



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada



2011-2012 **Annual Report**

Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety

For the Period Ending March 31, 2012

Canada 

2011-2012 Annual Report
Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety
For Period Ending March 31st 2012

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Pour la période se terminant le 31 mars 2012

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Table of Contents

Message from the Co-Chairs.....	5
I. Introduction: the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety (ASFS).....	6
• History	
• Governance and Communication	
• Raison d'être	
• Working Groups	
II. 2011-2012 Accomplishments	9
• Consumer Food Safety Education	
• Food Safety Hazards and Surveillance	
• Food Safety Performance Measurement and Reporting	
• Weatherill Report Recommendations: Industry and Government Action	
III. ASFS Work Plan for 2012-2013.....	13
• Specific Priorities for 2012-2013	
• Future Direction of the ASFS	
IV. Conclusion	14
V. Appendices.....	15
Appendix 1: Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety: Terms of Reference	
Appendix 2: Membership Principles, Process and Criteria	
Appendix 3: Members of the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety as of March 31, 2012	



Message from the Co-Chairs

As co-chairs of the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety (ASFS), we are pleased to present its second annual report, for the fiscal year 2011-2012.

The ASFS continues to act as an important forum for dialogue on food safety between government and industry, based on our shared commitment to providing consumers with safe, nutritious, high-quality food. In the past year, the Subcommittee has moved on from its initial focus on information-sharing to a more active phase involving both government and industry participants.

We are also pleased to have regular participation by Dr. Brian Evans, the Chief Food Safety Officer for Canada, who keeps the ASFS informed of developments at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, including its Consumer Association Roundtable, Expert Advisory Committee and Ministerial Advisory Board.

ASFS meetings provide an opportunity to make connections between agriculture and health sector issues and priorities. The work of the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Food Safety Committee, which includes agriculture and health representation, has been highlighted at our meetings, particularly in regard to its role in advancing the priorities of the Ministers of Agriculture and the Deputy Ministers of Health.

This year, ASFS meetings have led to action on consumer food safety education and on performance measurement and reporting, as well as information-sharing on current and emerging pathogens and food safety priorities of government and of industry. The industry representatives maintain their view that food safety is a non-competitive issue and continue to learn from best practices in each other's sectors.

The strength of the ASFS comes from its broad-based, inclusive membership and a transparent, collaborative process that results in informed dialogue and open discussion. The results of our work in 2011-2012 demonstrate the value of bringing together the food industry and federal departments and agencies to exchange information on issues related to food safety with the goal of contributing to a strong and effective food safety system in Canada.

Dennis Laycraft, ASFS Industry co-chair
Executive Vice-President of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association

Anna Romano, ASFS Government co-chair
Executive Director, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

SECTION I:

Introduction: the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety (ASFS)

History

The Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety (ASFS) was formed following a meeting of Value Chain Roundtable (VCRT) Chairs with senior government officials in November 2009, in response to the recognition that food safety is a cross-cutting issue that would benefit from a forum for dialogue among industry and government representatives. The Subcommittee held its first meeting in June 2010.

Governance and Communication

The ASFS is composed of industry and federal government representatives, and is co-chaired by one government member and one industry member. Industry members are from the Beef, Pork, Food Processing, Grains, Horticulture, Organic, Pulse, Seafood and Special Crops Value Chain Roundtables, as well as the Poultry, Dairy, Retail and Food Service sectors, and the Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition. Government members are from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Health Canada (HC) and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). The ASFS terms of reference, membership principles, and list of members are attached as appendix 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

The ASFS website can be found at www.ats-sea.agr.gc.ca/rt-tr/sa-eng.htm. The website includes information on ASFS membership, provides records of decision from its meetings, and makes the terms of reference available to the general public. Planning and coordination of the Subcommittee's operations are supported by the VCRT Secretariat, with additional resources coming from the Strategic Policy Branch, AAFC.

Raison d'être

The ASFS provides a forum for dialogue among government and industry partners from input suppliers to final marketers. The Subcommittee also provides a bridge to the industry value chain roundtables and other industry fora to promote broader communication concerning joint government and industry food safety priorities. AAFC, the CFIA, HC and PHAC retain decision-making authority and responsibilities.

