



COGA Session February 13, 2020

Emerging Issues: Activism & Influences Agriculture

Plant and Animal Health Branch, BC Ministry of Agriculture

Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinary Officer



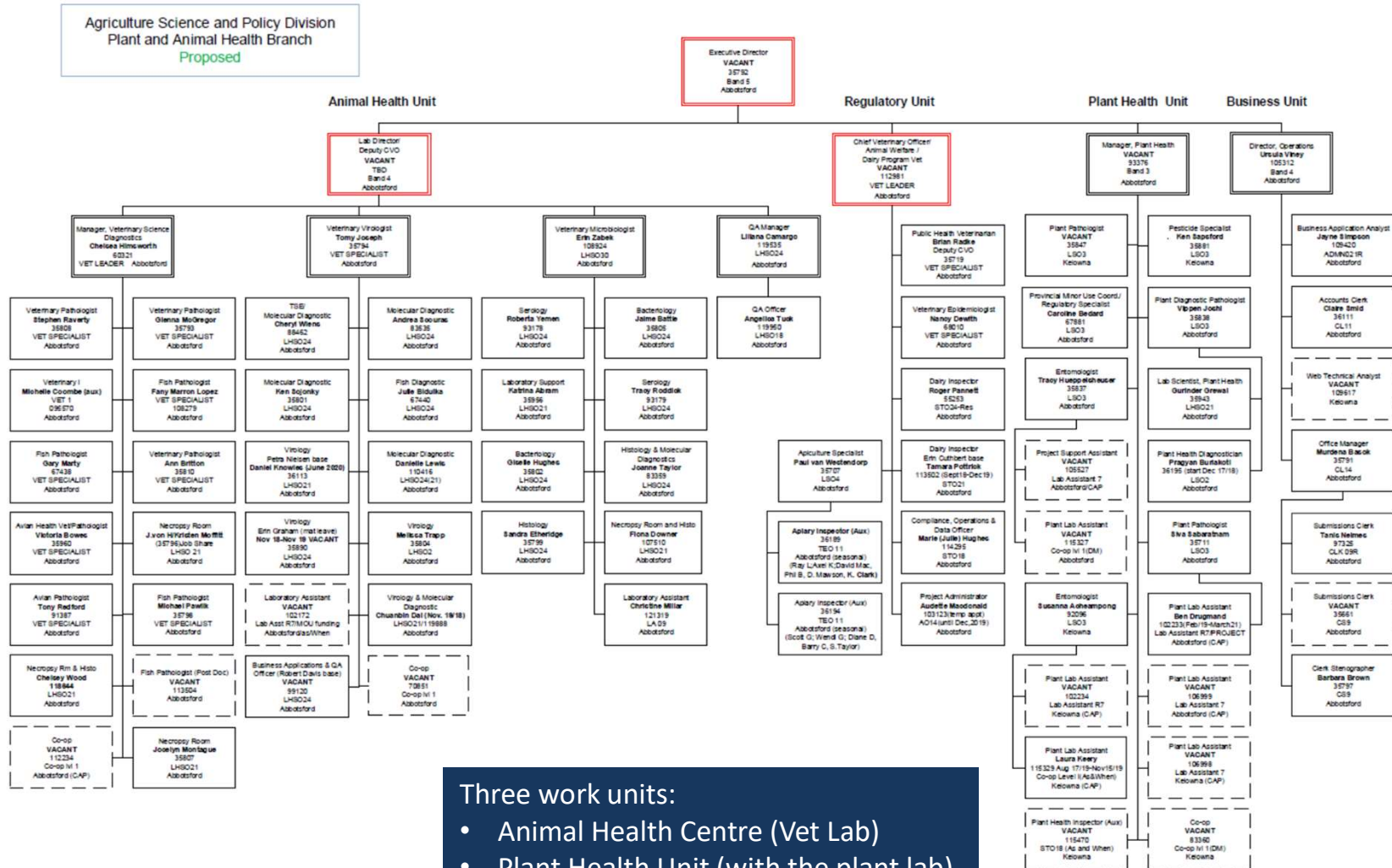


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Topics

- Introduction to the Plant and Animal Health Branch
- Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), personnel changes
- Role of the Animal Health Centre (AHC or Vet Lab) in animal health emergencies
- The powers in the Animal Health Act
- Opportunities and Threats in the coming years.

