



## CASV-ACVP Directors for 2019

This spring, the Board approved a formalized procedure for electing directors. In December each year, nominations will be sought for any director seat for which the three-year term is expiring or for any director position being voluntarily vacated by the incumbent.

All of our nine existing directors have confirmed they will continue in their current term. However, our By-laws state the Board is to be comprised of a minimum of four directors and a maximum of 15. As we currently have nine, there is room on the Board for another six directors at large if there are CASV-ACVP members who are keen to join the Board.

If you are interested in serving on the Board or would like to nominate a colleague, please let Susan Fitzgerald ([susan.tfio@bell.net](mailto:susan.tfio@bell.net)) know by **January 11, 2019**. The Board will be confirmed at the Annual Meeting on March 10, 2019.

## Animal Welfare Committee – Raised Without Antibiotics Position Statement

The CASV-ACVP Animal Welfare Committee prepared a position statement on raised without antibiotics production. The statement was circulated to CASV-ACVP members at the end of October. The statement, in French and English, is also available on the CASV-ACVP website at <http://www.casv-acvp.ca/en-ca/positionstatements.aspx>. To access the members' only site use the user name vetpor and the password vetpor12.

## CPC Vaccine and Drug Use Policy

In November, a memo from the CASV-ACVP Board of Directors was circulated to members regarding CPC's new Vaccine and Drug Use Policy which is part of the PigSAFE/PigCARE programs. The Board and the Animal Welfare Committee flagged some areas where they feel additional clarity is needed and have raised these

## Revision to the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs – Member Survey

Thank you to the CASV-ACVP members who took the time to complete the survey regarding the Code of Practice for Pigs. We received 35 completed surveys which was a 20% response rate. The five areas which had the highest number of recommendations for review were:

- 1.1.2 Gestating gilts and sows (71.4%)
- 1.8 Enrichment (57.1%)
- 1.2.2 Weaned/Grower/Finisher Pig Space Allowances (50.0%)
- 3.5 On-farm Surgery (40.0%)
- 1.1.6 Boars (38.2%)

The full survey summary was provided to CPC along with a review provided by the CASV-ACVP Welfare Committee.

The CPC and the National Farm Animal Care Council have formed a technical review committee to conduct a limited review of the Code of Practice. Meetings will begin in January. The committee will look at progress on research since the last review and also whether the Code is being implemented. By September 2019, the committee will present to NFACC any proposed revised text followed by a 60-day comment period. A more thorough review of the Code will be conducted in 2024.

## CASV-ACVP Membership Survey

There was also a very good response from members to the membership satisfaction and input survey we conducted in October and November. We received 53 completed surveys (30% response rate). Some of the main themes were:

- 58% of respondents are somewhat or very satisfied with their CASV-ACVP membership, 32% are neutral and roughly 10% are dissatisfied.
- The newsletter is viewed very positively and adds value to the membership.
- The website is not utilized but is also not informative or useful so does not entice members to visit.
- The top benefits of CASV-ACVP are viewed as being:
  - A national voice with respect to pork production issues;
  - Informs the membership of important issues and news items; and,
  - Represents the interests and opinions of swine veterinarians with other industry groups.
- Additional activities or benefits members would like to see include:
  - Organize and host educational webinars;
  - A stronger national voice;
  - Promote communications among the regional swine veterinary associations; and,
  - Foster interaction among veterinarians employed in the swine industry.
- 55% would like to see the Annual Meeting held in Canada in conjunction with regional meetings and moved around

Based on these results, there was consensus by directors that we should investigate some type of Canadian meeting for the CASV-ACVP AGM beginning in 2020. A committee has been struck to look at options. Allocating funds to updating and enhancing the CASV-ACVP website will be discussed during next year's budget deliberations. Over the next year, the CASV-ACVP Board will consider how to respond to and act upon the other feedback received from members.

points with CPC.

A copy of the current version of the Vaccine and Drug Use Policy is available from CPC's website, <https://www.cpc-ccp.com/drug-use-policy> or <https://www.cpc-ccp.com/francais/drug-use-policy>.

There are monthly CASV-ACVP and CPC conference calls and the Drug Use Policy has been an ongoing agenda item. We have also asked CPC if they would provide additional information to veterinarians regarding the intent and implementation of the new policy. They are tentatively planning a webinar in late January or early February. Further details will be provided when available.

### **African Swine Fever is a Reportable Disease**

Reportable diseases are outlined in the [Health of Animals Act](#) and [Reportable Diseases Regulations](#) and are usually of significant importance to human or animal health or to the Canadian economy. Animal owners, veterinarians and laboratories are required to immediately report the presence of an animal that is contaminated or suspected of being contaminated with one of these diseases to a [CFIA district veterinarian](#). It is prudent for veterinarians to include the contact information for your CFIA district veterinarian in your phone and on your computer.

