



Board Newsletter to Members

Dr. Sylvie D'Allaire and Dr. Camille Moore Awarded 2021 Honorary Memberships

At the CASV-ACVP annual meeting, the members approved honorary memberships for Dr. Sylvie D'Allaire and Dr. Camille Moore. Both have contributed significant time and energy to swine health activities and been long-time members of CASV-ACVP.

Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network

During the CASV-ACVP Annual Meeting, Dr. Christa Arsenault gave a presentation on the Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network (CSHIN). CSHIN is made up of three organized swine regional networks including RAIZO (Quebec), OAHN (Ontario) and CWSHIN (Western Provinces). The Atlantic provinces contribute to CSHIN, but do not have an organized regional network.

Each regional network sends data and representation to CSHIN quarterly calls. This allows for national discussions on swine surveillance and disease related topics.

CSHIN is funded by CASV-ACVP, the Canadian Pork Council and by the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System which is a new funding partner.

CSHIN now has its own website www.cshin.ca. Producer reports on publicly accessible [click here](#). Veterinarian reports are in the members only section available to all CASV-ACVP members [click here](#)

CSHIN is working on planning a national Influenza A in swine session in early 2022.

CanSpot Surveillance

Dr. Jette Christensen updated the AGM participants on CanSpot surveillance which is relatively new, risk-based early detection surveillance conducted at approved laboratories.

CASV-ACVP AGM and New Board

The CASV-ACVP AGM was held on-line on October 29th; 30 members participated. Highlighted accomplishments in 2020-2021 included:

- CSHIN - New website, secured additional funding from CAHSS which reduced CASV-ACVP's financial contribution
- Comments on CVMA Position Statements - Extra-label drug use; castration of piglets; euthanasia; antimicrobial use; and humane slaughter
- Letters of Support - Changes to Pig Code mainly around loose sow housing and for CPC's five-year funding request to AAFC relating to ASF
- Canadian Small-Scale Pig Farming Manual - Worked with CPC on finalizing and launching manual
- Access to Veterinary Pharmaceuticals
 - Summarized swine health priority needs and provided to the Canadian Animal Health Institute
 - Coordinated a joint letter from national livestock and poultry associations and veterinary associations to federal government re convening roundtable on access to veterinary pharmaceuticals
 - VDD agreed to organize roundtable
- Conducted member survey on attracting and retaining veterinarians
- Wrote article for CVJ regarding swine veterinary medicine
- Input on consultation regarding revised feed regulations – importance of ability to use higher levels of zinc oxide in starter rations
- Directors provided input to Swine Depopulation Methods Reference Document

The AGM is also when we elect the incoming Board of Directors. The chart below shows the members of the 2021-2022 Board.

| | Director | Representing | |
|----|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Dr. Blaine Tully | Director (WCASV) | |
| 2 | Dr. Jessica Law | Director (WCASV) | Past President |
| 3 | Dr. Christine Pelland | Director (OASV) | |
| 4 | Dr. Ryan Tenbergen | Director (OASV) | President |
| 5 | Dr. Josée Daigneault | Director (AVIA) | |
| 6 | Dr. Christian Klopfenstein | Director (AVIA) | |
| 7 | Dr. Kurt Preugschas | Director at large | |
| 8 | Dr. Karine Talbot | Director at large | |
| 9 | Noémie Van Vyve | Director at large | Vice President |
| 10 | Dr. Isabelle Moreau | Director at large | |
| 11 | Dr. Jim Fairles | Director at large | |

The goal of the surveillance is early detection of African swine fever (ASF) should it appear in Canada. Rule-out testing on eligible cases began in August 2020 and has occurred in all regions. Eligible cases can be sent for testing at the request of the herd practitioners or labs.

The next phase, currently in planning, will include enhanced surveillance testing of abattoir condemnations and more ASF testing of small-holding swine.

More information for veterinarians on CanSpot surveillance can be found on the CASV-ACVP website [here](#)

Feed Regulatory Modernization

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has completed the consultation on the proposed *Feeds Regulations, 2022*. This is a first step towards enactment of the regulations. The comments that were captured using the new Online Regulatory Consultation System have been published on [Canada Gazette, Part I, Volume 155, number 24: Feeds Regulations, 2022](#).

Of note to the swine sector are proposed changes to use of zinc oxide:

- Previous limit was 500 ppm but CFIA allowed higher limits with a custom formula. Very common to have a custom formula with ~3000 ppm in first starter after weaning and ~2000 ppm in the second starter. Grow-finisher feeds are commonly around 150 ppm.
- The new, proposed limit is 300 ppm for all diets. Not allowed to add higher levels with custom formula.

The regulatory change specific to zinc oxide is exempted until January 1, 2026.

ZnO is very effective at reducing clinical post-weaning diarrhea, so reducing the level to 300 ppm will require alternative solutions which may include antimicrobials. The CASV-ACVP Board submitted comments through the public consultation process advocating to maintain the ability to use higher levels of zinc oxide in starter rations, e.g., two weeks post weaning.

CVMA Antimicrobial Use App

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and the Stewardship of Antimicrobials by Veterinarians Initiative (SAVI) has launched the Firstline App. The app serves as a user-friendly platform for the CVMA Veterinary Guidelines for Antimicrobial Use, supplying veterinary treatment recommendations and other reference information at point-of-care. Note: At the time of writing, the swine guidelines were not yet included in the app but should appear in early 2022.

As the app is primarily only accessible to veterinarians, veterinary technicians and veterinary students, it employs a validation step using the e-mail address that you employed to register at the CVMA website. In most cases, this e-mail address is your personal or clinic address, as opposed to an organizational address that you may be using now.

If you have not registered at the CVMA website, even as a non-member, you will need to do so. All licensed veterinarians in Canada (members and non-members) and veterinary students can obtain their login credentials by contacting the CVMA at admin@cvma-acmv.org or at 1-800-567-2862.

How to download the Firstline CVMA app:

1. Install the 'Firstline - Clinical Decisions' app to your mobile device from <https://firstline.org/cvma>
2. In the Choose Location list, find and choose 'CVMA'.
3. Sign In:
 - Enter your CVMA-registered email address
 - Retrieve the one-time password (OTP) sign-in code from your email
 - Enter the code into the Firstline app

Veterinary subject matter expertise in support of the Firstline initiative was provided by the Stewardship of Antimicrobials for Veterinarians Initiative (SAVI), led by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and funded in part by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) via the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) programme and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

African Swine Fever in the Caribbean

Haiti has reported a total of 11 ASF outbreaks across four departments in the North and South regions of the country. The Dominican Republic has reported outbreaks in all but three of its provinces. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has launched a Don't Pack Pork Campaign targeting air travel departures to the Caribbean. The campaign will intensify as we move into the colder months until the end of March. There have also been Canadian border blitzes on goods imported from Caribbean through low value courier stream. No pork products have been found.

The OIE has published the U.S. self-declaration of a protection zone for U.S. territories in the Caribbean (Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands). You can download the document [here](#).

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