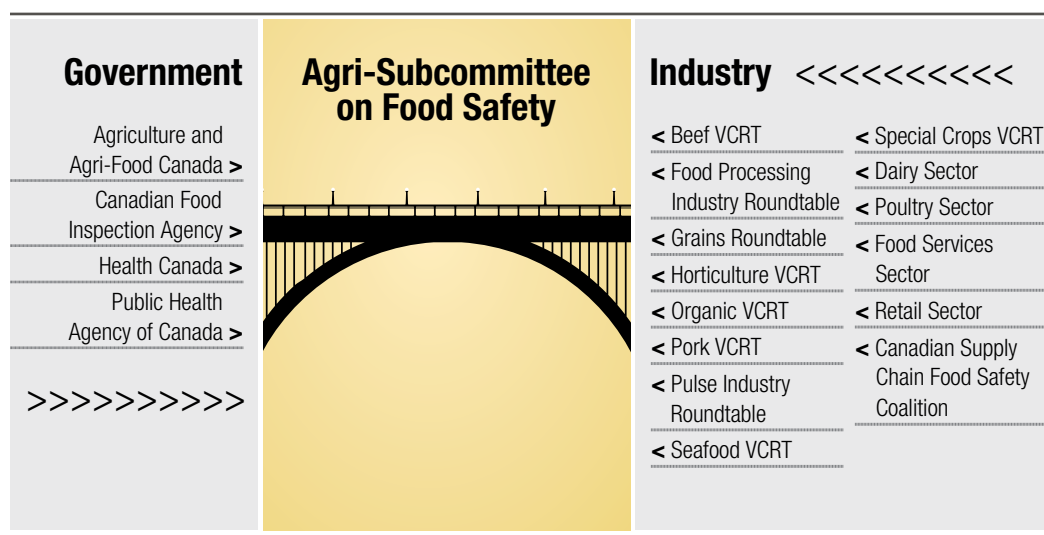
Specifically, the ASFS works toward the following goals:

1. Contribute to the development and implementation of food safety policies and standards (set by either government or industry) that reflect current food safety knowledge and best practices.
2. Consider the application of principles for stronger food safety systems and governance across the Canadian food safety system.

SECTION I:

Introduction: the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety (ASFS)

3. Provide a forum for government and industry dialogue on their respective responses and joint actions to improve the food safety system.
4. Consider ways to strengthen the government and industry partnership on consumer food safety education through further engagement of the industry roundtables or other appropriate groups.
5. Consider opportunities to strengthen food safety performance reporting in Canada using data from multiple available sources and identifying potential additional data sources in order to stimulate continuous improvement.
6. Analyze the implementation of agreed-upon actions and ensure results are reported regularly to the value chain roundtables and other industry fora, as well as to appropriate fora within HC, the CFIA, PHAC and AAFC. (See appendix 1 for details.)



Working Groups

Performance Measurement and Reporting Working Group (PMRWG)

The PMRWG is a government-industry forum that was established to share information and support a joint understanding and awareness of food safety performance measurement and reporting.

SECTION I:

Introduction: the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety (ASFS)

The PMRWG has a good cross-section of representation from both industry and government. Industry members are Brian Read, Mark Klassen, Rob Wreyford and Rory McAlpine, representing the beef, poultry and pork sectors. Government members are Tammy Switucha, Anne-Marie St-Laurent, Anna Romano, Catherine Primeau, Rae Payette, Anne Deckert, Florence Justice, and Sheila Dubois, representing the CFIA, AAFC, PHAC and HC.

Work Plan Working Group (WPWG)

The WPWG is responsible for drafting the annual work plan and for planning the agendas of each face-to-face meeting of the ASFS. The WPWG is composed of both industry and government members. Current participants are Albert Chambers, Brian Read, Réjean Bouchard and Rory McAlpine for industry, and Anatole Papadopoulos, Susan Read, Tammy Switucha, Mariellen Chisholm, Anna Romano, Catrina Hendrickx, Sylvie Millette LeDuc and Shane Campbell for government.

SECTION II:

2011-2012 Accomplishments

In its second year of operation, 2011-2012, the Subcommittee met three times, in addition to regular teleconferences of its Work Plan Working Group (WPWG) and its Performance Measurement and Reporting Working Group (PMRWG). The Subcommittee continued to use its meetings to exchange information on members' respective roles and responsibilities; gain knowledge of food safety initiatives, learn about emerging issues and threats to the food safety system; and examine opportunities to enhance Canada's food safety system.

This report highlights the ASFS accomplishments made between April 2011 and March 2012 in the following thematic areas:

- Consumer food safety education
- Food safety hazards and surveillance
- Food safety performance measurement and reporting
- Weatherill Report recommendations: industry and government action

Other themes identified in the 2011-2012 work plan included food safety governance, legislation and regulations as well as food safety infrastructure needs. Although these themes were touched upon over the course of the year, they will be more fully explored in 2012-2013.

Consumer Food Safety Education

Consumer food safety education is an important aspect of food safety because it gives consumers the tools they need to handle and prepare food safely. Consumers have an important role to play in keeping food safe, as cases of foodborne illness can result from unsafe practices at home.

