

**2016-17**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

**CAHI's hard work and determination have borne fruit.** Members should be proud of the efforts taken to have controls over the importation and use on non-licensed antimicrobials under Own Use Importation (OUI) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) policies of Health Canada. New Canadian regulation will be introduced and implemented to close these loopholes thereby improving antimicrobial stewardship. I want to thank all those involved, and more precisely our President Mrs. Jean Szkotnicki, in working toward this endpoint: it has been a long road!

I also want to introduce you to Colleen McElwain, Programs Director. Colleen joined CAHI in October 2016 and since then is developing into a valued asset in managing and advocating for the interests of CAHI members. Colleen holds a Master of Science in Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare and a Bachelor of Science in Animal Biology, both from the University of Guelph's Ontario Agricultural College.

Being Chair of CAHI for the last two years has been an honour. I would like to thank all the staff at CAHI, the staff at Vétuquinol and my industry colleagues for the support provided to me during my term of office. It has been a rewarding experience to be such an integral part of CAHI. I will be happy to sit as Past Chair on the Board for the next couple years and assisting with the transition to the new Chair. Being a part of CAHI, an organization that collaborates in securing a future for our industry, veterinarians and all animal owners in the interests of animal health and welfare, is and will continue to be a rewarding experience.

**Diane Bourassa**



During the Health for Animals meeting in March 2017 in Washington DC, CAHI President Jean Szkotnicki was presented with an award for her dedicated commitment to the animal health industry. From left: George Heidgerken, Immediate Past President of the Animal Health Institute; Jean Szkotnicki; Caroline Belmont, Boehringer Ingelheim; and Carel du Marchie Sarvaas, Executive Director of Health for Animals.

## REGULATORY

### CAHI Advocacy in Action

After years of advocacy and leadership on the part of CAHI for greater controls over Own Use and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient importation and use in veterinary medicine, amendments for veterinary drugs under the Food and Drug Regulations were published in Canada Gazette, Part 1 on July 2, 2016. This regulatory package is expected to go to Canada Gazette, Part 2 by early summer. These new regulations will increase regulatory oversight of antimicrobials by ending OUI for medically important antimicrobials and by requiring that APIs imported to or sold in Canada be manufactured in accordance with good manufacturing practices. This regulatory proposal also intends to create a pathway for manufacturers to legally import and sell certain low-risk veterinary health products for companion and food animals. It will also require manufacturers, importers and compounders of veterinary antimicrobials to provide sales volume information by species. As well policy changes will occur resulting in all medically important antimicrobials having prescription status. The precise implications of this on drug distribution are still mechanisms on how this all will be accomplished on the policy side is still under discussion with the **Veterinary Drugs Directorate (VDD) at Health Canada**, the provinces and veterinary partners.

## National Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Framework and Action Plan

CAHI provided input into the National Framework Plan released in May 2017. It has a One Health approach and focuses on the pillars of: surveillance, stewardship, infection and prevention and research and innovation. The Framework document is to be closely followed with release of a detailed action plan involving human and animal medicine and the environment.

## Regulatory Efficiency and Effectiveness

CAHI works with the global animal health industry to develop harmonised, science-based decisions in predictable timeframes, resulting in the wide availability of safe and effective veterinary medicines. To this end we continue to be active in the **VICH** global harmonization process. As well, our **Veterinary Drugs Directorate (VDD)** is demonstrating global leadership by partnering with the U.S. in conducting joint reviews of new animal drug submissions as well as being part of a trilateral review with Australia and New Zealand for a sheep product. For the trilateral review each agency took one module of the Australian submission and collaborated on review results. This is a way forward for the future showing real efficiency gains in the review process but, importantly,

availability of health management tools at the same time across all the jurisdictions. This is especially important for the small Canadian sheep market. Our producers want to manage welfare of their animals and grow their market and are thankful that they now have access to a new pain management tool.

## Plant and Animal Health Strategy

In July 2016 the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Agriculture endorsed the Emergency Management Framework for Agriculture in Canada, which includes the development of a national Plant and Animal Health Strategy as a key deliverable. CAHI participated in the winter 2016–17 consultation given the animal health industry's integral role. Specific feedback from CAHI included the importance of timely animal health products reviews for safety and efficacy to support innovation in animal agriculture, ensure Canada remains competitive in comparison to other countries and for market access. Along this line, a joint letter signed by **CAHI, CropLife Canada, the Animal Nutrition Association of Canada, Fertilizer Canada, the Canadian Seed Trade Association** and the **Canadian Livestock Genetics Association** was sent to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency President Paul Glover in March 2017 underscoring the need for adequate resources for continued support of product reviews as the Plant and Animal Health Strategy evolves.



