The Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre

A partnership of universities, government and non-government agencies

The Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC) is a university-based, inter-agency partnership through which Canada’s Colleges of Veterinary Medicine, government agencies at all levels and non-government agencies pool their resources and expertise to reduce the economic and ecological costs and impacts of wild animal diseases in Canada.

The Business Lines of the CCWHC

1. Disease Surveillance: a) Detection of diseases; b) Diagnosis; c) Disease information management; d) Communication
2. Information Services: response to inquiries; newsletters, reports, website, media interviews; participation in committees, conferences; scientific publications
3. Education: presentations, workshops, short courses for agency partners and host universities, undergraduate and graduate teaching, graduate student research
4. Wildlife Disease Response and Management: targeted programs of surveillance, research and management

Examples of Disease Response and Management Activities Undertaken by the CCWHC

- West Nile virus surveillance
- White Nose Syndrome surveillance in Ontario and Quebec
- Transmission dynamics of Lyme Disease in St. Lawrence Islands National Park
- Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance in Saskatchewan
- Surveillance for disease agents of public health and agricultural significance in wildlife living on farms in Ontario
- Disease status of bison in MacKenzie Bison Sanctuary, NWT
- Canada’s Inter-agency Wild Bird Influenza Survey
- Detection of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia and Spring Viremia of Carp in Ontario
- Wildlife Disease Surveillance with First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada
- Health assessment of Beluga Whales in the St. Lawrence Estuary

CCWHC Partners

Government of Canada: Environment Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Parks Canada Agency and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency

All provincial and territorial governments representing departments of Fish, Wildlife, Environment, Agriculture and Health

Universities: University of PEI, University of Montreal, University of Guelph, University of Saskatchewan, University of Calgary

Other partners: Centre for Coastal Health, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Canadian Wildlife Federation, Syngenta Crop Protection

CCWHC Personnel at the University of Guelph

Ian K. Barker - Director
Doug Campbell - Staff Pathologist
Lenny Shirose, Melanie Whalen – Technicians
Dave Cristo, Carol-Lee Ernst – Communications
Cheryl Massey - Veterinarian

Academic Associates at the University of Guelph

D. Bruce Hunter: diseases of wild birds, poultry, mink
Claire Jardine: ecology of wildlife diseases, zoonoses
John Lumsden: fish disease
Jane Parmley: epidemiology
Dale A. Smith: diseases of captive and free wildlife

To contact the CCWHC in Guelph:
cwhc@uoguelph.ca or 866 673 4781
http://www.ccwhc.ca/ontariounavut.php