to be back to hosting our annual convention in-person in Quebec City this year. Due to ongoing uncertainty related to the pandemic, a virtual option was also available again this year in addition to in-person attendance. For the first time, convention dinners were held at off-site locations, which allowed attendees to experience the blend of historical and modern features the city has to offer, while networking with their colleagues.

The CAHI Networking Dinner was held at in the charming Salle des Promotions at le Séminaire de Québec, while the CAHI Awards and Banquet Dinner moved to the Musée de la civilisation, where convention attendees had exclusive access to the Pompeii exhibit before the dinner.

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CAHI welcomes the 2022-23 Board of Directors

Program Highlights

Program highlights for this year's annual convention included a State of the Association Address from CAHI President and CEO Dr. Catherine Filejski. Catherine spoke about CAHI's direction under her leadership and clarified the vision and the strategic plan for the future.

Keynote speakers:

- Mr. Mark Bowden a world-renowned expert on body language;
- Dr. Lisa Belanger speaking on the neurology of leadership.

4 panel sessions with time for Q&A periods and audience participation, including:

- **'A Series of Black Swan Events and the effects on the Ag Industry'**
- **'Lessons Learned from BC'**, which highlighted front-line stories and experiences from different industry players during the catastrophic flooding in 2021;
- **'Issues Affecting Veterinary Practice Capacity'**, presented by the Deans of two of Canada's five veterinary colleges, as well as an Industry partner, discussed current and upcoming initiatives to help remedy the veterinary shortage; and
- **'Working with the Regulators in 2022 and beyond'** - virtual regulatory panel with participation from CFIA, Health Canada and Treasury Board
- A presentation on the factors affecting our industry, including mental health and wellness

Under development is a new addition to the CAHI Convention experience for 2023:

Stay tuned for a Canadian Animal Health Industry Bootcamp, a full-day workshop session for company staff, new recruits or anyone in the industry to learn about the Canadian Animal Health Industry, the regulatory environment, the Code of Marketing Practice and more!

The CAHI Bootcamp is expected to follow the CAHI 2023 Annual Convention in Ottawa, Ontario.



THANK YOU

to our sponsors and to all who attended and made this year's annual convention a success!

CAHI Awards



We are pleased to announce that **Mr. Jost am Rhyn of the Canadian Veterinary Medicine Association (CVMA)**, is the 2021 recipient of CAHI Industry Leadership Award!

Mr. am Rhyn has served as the CEO of CVMA and the Registrar of the National Examining Board (NEB) since 2002. He has worked diligently for the past 20 years to provide the veterinary profession with tools to be successful in business, practice and have a work-life balance. Some of the many accomplishments that can be credited to his leadership include the CVMA Business Management Program, the CVMA Leadership series as well as many collaborations and partnerships with national and international associations and industry partners.



We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Normand Plourde, of Boehringer Ingelheim**, is the 2021 recipient of the CAHI Chair's Award!

Dr. Plourde has positively shaped the animal health industry through the breadth of his contributions. He has been one of the CAHI representatives on the CAFHPEC (previously CAHPRAC) Committee for over 10 years. He has been on the CAHI Stewardship committee for the last 7 years and he took part in a bilateral committee with ROEB looking at establishment licensing and related issues. His enthusiasm and steadfast leadership with the animal health industry has been ever-present throughout each step of his dynamic career.



This year's winners of the CAHI awards received a sandcasted glass and steel tower by Toronto-based glass artist **Alex Anagnostou**.

She is an internationally acclaimed artist who has been sculpting blown and cast glass and metal since 2000. Her work is inspired by how the history of the glass lens and technology has revolutionized our ability to see on a microscopic and macroscopic level. Her work seeks to capture and communicate the underlying interconnections, structures and energies that we cannot always see.

Environmental Stewardship



Despite continuing pandemic-related challenges for a second year, Cleanfarms collections rolled out as scheduled in the fall of 2021, with collections in Northern Saskatchewan, Southern Alberta, British Columbia (Okanagan and Interior Kootenay, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia). All 5 provinces saw an increase in collected old livestock medications as well as unwanted pesticides, with a 135% increase in kgs of livestock medications dropped off compared to 2018.

	Collected (kgs)	# of sites	% change
PEI	469	7	↑ 32%
QUEBEC	1,368	7	↑ 325%
BC (Vancouver Island & Fraser Valley)	602.5	7	↓ 244%
Southern SK	949	20	↓ 296%

DID YOU KNOW?

Since program inception, Cleanfarms has collected **58,000 kg** of old livestock/ equine medicines

The overall Cleanfarms 2021 results show substantial growth in the collection numbers for the materials it collects for recycling and responsible disposal across the country suggesting that more farmers are using the services Cleanfarms offers and bringing back more materials.

Additional 2021 insights for the unwanted pesticides and old livestock medications (UPLM) program:

- From the participant exit surveys, we know that the top answers to Why did you end up with obsolete/ unwanted products is (1) Inherited product and; (2) Old and damaged.
- 75% of participants said that the unwanted products have been on their property for over 6 years, with the oldest product last year being a fungicide from the 1950s.
- A majority of participants in 2021 strongly agreed that the UPLM program is important and convenient and that the 3-year cycle of the UPLM program meets their disposal needs.
- 50% of participants said they were using the program for the first time.