## CleanFARMS

CAHI entered year two of its partnership with **CleanFARMS** for the collection of obsolete animal health products from farms in 2016. A total of 19,930 kg of products were collected at 94 sites in 5 provinces for safe disposal. The process for the negotiation of a new, multi-year agreement has begun, as 2017 is the final year of the three year CAHI partnership with **CleanFARMS**. This builds on CAHI's continued commitment to the safe and responsible disposal of obsolete medications from farms, and the positive working relationship built with **CleanFARMS**.

Obsolete medications for disposal	
Region	Livestock medications
<b>Peace Region</b> (6 sites, September 21–23) · 2 sites in BC, 4 sites in AB	450 kgs
<b>Northern Alberta</b> (20 sites from October 3–7) · Red Deer to north of Edmonton	5,335 kgs
<b>Manitoba</b> (19 sites from October 24–28) · Province-wide	1,787 kgs
<b>Ontario</b> (40 sites from September 20–30) · Province-wide	12,080 kgs
<b>Newfoundland</b> (3 sites from October 18–20) · Province-wide	278 kgs
<b>Total:</b>	<b>19,930 kgs</b>

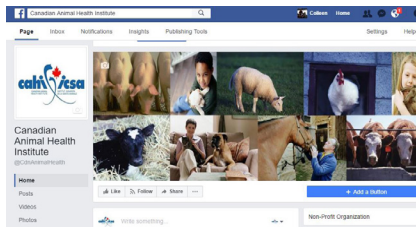
CAHI continues to be a member of the **Health Products Stewardship Association** which operates the Medications Return program ensuring compliance with Ontario companion animal medication return requirements. Additionally, updates continue to be shared with CAHI members regarding the changing requirements for **Blue Box** and other recycling programs under provincial jurisdiction.



Colleen McElwain, CAHI Programs Director (second row, 4th from left) at the OIE Performance in Veterinary Services Evaluation Training Session, December 2016

## World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Performance of Veterinary Services Evaluation

In 2016 Canada requested that **OIE** conduct an evaluation of its performance in veterinary services to provide strategic information to improve Canada's veterinary infrastructure and support the completion of the Plant and Animal Health Emergency Framework. CAHI was invited by the **Canadian Food Inspection Agency** to participate in this process as veterinary medicines and biologicals are a critical competency in this evaluation. In March 2017 a small group of CAHI members and staff met with the OIE evaluators and government representatives to discuss our relationship with government regulators, voluntary industry initiatives such as the **Health for Animals** benchmarking surveys and actions to support responsible antimicrobial use.



## Companion Animal Outreach

This past year has been a busy one from a communications perspective. In January we went social with the creation of both a Facebook page (above) and a Twitter account. CAHI successfully partnered with Toronto's *On the Go Magazine* to pilot a targeted companion animal outreach campaign using multiple forms of media and a collaborative approach with the **Canadian Veterinary Medical Association**, the **Registered Veterinary Technologists and Technicians of Canada**, the **Ontario Veterinary Medical Association** and the **Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians**. Over 2016-17 the monthly companion animal articles continued to be released resulting in regular media calls to the CAHI office for quotes and radio interviews. CAHI's tear-off sheets about what to expect following the vaccination of a pet continues to be quite popular.

## Social License

CAHI is committed to building public trust and confidence in Canada's food system. In early 2017 CAHI became a founding member of the **Canadian Centre for Food Integrity**, an international affiliate of the USA-based Center for Food Integrity. CCFI will bring US programs and resources to Canada such as:

- **Research** on consumer opinions, questions and concerns;
- **Best Food Facts**, a website dedicated to sharing information about food and farming; and
- **Forums** for thought leaders to come together.

In November 2016 CCFI hosted a one-day *Let's Talk Antibiotics – What's good for people, animals and the planet?* food system forum in November 2016. This event targeted building the knowledge and understanding of AMR and AMU among producers, processors, and retailers. CAHI was invited to contribute a global and domestic update on AMR as a part of the program. Approximately one third of the attendees came from the food processing and retail sectors and the evaluation of the program was positive. Early plans are in place to work with the CCFI on creating a network to communicate information about antimicrobial use and resistance to a variety of audiences.

### Estimation of Canadian Dog and Cat Populations

Year	Total Dogs (Million)	Total Cats (Million)	Medicalized Dogs (Million)	Medicalized Cats (Million)
2007	5.8	7.8	4.8	4.2
2010	6.2	8.2	5.0	4.2
2012	6.5	7.8	5.5	4.2
2014	6.2	7.2	5.5	3.8
2016	7.2	8.5	6.2	4.5

According to CAHI's Pet Population Survey, the Canadian pet population has increased at a modest pace of about 10% over the last 10 years and the population of medicalized pets has kept pace with this growth.

**The role of CAHI in enhancing collaboration between members continued over the past year with the coordination of the fourth National Pet Population Survey, the 2016 Compensation Survey, the second Member FTE Survey and the release of the voluntary Prudent Use Logo for medically important antimicrobial product labels.**



Thank you to the CAHI 2016-17 Board of Directors... for your dedication, your time and your unfailing support of CAHI!

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