



Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians

Association Canadienne des Vétérinaires Porcins

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Board Newsletter to Members

CASV-ACVP and Canada Pork Council Discussions

The representatives from the Canada Pork Council and the CASV-ACVP Board have agreed to hold regular calls to discuss items of mutual interest. The first was held on June 28th and many of the items highlighted in this newsletter were discussed.

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Meetings

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association annual Convention takes place in Vancouver from July 5 to 8, 2018. Dr. Jim Fairles, Chair of the CASV-ACVP Board of Directors will participate in the Presidents' Meeting on July 7th and has provided a report on behalf of CASV-ACVP.

Advertising in the CASV-ACVP Newsletter

CASV-ACVP accepts classified advertising (e.g. job postings) in the e-newsletter and on the website. The cost is \$125 per week for classified advertising. For promotional and marketing type ads, we offer one banner ad each week at \$500 per week. The CASV-ACVP newsletter is sent to 180 association members each week. If you are interested in advertising in the newsletter, please contact Mary Loggan in the CASV-ACVP office at mary.tfio@bell.net, 519-669-3350.

Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network (CSHIN)

CASV-ACVP and the Canada Pork Council (CPC) are pleased to announce that Dr. Christa Arsenault has been hired to replace Dr. Chris Byra as the new Manager of the Canadian Swine Health Intelligence Network (CSHIN). The contacts on the CSHIN distribution list have been reviewed to ensure the people are correct and confirm the role they have in the swine community. The CSHIN is jointly funded by CASV-ACVP and CPC.

Withdrawal of Government of Alberta funding from WCVM

CASV-ACVP sent a letter to the Honourable Marlin Schmidt, Alberta Minister of Advanced Education expressing concern about his government's decision to withdraw funding support from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM). This loss of over \$8 million will have a profound, negative affect on veterinary education, research and clinical services not only in western provinces but right across Canada.

Having two strong veterinary programs in western Canada (WCVM and University of Calgary), will ensure that young people are provided with as many education and research opportunities in veterinary medicine as possible. It is particularly critical to encourage and support veterinary students interested in working with food producing animals.

Health Canada Service Fee Increases

The report commissioned by the Canadian Animal Health Institute entitled, Health Canada Service Fee Increases for Animal Health Products: An Economic Analysis was reviewed by the CASV-ACVP Board. Health Canada is changing its fee structure to recover more costs. This will increase the cost of registering new pharmaceuticals or making changes to use of currently registered products. This could put Canada at a competitive disadvantage as fewer products may be registered for use in Canada due to our smaller market. It is especially a concern for minor species groups which already have fewer product options. As fewer products are registered for use, the responsibility transfers to veterinarians for extra-label use.

The CASV-ACVP Board will be sending a letter of concern to the Veterinary Drugs Directorate of Health Canada. If you would like a copy of CAHI's report referenced above, contact Susan Fitzgerald at susan.tfio@bell.net.

Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs

The national Codes are typically reviewed every five years. The last version of the National Pig Code was released in 2014 so is slated for updating beginning in 2019. The Canada Pork Council has discussed updating the Code with the National Farm Animal Care Council but not yet determined whether it will be an overall review or a more narrow focus on selected areas.

CPC expressed interest in receiving a summary from CASV-ACVP regarding what should be looked at in the Code in terms of difficulty implementing. The Board will review on their next call and provide a summary to CPC. The Board indicated to CPC that CASV-ACVP would welcome the opportunity to have a representative involved in the review process.

CASV-ACVP Membership Survey – Fall 2018

Conducting a membership survey has been on the Board's action item list since last year. The intent is to poll members regarding perceived value to you for your CASV-ACVP membership and solicit input on what else you would like the association to be doing. The target is to conduct the on-line survey in early fall, have results for the Board to review in late fall, and present the report/results at the March AGM.

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