



Advisory Board Report

The CgFARAD™ Advisory Board met by conference call on May 26, 2021 and discussed the following items.

Fall Stakeholder Meeting



The CgFARAD™ stakeholder meeting has been held every second year in Ottawa in conjunction with the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council. The Board decided to hold this year's meeting via Zoom on **Thursday, October 28, 2021 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** Eastern time. Further details will be provided closer to the date.

Finances and Budget

The year-ending financial statement was discussed. The 2020-2021 budget forecast a year ending deficit of \$8,717, however, the organization ended the year with \$12,921.97 excess revenue. This was due to expenses being lower than budgeted. CgFARAD™ benefited from COVID relief this year with approximately \$10,000 toward veterinarian salary and benefits. Also, there were no invoices from the University of Saskatchewan for office expenses due to COVID prohibiting work on campus. The closing bank balance was \$68,332.37.

The 2021-2022 budget again projects a loss of \$13,994.41. There is a recognized need to find new sources of revenue or the bank balance will be depleted within four years. See related article below.

Government Cost-Sharing with Industry

The CgFARAD™ Advisory Board passed a motion to ask stakeholders to include a request for federal government cost-sharing to support CgFARAD™ in their budget requests and other government advocacy efforts.

CgFARAD™ is solely funded by industry and has been running an annual deficit for the past couple of years. Several financial supporters have already begun urging the federal government to provide \$250,000 annually for CgFARAD™ which essentially matches the \$200,000 currently received from industry. Ideally, the commodity associations and other financial supporters of CgFARAD™ would include a similar request in any federal budget submissions in future and also during consultations on the next agricultural policy framework. This would help ensure the sustainability of CgFARAD™ and allow for longer-term planning regarding service delivery.

Currently CgFARAD™ receives no government funding. By comparison, FARAD in the US receives \$2.5 million annually from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The two services field a similar number of requests per year (2,600 by CgFARAD™ and 3,900 by gFARAD), but government support ensures vastly greater resources for FARAD in the US.

Draft key messages and the rationale for the request will be sent to each of our financial supporters. If you would like any additional background, contact Susan Fitzgerald, susan.tfio@bell.net, 519-669-3350.



CgFARAD™ Withdrawal Recommendation Requests

The spring newsletter, which provides a summary of last year's requests (May 2020 to April 2021), was sent out to stakeholders the end of May.

CgFARAD™ responded to 2,557 withdrawal requests in 2020-2021 covering 24 different livestock and poultry commodities. The number of requests was down slightly from 2,640 in 2019-2020 but similar to the 2,404 requests in 2018-2019. Sheep, goat and swine requests were noticeably lower while broilers, turkeys and dairy cattle requests were higher. Requests relating to backyard chickens have also begun showing up more frequently.

CgFARAD™ Research Projects

The dexamethasone depletion study in beef cattle and lactating dairy cattle was funded by OMAFRA-UGuelph (Alliance), the Dairy Farmers of Ontario and the Beef Farmers of Ontario. The beef cattle study is completed including the tissue assay results, while the dairy cattle study animal phase and sample collection is nearing completion with the assay still pending. Results of these two studies will assist veterinarians with rational withdrawal time estimated that can ensure human food safety.

Two Masters students have completed their research regarding the depletion studies utilizing hepatocytes. Hopefully there will be a published paper from this work.

In selecting research projects, Dr. Ron Johnson, CgFARAD™ Co-director, looks at the CgFARAD™ data, identifies gaps that pharmaceutical companies are unlikely to pursue, and then approaches commodity groups to determine if there is interest in having research done in this area. Commodity groups can also contact Ron directly if interested in a particular study. If research grant funds can be found, there is low cost to the commodity groups.

More details on the research projects will be provided in the fall newsletter.

New Supporter



Animalytix has graciously agreed to provide on-going free access to the Canadian Compendium of Veterinary Products including pharmaceutical data. This is a welcome and essential in-kind contribution. Access to this information is critical to the running of the database.

Advisory Board – General Business

According to the Advisory Board Terms of Reference, the Chair position is a one-year term ending in May each year. Tom Inglis was nominated and agreed to serve as Chair replacing Corlena Patterson who served as Chair for two years.

Chathurika Dayananda, Dairy Processors Association of Canada stepped down after serving her term. The new feed and processing industry representative is Erica Charlton with the Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council. All other Board members agreed to continue for at least another year.

The Board approved adding an additional seat on the Board for Animalytix. The Board and Animalytix agreed it would be beneficial to the company to learn more about CgFARAD™ and how their information is used to provide the service.

Below are the 2021-2022 CgFARAD™ Advisory Board Members:

Name	Organization	Advisory Board Seat
Ron Johnson	CgFARAD™	Co-director
Trisha Dowling	CgFARAD™	Co-director
Catherine Filejski	Canadian Animal Health Institute	Canadian Animal Health Institute
Rae Knight	Elanco	Pharmaceutical company
Erica Charlton	Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council	Feed and processing industry
Steve Leech	Chicken Farmers of Canada	Commodity association
Corlena Patterson	Canadian Sheep Federation	Commodity association
Nicole Sillett	Dairy Farmers of Canada	Commodity association
Tom Inglis - Chair	Veterinarian	Veterinarian association
Jost AmRyn	Canadian Veterinary Medical Association	Veterinarian association
Jonas Goring	Animalytix	Pharmaceutical data
Christopher Coulis supported by Anne Allen	Canadian Food Inspection Agency	Government - regulatory

The seats on the Advisory Board have been selected to represent the various sectors and stakeholders with an interest in CgFARAD™ activities and services. The membership consists of the following groups:

- CgFARAD™ co-directors (2 seats)
- Commodity association representatives (3 seats)
- Pharmaceutical company representative (1 seat)
- Canadian Animal Health Institute (1 seat)
- Veterinarian association representatives (2 seats)
- Feed and processing industry representative (1 seat)
- Animalytix (1 seat)
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (1 seat)

The Board adopted the tag line, ***Protecting Animals and Our Food Supply***, to be used in our communications to convey the role and importance of the CgFARAD™ service. Our financial sustainability committee is working hard to find long-term funding solutions and do not want to imagine food animal medicine and production without CgFARAD™.