



Issue 7 September 2019 Board Newsletter to Members

Review of the Pig Code

The Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs was released in 2014. Ideally, the Codes of Practice are reviewed every five years so the Canadian Pork Council is working with the National Farm Animal Care Council to conduct a limited review.

The working groups are looking at progress on research, the value of the Code, and identified challenges to implementation. Confirmation of revisions is targeted for the end of the year. A more thorough review of the Code will be conducted in 2024.

2020 CASV-ACVP AGM in Saskatoon

In 2020, the Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with WCASV's Annual Meeting. The WCASV conference is at the Delta Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon from October 28 to 30, 2020. The CASV-ACVP AGM will be held during the afternoon/evening of Wednesday, October 28th. More details regarding the CASV-ACVP AGM will be provided closer to the date.

New CASV-ACVP Website Coming Later this Fall

The existing CASV-ACVP website is on an outdated platform, very cumbersome to update and frequently experiences errors. We have begun building a new website which will be much more user-friendly and informative for members.

Reminder: 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 members each week. If you are interested in advertising in the newsletter, please contact Krista Bates in the CASV-ACVP office at krista.tfio@bell.net, 519-669-3350.

African Swine Fever

AFS continues to be a topic discussed during the monthly calls between the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) and members of the CASV-ACVP Board. In early September, we circulated a CPC ASF activity update to all CASV-ACVP members. They also have a lot of information and resources for veterinarians and producers on their website at <https://www.cpc-ccp.com/african-swine-fever>

African swine fever is a federally reportable disease. This means that 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](#). As we suggested in a previous email, veterinarians should add the contact information for your CFIA district veterinarian in your phone and on your computer. The highlighted link will take you to a list of district CFIA offices.

New Transportation Regulations – Health of Animals Act

The amended transportation regulations under the Health of Animals Act come into effect in February 2020. These regulations apply to anyone involved directly or indirectly in the transport of live animals. This includes, but is not limited to: animal owners; transporters; processors; assembly centres (auction markets, assembly yards; and, feed, water and rest stations/locations).

The full text of the new regulations can be read [here](#). The Canadian Food Inspection Agency also published a guidance document to accompany the new regulations. The guidance document can be found online [here](#). Note that the guidance document is to be updated later this year and prior to the implementation of the new regulations. The guidance document is very important as it expands upon and explains the intent of the regulations.

CASV-ACVP members should especially review the definitions of compromised and unfit animals in the new regulations and in the guidance document.

A compromised animal may be transported if:

- a) it is isolated on the load;
- b) it is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance;
- c) measures are taken that are necessary to prevent the animal's suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading; and
- d) it is transported directly to the nearest place where it can receive care or be humanely killed.

An unfit animal may not be transported for slaughter or to an assembly centre. It may be transported directly to where it can receive veterinary care if:

- a) it is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance;
- b) it is isolated during confinement and transport;
- c) measures are taken to prevent the animal's unnecessary suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading; and

d) a veterinarian recommends that the animal be transported to receive veterinary care.

Animal Health Canada

National organizations representing the red meat, dairy and processing industries have come together to champion the development of “Animal Health Canada” which is expected to become a new governance model built on an industry-government partnership for decision making, resources sharing and management.

Animal Health Canada goals are to:

- strengthen capacity for animal disease prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery;
- reduce fragmentation of accountabilities;
- establish sustainability in resource commitments;
- increase timeliness of action; and,
- protect business continuity and trade.

The working group has commissioned an inventory and gap analysis of animal health activities. An analysis of existing models nationally and internationally is also being undertaken. The results of both initiatives will be used to help identify the key criteria for the development of a new governance model for animal health in Canada.

Susan Fitzgerald on behalf of CASV Board of Directors.

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