Special Cleanfarms Collections in Spring 2022:

In the wake of devastating flooding in British Columbia in November of 2021, Cleanfarms hosted a special collection in Abbotsford in March 2022 to help out farmers in the Abbotsford/Chilliwack regions with their continuing efforts to recover after the floods. Collection partners for this special collection were Terralink and Nutrien Ag.

Regular Cleanfarms fall 2022 collections will be held in the **Peace Region (BC & AB), Northern Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario & Newfoundland.**

CAHI and its members remain committed to supporting initiatives which offer end users safe disposal options for obsolete or unwanted animal health products. We work with Health Product Stewardship Association (HPSA) as the organization who operate joint collection programs to meet the provincial regulator requirements. HPSA currently operates stewardship programs in 4 provinces (BC, MB, ON, PEI) and SK, QC and NB are expected to regulate the collection and safe disposal of pharmaceutical products in the next 3 years.

PSA has been through some changes and modernization in 2020-2021, including bringing a new Director-General on board to lead the organization in 2020, developing a new logo that was launched in 2021, and work on revising its fee structures. Starting in 2022, the base rate fee has been removed, and CAHI will be working closely with HPSA to design the new fee structure for animal health companies that reflects each member's market share of sales of designated products in that provincial market.



Quebec Regulatory Proposal for Pharmaceutical Connections

In October 2021, a draft regulation was published in the Gazette Officielle du Québec for a six-week consultation period which would significantly impact veterinary pharmaceutical collections in the province (*Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la récupération et la valorisation de produits par les entreprises*).

The draft regulation proposed that the disposal of obsolete or unwanted animal health products be done through veterinary clinics, and contained a number of elements which would result in major financial and/or operational impacts on the development and management of a Quebec program for the collection of veterinary pharmaceuticals. According to the draft regulation, 40% of veterinary clinics (i.e. 270 of Quebec's 677 vet clinics) where products are being sold would need to become collection sites.

CAHI reviewed and discussed its impacts with the *Association pour la récupération de produits santé, AgriRécup*, the *Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec* and CDMV. A response to the consultation was submitted in November 2021, which included the following comments and recommendations:

- Given the limited number of animal health companies selling vet products in Quebec the collection program would be more expensive to operate. Adding more costs to products on the Canadian animal health market will mean the loss of more products from the market;
- The volume of medications collected by veterinary clinics would be very low and the cost to set up a specific collection program for each veterinary clinic would be quite high;
- The collection of obsolete and unwanted veterinary pharmaceuticals should occur only in community pharmacies, leveraging the existing model already used by *l'Association pour la récupération de produits de santé* and aligning with the program that is currently in place in Ontario.

World Rabies Day Canada

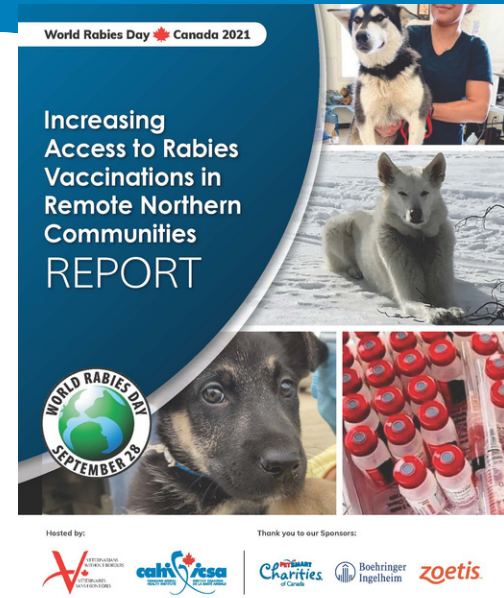
In remote northern regions of Canada, Canadians and their animals remain highly vulnerable to the risk of rabies. Rabies is endemic in Arctic fox and red fox populations in the north, and the problem in remote First Nations communities is further compounded by a lack of regular access to veterinary services, high rates of dog population turn over and large numbers of dogs who are not vaccinated against rabies.

To highlight this important One Health issue CAHI partnered with Veterinarians Without Borders-Canada (VWB) to host our first annual virtual event for **World Rabies Day (WRD)** on **Sept 28, 2021**.

The nationwide WRD webinar examined the unique challenges of rabies prevention and control in Canada's north and showcased initiatives which support remote northern Indigenous communities in obtaining and administering rabies vaccines to their dogs to improve both animal and human health.

Following the webinar we hosted a workshop which brought together Indigenous, territorial/provincial government and community representatives with animal health service providers from the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Yukon and northern Quebec to discuss how access to canine rabies vaccines could be increased in the north.

CAHI's World Rabies Day Canada 2021 event served to highlight how our industry can act to respond to Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action in relation to public health outcomes.



