

Newsletter

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Issue 33 September 2015

OLPC 2015 Membership Meetings

All meeting dates are Fridays. The remaining two membership meetings for 2015 will be held at Beef Farmers of Ontario.

- October 16. 2015
- December 11, 2015

OLPC Chair: Gordon Coukell

OLPC Vice Chair

Susan Collier was elected by the Board to a fourth term as Vice Chair.

Board Representation

If you have an issue you wish the Board to address, please contact your director.

Major Livestock – Board Director – Mike DeGroot mike.degroot@ontariopork.on.ca

Minor Livestock – Board Director – Jennifer MacTavish jmactavish@ontariosheep.org

Poultry - Board Director – Albert Visser <u>avisser@getcracking.ca</u>

Agricultural Associations and Coalitions – Board Director – Susan Collier scollier@aocp.ca

Veterinarian Associations – Board Director – Steve Wolfgram <u>swolfgram@Southwestvets.ca</u>

Individual Agri-businesses – Board Director – Julie Harlow JHarlow@agsi.ca

Avian Influenza Update

Both AI Control Zones have been removed and the quarantines on the last two infected premises have been removed. The three-month post-outbreak surveillance activities required by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) are in place, after which CFIA can declare AI freedom. This extended surveillance continues until early October.

The fall is considered to be a higher risk period as migratory birds have begun their movement South from their Arctic nesting grounds. Water, wet soil, and feces can become contaminated with AI and linger after the migrating flock has moved on. Soil and wild bird feces can stick to tires and undercarriages of vehicles including ATVs and travel for miles. Be conscious of where you are driving and walking and practice good biosecurity measures for both people and vehicle movement on or near poultry operations.

The Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative is very interested in reports of unusual/unexplained deaths of single large birds (e.g. raptors) or groupings of smaller birds especially waterfowl or shore birds regardless of location within Ontario (<u>http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/</u> or 1-866-673-4781).

Recognizing Signs of Mental Health Issues in Agriculture

The OLPC is currently in search of an individual, with a background in agriculture that would be willing to become a trainer for the Emergency Mental Health Course. This individual would also need to have some type of background or experience in the field of mental health. If you or anyone you know would be interested in becoming a trainer please contact the OLPC office for further details.

Animal Health Surveillance Network

The Ontario Animal Health Network website has been launched (<u>www.oahn.ca</u>). There are currently 21 podcasts available via the website (<u>www.oahn.podbean.com</u>), with a new one being posted every two weeks. Topics covered vary from what is OAHN to a miniseries on post-mortems.

National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council Forum 2015

Forum 2015 will be held November 23rd and 24th at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Byward Market, Ottawa. There is no cost to participate in this event, however participants are asked to register by Monday, November 2nd.

The annual NFAHW Council Forum is a vibrant meeting place for stakeholders in Canada's animal health and welfare system, providing an opportunity for all stakeholders to participate in the work of Council. The Forum also provides an opportunity for stakeholders to update participants on their organization's activities that impact the strategic outcomes and priorities of Farmed Animal Health and Welfare 2020.

Further information on Forum 2015 is available at <u>http://www.ahwcouncil.ca</u> or by contacting <u>nfahwcouncil@animalhealth.ca</u>. Updates and reminders for Forum 2015 will be emailed and posted on the NFAHW Council website.

World Anti-Microbial Resistance Congress

On October 19 and 20, 2015 at the Washington Court Hotel, DC, the World Anti-Microbial Resistance Congress USA gathers key stakeholders from government, funding agencies, pharma, academia and payers to discuss the urgent need for new antibiotics. This two-day conference presents solutions through key notes, case study presentations, expert opinion and roundtable discussions. Visit <u>www.terrapinn.com/AMR-2015</u> for more details.

Our Mission

Provide a forum to facilitate the development and coordination of an Ontario strategy to deal with foreign animal disease and other transmissible livestock and poultry diseases.