

**\*\*\* FIRST NOTICE \*\*\***

## **VHS Biosecurity and Scientific Update Workshop**

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**Hosted by:**

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Aquatic Animal Health Division

With assistance from:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)  
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR)  
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

**Dates:**

May 29 (afternoon) – May 30, 2007 (full day)  
(Dates to be confirmed)

**Venue:**

Guelph, Ontario

**Objective:**

- To present current science on VHS virus to affected stakeholders and government agencies
- To determine present and future biosecurity measures necessary to prevent or slow further spread of VHS virus within fish populations in the Great Lakes drainage basin

**The meeting is by Invitation only<sup>1</sup>. Invitee's will include representatives from:**

1. Major aquaculture and fisheries stakeholder groups in Ontario
2. University of Guelph
3. Veterinarians and fish health professionals servicing Ontario aquaculture and fisheries
4. Government (OMNR, OMAFRA, DFO)
5. National stakeholder groups (Canadian Aquaculture Industry Alliance, Fisheries Council of Canada)
6. Provincial fisheries/ aquaculture representatives outside Ontario and Quebec
7. MAPAQ (Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation)
8. Great Lakes Fish Health Committee

**Expected Outcomes**

1. Scientific presentations for future reference
2. Biosecurity plans for aquaculture and other stakeholders
3. Recommendations

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<sup>1</sup> CFIA is looking into whether videoconferencing could be done from the University of Guelph, to reach a wider audience (TBD).

## Agenda (draft):

Moderator:

Grace Karreman (CFIA AAHD)

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### DAY 1 (AFTERNOON SESSION ONLY)

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#### REGISTRATION

#### OPENING REMARKS

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### PART 1: SCIENCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

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<b>VHS IN EUROPE</b>	TO BE CONFIRMED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Historical overview, and recent outbreaks</li><li>• Risk factors</li><li>• Role of wild fish</li><li>• Management approaches</li></ul>
<b>VHS IVb IN THE GREAT LAKES</b>	TO BE CONFIRMED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History and findings in the field</li><li>• Lab diagnoses/ genotyping</li></ul>

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### COFFEE BREAK

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<b>VHS IVa IN ALASKA HERRING</b>	TO BE CONFIRMED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Incorporating disease measurements into fisheries management models</li></ul>
<b>PROPOSED CANADA-US BILATERAL SURVEILLANCE FOR VHS IVb IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN</b>	Kim Klotins (CFIA AAHD) Lori Gustafson (USDA-APHIS, National Surveillance Unit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surveillance plan – field sampling by watersheds</li></ul>

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**DAY 2 (FULL DAY)**

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**PART 2: BIOSECURITY AND VHS IVb**

<b>BIOSECURITY – AVIAN INFLUENZA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>	Peter Cairns (National Coordinator for Safety and Biocontainment, DFO NAAHLS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview and definitions</li> <li>• Biosecurity learned from Avian Influenza</li> </ul>
<b>BIOSECURITY IN LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY INDUSTRIES IN ONTARIO</b>	Paul Innes (Lead Veterinarian, Provincial Biosecurity, OMAFRA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OMAFRA livestock farm visit protocols</li> <li>• OLPC biosecurity initiatives</li> <li>• Insurability of the industry</li> </ul>

**COFFEE BREAK**

<b>BIOSECURITY AND AQUATICS – FARMED SALMON INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>	TO BE CONFIRMED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BC Ministry of Agriculture Fish Health Management Plans</li> <li>• Regulation, surveillance, farmer-level data, industry audits</li> </ul>
<b>CONTINGENCY PLANNING</b>	Grace Karreman (CFIA AAHD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview</li> <li>• Short term and longer term considerations</li> </ul>

**LUNCH BREAK**

**Part 3: BIOSECURITY ANALYSIS**

<b>RISK ANALYSIS REGULATORY UPDATE</b>	CFIA AAHD OMNR	
<b>BIOSECURITY ANALYSIS (Interactive session)</b>	CFIA AAHD	<p>Each stakeholder group to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Process steps (pre-workshop survey)</li> <li>▪ Probable points for virus introductions or spread associated with process steps</li> <li>▪ Biosecurity practices in place or planned to slow the spread of VHS</li> </ul>
<b>SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	Grace Karreman (CFIA AAHD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of key points</li> <li>• Recommendations</li> </ul>