<p><u>World Rabies Day Calls to Action</u></p>	<p>Development of standardized training and resources which are accessible to remote communities, and that are updated on a regular basis, in support of lay vaccinator programs.</p>
<p>Release of the World Rabies Day Canada 2021 Report summarizing information and outcomes of the September 28, 2021 webinar and workshop.</p>	<p>Building relationships between remote communities and vaccine manufacturers to facilitate the application process for direct purchases of rabies vaccines and navigate logistical challenges.</p>
<p>Creation of a national working group to develop and support nationally standardized protocols for lay vaccinator programs.</p>	<p>Outreach to, and support for, remote communities who would like to establish their own lay rabies vaccination programs.</p>

Pilot Project with Cross Lake Band of Indians

Section 134.2 (2) (b) of the Health of Animals Regulations permits the Minister of Agriculture to grant an exemption allowing remote communities where veterinary services are not readily available to purchase rabies vaccines directly from the manufacturer or distributors. According to CFIA's Canadian Centre for Veterinary Biologics, which oversees remote community applications for the exemption, prior to 2021, only two of Canada's 292 remote communities had ever applied for this exemption, and neither was an indigenous community.

Over the summer of 2021, CAHI collaborated with the CFIA, Zoetis Canada and the Manitoba Animal Alliance to pilot the first direct purchase of rabies vaccines by an Indigenous community, the Cross Lake Band of Indians in northern Manitoba.



Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action

Call to Action #19

“We call upon the federal government, in consultation with Aboriginal peoples, to establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and to publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends. Such efforts would focus on indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services.”

Health of Animals Regulations

PART XI Veterinary Biologics

Requirements of Operation in a Licensed Establishment Section 134.2

134.2 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), no person shall sell or offer for sale a rabies vaccine to anyone other than a veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture of Canada or a veterinarian who holds a valid licence to practice veterinary medicine issued by the veterinary licensing body of a province.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of rabies vaccine that is sold or offered for sale in accordance with the written permission granted by the Minister for its use

- (a) in a temporary emergency veterinary clinic; or
- (b) in a remote area where veterinary services are not readily available.

“We love our furbabies just as much as mainstream Canadians do, they are a part of our families too. But we don't have the same access to healthcare that the rest of the country does. We don't have a veterinarian here; sometimes we don't even have a doctor, and I can't imagine having to shoot my own dog Max if he were bitten by a rabid skunk. A simple vaccine can prevent that, and now we can get vaccines for all our dogs without having to rely on anyone else. This makes our community safer and healthier. It changes everything.”



Helga Hamilton
Health Director,
Cross Lake Band
of Indians, Manitoba

From the CAHI video on the pilot with Cross Lake Band of Indians.

Veterinary Community Outreach - Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne

In May, CAHI staff participated in a veterinary community outreach initiative organized by the Toronto Humane Society at the Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne, on the border of Ontario and Quebec. Community pets were seen for wellness examinations, vaccinations, deworming, microchipping and 4Dx testing, and there was a tremendous amount of interest from the community in the wellness clinic. Flea, tick and heartworm medications were also available for purchase.

Community outreach initiatives provide access to veterinary care to First Nations and other underserved communities and populations who do not have regular access to veterinary care for their animals. They also represent an opportunity for the animal health industry to contribute to improving the health and wellness of southern indigenous communities in Canada. Many pets examined that day had either never seen a veterinarian before or were last seen at the previous veterinary community outreach day.



Map by Meredith Holigroski/Data from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne

This is also an excellent opportunity to educate community members on different animal diseases, zoonoses, and other public health risks such as tick-borne diseases.

Over the course of two days 86 dogs and 38 cats were seen:

- 25% of the dogs tested positive for exposure to Lyme disease
- 4% tested positive for exposure to Anaplasma
- 7% were positive for heartworm



The last year has seen some changes to the CAHI Staff Team. After five years as CAHI's Programs Director, Colleen McElwain left in November 2021 to pursue a great opportunity with Animal Health Canada as their Director of Operations & Animal Health. Colleen has been a huge asset to CAHI and we were very sad to see her go, but were also very excited for her. We know she will do great in her new role. Thank you, Colleen, for all your hard work!

After an intensive recruitment process, Dr. Emily Bond has joined us as the new Programs Director.

Emily is a graduate of the FMV and completed a Master's degree in public and international affairs from Ottawa University.

Prior to joining CAHI, she worked as a veterinarian on the pharmacovigilance team and served as a technical service veterinarian for different pharmaceutical companies. Emily also has experience working in policy for the Canadian Pork Council and as a small animal veterinarian.

Whenever she is not working, you can find Emily hanging out in Drummondville, usually by the pool, with her toddlers and her two chihuahuas.



Dr. Emily Bond

We are currently in the process of hiring a Communications Manager to join the CAHI staff team. The creation of this new position aligns with the restructuring and modernization of the organization and our current strategy to expand our outreach, build public trust and awareness and solidify our stakeholder relations.





Save the date!

2023 CAHI Annual Convention



May 29 - 31, 2023

Fairmont Chateau Laurier
Ottawa, ON

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