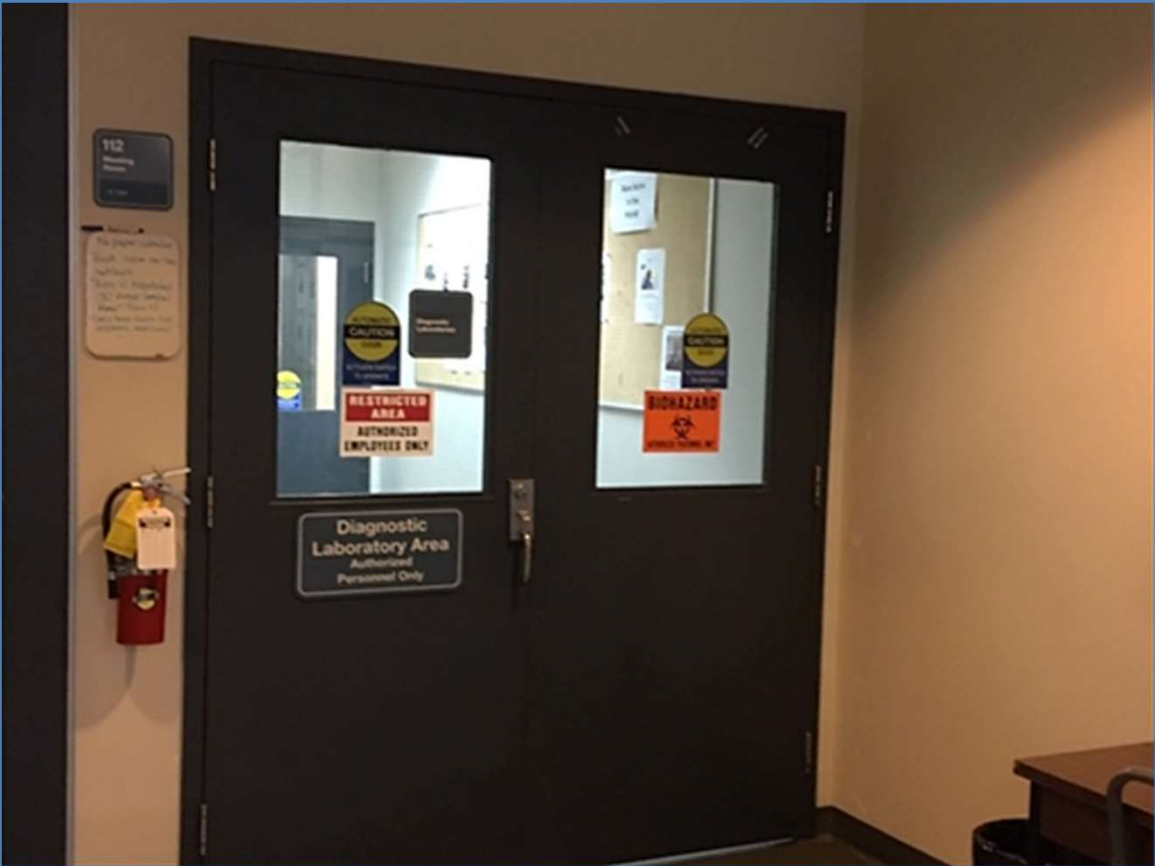
The NEW org chart for Plant and Animal Health Branch

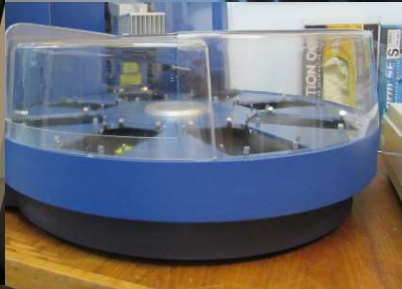


Three work units:

- Animal Health Centre (Vet Lab)
- Plant Health Unit (with the plant lab)
- Regulatory Unit (LHMR)







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Animal Health Centre


A Full Service Veterinary Diagnostic Facility

Supporting aquaculture, livestock and poultry production, companion animals and wildlife through necropsy, histopathology, microbiology, virology, molecular diagnostics, and serology.

www.gov.bc.ca/animalhealthcentre

Visit the Animal Health Centre website for...

- AHC lab submission forms
- Test and fee guide
- More information on lab services
- Instructions for submitting samples




BC Primary Premises ID:


BC44AAR7J

Plot date: September 19, 2014
Aerial Photo: DataBC, 2009
Name: Animal Health Centre

LEGEND
All parcels within this operation
Other parcel boundaries

Premises ID Program Overview
A premises is any parcel of land where animals or food are kept, processed, grown or raised.
A Premises ID is a unique nine character identifier assigned to a single parcel. Premises ID supports fast and accurate responses to animal disease outbreaks and food safety concerns.
Premises ID is an essential component of the national animal traceability system.
Only housing animals that are fit for human consumption are required to be reported.
Premises ID is a free program. For more information, please contact the BC Premises ID program.

For further information contact:
BC Premises ID Program
Phone: 800-255-2011
All times 9:00-2:00 PM PST
Email: premid@bc.ca
BC Premises ID Program
1119 Angus Campbell Street
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2H3







“DEAR MOTHER NATURE...

