



Programs and Tools to Assist in Sourcing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Alberta:

- [Alberta's Agriculture Training Support Program](#) will help employers in the food supply chain provide the necessary training to new domestic employees.
- Alberta has also created [ATB Nexus](#) where suppliers can list their PPE products available for sale for those looking to buy.

British Columbia:

- The [On-Farm Food Safety Program \(OFFS\)](#), through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, is offering COVID-19 funding for agricultural and agri-food businesses. Eligible companies can seek funding to acquire PPE in order to maintain a safe workplace.
- [British Columbia's Food and Beverage organization](#) is acting as a hub for PPE for the BC agriculture and agri-food sector through which individual businesses orders can be submitted.

Manitoba:

- Manitoba has a site called [B2B Manitoba](#), an online marketplace to connect Manitoba businesses with non-medical grade PPE and other materials needed for businesses to operate during the in COVID-19 pandemic.

Nova Scotia:

- [Ignite](#) is a rural innovation hub where entrepreneurs, start-ups, and small businesses work together to

Face-to-face CASV-ACVP AGM Cancelled for 2020

We were planning to hold the CASV-ACVP annual meeting in conjunction with WCASV's October conference and annual meeting this year. However, WCASV has cancelled their in-person 2020 program due to COVID-related meeting and travel restrictions. The CASV-ACVP AGM will now be held on-line on **Thursday, October 29, 2020** from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Eastern time. Additional details will be provided later this summer.



Canadian Pork Excellence Full Validation Update

PigSAFE | PigCARE Programs were launched in January 2019. Provinces implementing the two programs were to work with their producers to ensure that farms that have completed a full validation under the CQA and ACA programs in 2019 must join the PigSAFE and PigCARE programs at their next full validation. Any farms due for a full validation in 2020 must do so under the PigSAFE and PigCARE programs.

The Canadian Pork Council sent a notice all provincial pork Boards in early June regarding full validation of Pig Safe | Pig Care. Many producers are reaching their expiry date or the end of the three-month extension of their expiry date. CPC is encouraging a full validation if possible while adhering to provincial health recommendations regarding COVID. If the expiry date has already been extended, it may be extended again with a partial validation but a farm visit will be required within the next six months.

If you are not familiar with the Pig Safe | Pig Care programs, we encourage you to complete validator training or CPE management training. Even if you do not intend to do validations, it is an excellent way to learn about the program. For additional details regarding training opportunities, contact your provincial coordinator www.cpc-ccp.com/contacts-at-cpe.

CFIA Regulatory Changes on Zinc Oxide

CFIA is continuing its feed modernization process. Zinc oxide is being used at antimicrobial levels which are outside recommended nutritional levels. The proposal is to change the regulations so that antimicrobial use levels are not allowed.

CASV-ACVP in conjunction with the Canadian Pork Council will advocate maintaining higher levels of zinc oxide for nursery feed.

Canadian Pork Council Hosted African Swine Fever Preparedness Meeting

The Canadian Pork Council hosted a two-part, on-line meeting of government, provincial pork boards, and industry stakeholders in June 2020. These sessions were a follow-up to meetings held in Ottawa in November 2019. The purpose was to hear presentations on updates of ASF preparedness at the national and regional levels.

There is a national ASF Executive Management Board with federal and provincial government representation as well as industry stakeholders. The Board oversees activities within four activity pillars: 1) prevention and enhanced biosecurity; 2) preparedness planning; 3) ensuring business continuity; and, 4) coordinated risk communications.

There are currently 10 working groups addressing various topics under the four activity pillars:

- Biosecurity
- Invasive Pig Strategy
- Destruction and Disposal
- Surveillance

match consumers with suppliers.

Ontario:

• Ontario has a [Workplace PPE Supplier Directory](#) where the list of suppliers is expanding regularly.

Quebec

Quebec agricultural ministry has opened a webpage that summarizes all the government activities and support related to COVID. ([QA COVID Quebec](#))

Prince Edward Island:

• Prince Edward Island's Department of Agriculture and Land has a program for farmers during COVID-19 pandemic through Canadian Agricultural Partnership: [The COVID-19 Mitigation Strategic Fund for Agriculture Project](#) (SFAP).

Saskatchewan:

• Saskatchewan has a list on their government website with [contact information](#) of PPE suppliers under Pandemic Suppliers.

Rabies Numbers in Canada

As at the end of May, there have been 750 samples submitted in 2020 for rabies testing from across Canada. Nationally, 23 samples tested positive. Provincial data can be viewed [here](#). The breakdown from which species the positive samples were taken are as follows:

	Total May 31, 2020
Arctic fox	1
Bat	13
Bovine	2
Dog	2
Skunk	5
Total	23

- Movement Control
- Hog Supply
- Zoning
- Compartmentalization
- Business Continuity
- Communication

Letter Sent by CASV-ACVP Board to Canadian Veterinary Journal

The CASV-ACVP Board sent a letter to the Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Veterinary Journal (CVJ) regarding the February ethical question posed in the journal and the subsequent letters to the editor in response. The question dealt with the perceived need to allow undercover videos in order to expose animal abuse on farms.

The subsequent letters to the editor spoke negatively toward food animal veterinarians, contained ideas that do not respect the veterinary oath and were contrary to the Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics. The content was also not “constructive and professional comments made in the spirit of intellectual debate” as indicated in the instructions from the CVJ editor.

The CASV-ACVP letter asks that an apology be issued from the CVJ editorial board for printing such disrespectful letters to food animal veterinarians and their clients. The CASV-ACVP letter will be published in the August issue of the CVJ.

Wild Pig-Livestock Interface in Canada

Recently, Dr. Ryan Brook with the University of Saskatchewan gave a presentation on “Modelling and Mitigating at the Wild Pig-Livestock Interface in Canada” as part of the INKY 2020 Research Bites webinar series. European Wild Boar were introduced to all provinces and crossed with domestic pigs in Canada in the 1980s and 1990s in an attempt to establish an alternative meat market and high fence shoot farms. Many of these animals escaped or were released into the wild over large areas of Canada and have rapidly become established.

Considered an invasive species, wild pigs cause considerable crop damage, negatively impact the environment, and contaminate water. Wild pigs also harass and prey on a range of animal species. They may also be reservoirs of disease at the wildlife-livestock interface. In Asia and Europe, wild pigs play a role in the disease dynamics of African Swine Fever.

In his presentation, Ryan examined wild pig expansion in Canada, spatial overlap with domestic pigs at multiple scales, and outlined a range of mitigation options. You can watch the 45-minute taped webinar at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMk7V-cJsII>

COVID-19 and Animals

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak there have been few confirmed cases of COVID-19 in animals. Below is a current summary of naturally occurring cases as reported via ProMed. It does not include any COVID-positive animals resulting from research into the virus.

Mink – several farm operations spread over at least 13 locations in the Netherlands. All infected locations will be culled.

Cats – 11 in total – one in Belgium, one in Hong Kong, two in New York (separate cases), two in France (separate cases), two in Spain, one in Germany, one in Russia, and one in Minnesota. Several farm cats at the Netherlands mink farms also tested positive for the presence of COVID.

Tigers (four) and **lions** (four) at the Bronx Zoo.

Dogs – five – two in Hong Kong (separate cases), two in the Netherlands (one on a mink farm and one unrelated to mink farms), and one in New York state.

Other suspect animal cases were later deemed to be negative.

Susan Fitzgerald on behalf of CASV-ACVP Board of Directors.

Mission: To be a responsive, proactive voice for veterinarians involved with the swine industry in Canada.