### **Advertising in the CASV-ACVP Newsletter**

CASV-ACVP accepts classified advertising (e.g. job postings) in the e-newsletter. 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](mailto:mary.tfio@bell.net), 519-669-3350.

### **CASV-ACVP Annual Meeting**

Sunday, March 10, 2019 in conjunction with the AASV Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida.

### **African Swine Fever Outbreaks in Europe and Asia**

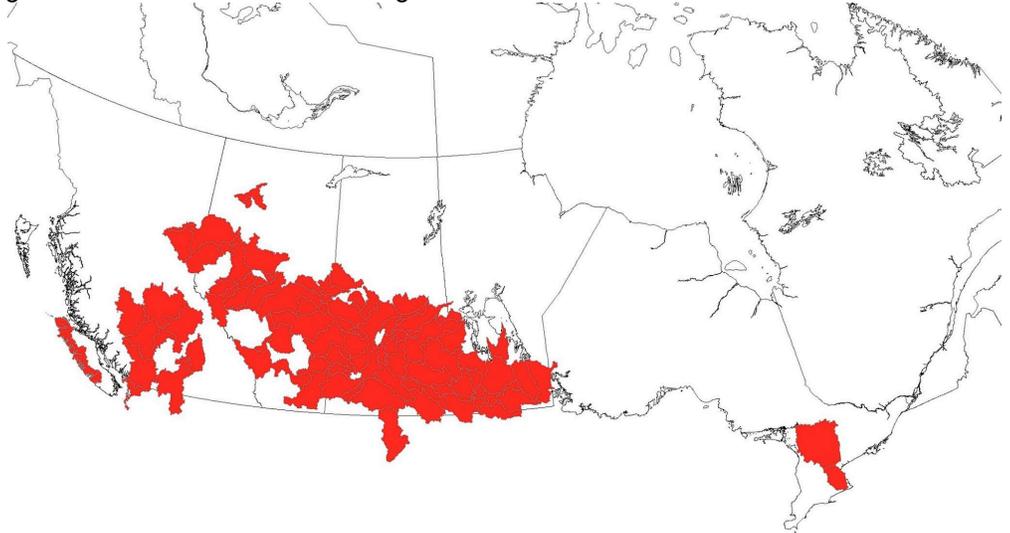
During the regularly scheduled monthly calls, CASV-ACVP and the Canadian Pork Council continue to discuss African Swine Fever. No new countries have reported the disease in recent weeks although the discovery of ASF-positive wild boar carcasses in Belgium near the border with France has that country on alert. As well, the disease continues to spread within China. There are no meat products imported to Canada from China but feed ingredients are imported which have the potential to carry the disease. CPC has representation on a CFIA technical committee looking at the risk assessment for feed. Air travellers bringing in potentially contaminated food products are considered a high risk.

In December, the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) and the Community for Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (CEZD) hosted French and English webinars on African Swine Fever. Those webinars were taped and have been posted to the CAHSS website for anyone who was unable to listen to the live webinar. The links are: EN: <https://gts-ee.webex.com/gts-ee/ldr.php?RCID=52a493dfed537869eafe8d166b131ad> FR: <https://gts-ee.webex.com/gts-ee/ldr.php?RCID=4791aa22953fe3e6ab34febb3daab6d6>

### **Wild Pigs**

The spread of African Swine Fever in Europe and Asia has raised awareness and concern regarding the risk that wild boar and feral pigs pose to domestic swine health. Most people are not aware of how widespread wild pigs are in Canada. They have been documented in every province with the exception of the Atlantic provinces and their territory is expanding by 25,000 sq km per year. They reach reproductive maturity quickly, have large and multiple litters each year and have no natural predators. Sport hunting is not considered useful for control as it does not kill a sufficient percentage of their population. It can actually exacerbate the problem by breaking up stable groups, dispersing pigs into multiple groups and expanding their range.

The University of Saskatchewan is doing research on wild pigs; the website is <http://wildpigscanada.ca/> Below is a map of confirmed wild pigs in Canada 2011-2016 produced by Ryan Brook, University of Saskatchewan. Since this map was created, wild pigs have been confirmed near Kingston and Ottawa in Ontario and in the Montreal area.



Wild pigs can be extremely aggressive and may kill calves, kids, lambs, and fawns. They also destroy ground nests and block or deter access to feeders by other livestock. Their feeding and rooting behaviour causes significant damage to crops and field ground. In the U.S., the annual estimated crop damage is \$1.5 billion. A small group of pigs can destroy a 10 to 12 acre field overnight. Regarding the risk of disease transmission, the top three diseases in the U.S. are: Brucellosis, Pseudorabies and Tularemia. Other disease concerns are: Influenza, Leptospirosis, Circovirus, PRRS, and Bovine TB.

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