Highlights

As a response to presentations made on behalf of the Canadian Partnership for Consumer Food Safety Education (the Partnership), Maple Leaf Foods, Health Canada (HC), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), the ASFS recommended exploring the feasibility of developing an overarching industry-government consumer food safety education communications strategy.

It was further agreed that ASFS members would continue to report back to, and gather feedback from, the value chain roundtables and other industry fora, as well as appropriate fora within HC, the CFIA, PHAC and AAFC on industry, government and Partnership initiatives on consumer food safety education.

Finally, the ASFS agreed to explore opportunities to increase support and/or funding for consumer food safety education activities.

SECTION II:

2011-2012 Accomplishments

Outcomes

It was recognized by the ASFS that changing consumer behaviour is a long-term endeavour. It was also acknowledged that, going forward, communications on this issue can be more coordinated as the ASFS is one of the key fora for sharing information regarding communications activities between industry and government. Government and industry can use the ASFS as an avenue to promote education campaigns, share information more easily, and help each other reach multiple audiences. For example, it was noted that the federal government has made financial and in-kind contributions to the Canadian Partnership for Consumer Food Safety Education, and that Anna Romano has become a member of the Board of the Partnership on behalf of AAFC. Also, PHAC indicated that it had launched a baseline study on consumer food safety behaviour and knowledge, which will be presented to the ASFS when it is complete.

There was discussion at the October 2011 meeting concerning reasonable mechanisms and next steps to support consumer food safety education, and ASFS members were encouraged to increase their participation in the Partnership. This issue will continue to be considered during 2012-2013, and specific activities will be informed by the results of PHAC's baseline study on consumer food safety behaviour and knowledge.

Food Safety Hazards and Surveillance

In addition to well-known food safety hazards such as *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, and *Listeria monocytogenes*, industry and government remain vigilant with regard to emerging food safety hazards such as anti-microbial resistance. The October 2011 meeting focused primarily on current and emerging food safety hazards. The agenda also included items on surveillance, which is vital to preventing foodborne disease by identifying risks, targeting interventions, and assessing their effectiveness.

Highlights

Dr. Merv Baker presented on the Canadian meat industry's collective best practices document, *Industry Best Practices for Control of Listeria monocytogenes (2010)*, which is science-based, practical, broadly applicable, and complementary to existing regulatory policies. In this context, Dr. Baker outlined a range of good manufacturing practices and sanitation practices, and environment and product testing approaches.

Dr. Randy Huffman, Chief Food Safety Officer at Maple Leaf Foods, discussed its third annual Food Safety Symposium which took place on October 4, 2011. This event involved approximately 175 people from a variety of food sectors, academia and government, and centred on the theme *Eradicate Foodborne Illness: Is it Possible?*

SECTION II:

2011-2012 Accomplishments

Anne-Marie St-Laurent of the CFIA spoke about progress on the federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) pathogen reduction in meat and poultry initiative. She noted that an FPT Working Group has been established and is striving to benchmark Canada's pathogen levels in meat and poultry on the farm, in processing, and at retail; establish pathogen reduction targets; and identify strategies to monitor and reduce pathogen levels.

At the January 2012 meeting, Dr. Kirsten Mattison of HC and Lisa Landry of PHAC gave a presentation on HC's proposed Guidance Document on *Salmonella* Enteritidis in Canadian Shell Eggs, a rising concern in Canada. The Subcommittee also heard from the seafood industry and the CFIA about the successful uptake of the April 2011 *Listeria* policy within the fish and seafood sector.

Outcomes

As part of its work plan, the ASFS instituted a standing item whereby members report on current and emerging food safety issues and/or hazards at each meeting. Reporting on this issue has become part of the roundtable where members also report on progress on food safety.

Food Safety Performance Measurement and Reporting

Highlights

The Performance Measurement and Reporting Working Group (PMRWG) was formed following the presentation by Rory McAlpine of a position paper on food safety performance reporting in Canada. The PMRWG has met four times – in June, September, October and December 2011.

The PMRWG is proving to be an excellent venue for the sharing of information on relevant issues. For example, the PMRWG heard presentations from CFIA officials on FPT efforts around pathogen reduction in meat and poultry and enhanced food safety surveillance.

A CFIA presentation on the Agency's Risk Prioritization Initiative introduced the Food and Drug Administration iRisk tool, which is part of a suite of risk prioritization tools that provides a quantitative approach to the relative ranking of food hazard combinations (both chemical and biological). This presentation led to a discussion on risk prioritization from an industry perspective, and subsequent presentations on this issue at PMRWG and ASFS meetings.

In 2011-2012, the PMRWG also prepared for the launch of a "taking stock" exercise that is intended to capture baseline information on existing food safety surveillance and monitoring programs. It is anticipated that this work will be complementary to a Federal/Provincial/Territorial inventory of food safety surveillance activities within the agriculture portfolios, being coordinated by the CFIA. The "taking stock" exercise will take place in early 2012-2013.