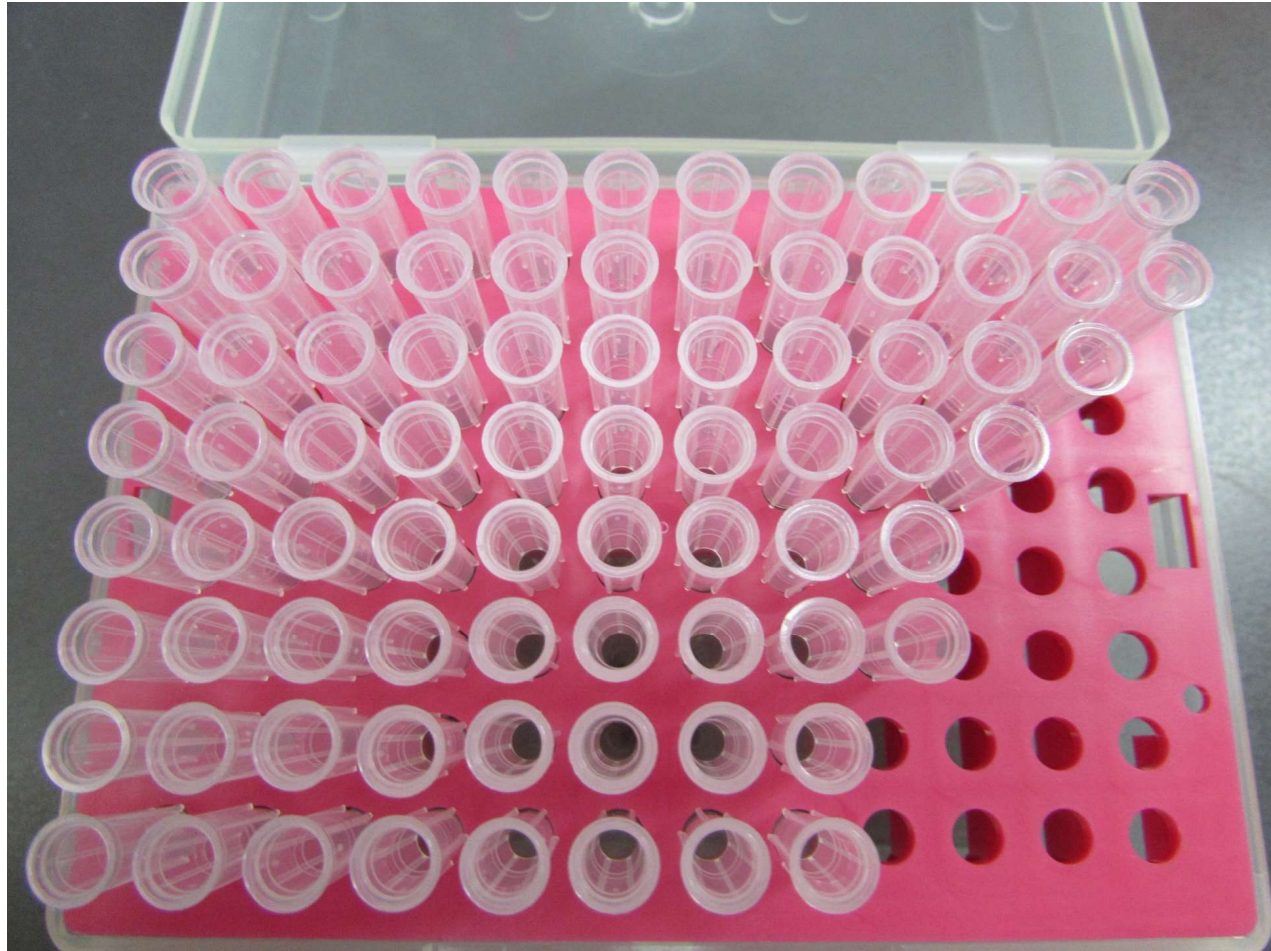


...THAT WAS UNCALLED FOR.”













The Plant & Animal Health Branch's Purpose

The Purpose Statement

The Branch protects British Columbia's plant & animal population from harm caused by pests and disease. With a specific focus on pests & disease that negatively impact agricultural commodities, the Branch oversees a world-class diagnostic testing facility, a focused research portfolio, and a regulatory compliance & management best-practices team.

Together, those three areas allow the Branch to diagnose, monitor, and assist in controlling & preventing plant pests & animal disease in British Columbia. The Branch also supports the province's adoption of innovative, sustainable management technologies & practices that support improved quality, consumer confidence, and global competitiveness.

As part of the public service, the branch is accountable to the citizens of British Columbia. The Branch relies on its disciplined decision-making process to ensure that its services support a thriving, sustainable agricultural sector for the benefit of all British Columbians – not just those in certain regions or reliant solely on specific agricultural commodities.



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Chief Veterinary Officer

- New CVO will have Animal Welfare in their job profile
- Senior Animal Health Official for BC and must advise the minister.
- Oversight of Inspectors
- General Disease Control Orders
- Declare an Emergency



Animal Health Act

- The Animal Health Act is on-line at the BC Laws website
- Emergencies, protection of animal health information, Offences
- Powers are to inspectors and the CVO
- Regulations:
 - Bees, Game Farming, Fur Farming
 - Laboratory Fees
 - Reportable Diseases
 - Miscellaneous

We are updating the Plant Protection Act starting this year.



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Role of the Vet Lab in animal health emergencies

- Being prepared to provide accurate and acceptable test results
- Initial diagnosis
- Surveillance – movement permits, zoning decisions
- Liaison
- Still provide all normal services to impacted and non-impacted industries in a safe and bio-secure manner.



The future....challenges



1. New diseases that spread rapidly – African Swine Fever, Wuhan Corona virus 2019
 - Accurate and rapid tests at reasonable costs
 - Resources (\$, 🧑, & 🏠) to develop and implement these tests
 - Genomics (keeping up)
2. Stress, anxiety and burn-out
3. Public trust/pressure – RWA, housing, food safety, disease
4. Finding the highly specialized scientists and veterinarians we need



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The future.....opportunities

1. Genomics – disease attribution and accuracy in diagnostics
2. Stronger partnerships with Industry and Federal colleagues
3. One Welfare
4. People with passion



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Questions and Answers