SECTION II:

2011-2012 Accomplishments

Outcomes

The PMRWG developed a comprehensive template outlining details to be captured via the “taking stock” exercise. It has also established itself as an effective venue for the continued sharing of information and dialogue between government and industry partners on issues of common interest related to performance measurement, monitoring and reporting.

Weatherill Report Recommendations: Industry and Government Action

Highlights

Over the past two years, the CFIA, HC and PHAC have worked together, and with industry, to act on the recommendations of the Weatherill report. Examples of progress made include: the new *Listeria monocytogenes* policy, the updating of regulations, manuals and guidance documents to guide industry action, the hiring of additional food safety inspectors, an accelerated approval process for new food additives that increase food safety, consumer food safety education campaigns, enhanced surveillance and detection of *Listeria*, and improved response to multi-jurisdictional foodborne illness outbreaks.

The Canadian Meat Council also provided information on changes it has made to address recommendations specific to the meat processing industry. For example, meat industry experts have pooled their extensive knowledge to develop and share detailed guidance on the best practices for control of *Listeria* that all ready-to-eat meat processing companies can implement. Companies have also invested in upgrading their equipment and reformulating their products to include approved antimicrobial substances that have proven highly effective against the growth of *Listeria*. Companies have invested heavily in new meat slicers and packaging equipment that are easier to clean and sanitize, and the sector has developed effective validated procedures to sanitize equipment that is difficult to clean.

Outcomes

The final report on the implementation of the Weatherill recommendations was published in December 2011. In addition to the improvements to the food safety system outlined above, the report included the announcement that the government is developing a new food safety bill to address the recommendation that Canada’s food safety legislation be modernized and simplified.

The ASFS has been the vehicle for information-sharing and strengthening relationships between industry and government. This is consistent with the Weatherill report’s observation that improved communication and collaboration among all partners is key to doing a better job at preventing foodborne illness and in acting in a concerted way when a foodborne event occurs.

SECTION III:

ASFS Work Plan for 2012-2013

This section outlines specific priorities for the upcoming year organized by themes and discusses the future direction for the ASFS.

Specific Priorities for 2012-2013

The Subcommittee will focus on the following priority areas/themes for the upcoming year:

- Food safety infrastructure
- Food safety initiatives by government and by industry
- Food safety legislation and regulation
- Consumer food safety education
- Performance measurement and reporting

Future Direction of the ASFS

The Subcommittee will continue to be an ongoing forum for government and industry dialogue and collaborative action as the ASFS enters into its third year of operation. The Work Plan Working Group will help set the direction for the 2012-2013 work plan, and ultimately set the agenda for three face-to-face meetings in fiscal year 2012-2013. In addition, there will be periodic newsletters sent to members, via the federal co-chair, to share information and complete certain action items arising from past meetings.

The future direction of the ASFS lies strongly with its core membership and its ability to move forward in a holistic way, in addressing the needs which are reflective of the various sectors and organizations.

SECTION IV:

Conclusion

Over the past year, the ASFS has consolidated its knowledge base and begun to act on issues of common interest where there is scope for industry-government collaboration, such as consumer food safety education and performance measurement and reporting.

The ASFS has established itself as the “go to” consultative mechanism for federal policy makers, regulators and the agri-food sector. Operating in the context of trust and collaboration, Subcommittee members are committed to continually improving on how best industry and government can come together to learn from each other, to help facilitate dialogue on a broad range of issues, with food safety being at the forefront.

In the last year, individual sector representatives have shared best practices in the area of food safety, sometimes including confidential and/or proprietary information. Moving forward into 2012-2013, the ASFS encourages active participation from its industry members. Engagement from all parties is essential in achieving the clearly defined goals of the ASFS. The good working relationships that have resulted through the work of the ASFS toward these goals form the basis of this engagement.

Subcommittee members look forward to reporting on ASFS achievements again in next year's Annual Report as they continue to share best food safety practices and information, and work together to improve the food safety system in Canada.

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 1:

Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety: Terms of Reference

Preface

Beginning in 2003, sector-specific roundtables that involve participation from across the value chain were established to build a strengthened industry-government partnership, in order to gain recognition for world-leading Canadian capabilities and to secure maximum benefits from federal agricultural policy frameworks such as Growing Forward.

The nine existing value chain roundtables (beef, pork, grains innovation, organic, horticulture, special crops, pulses, fish and seafood, and food processing) maintain active mandates. One cross-cutting element that has become evident in the work of all roundtables is food safety, particularly as the food safety policy and regulatory landscape and food safety risks are evolving rapidly in Canada and internationally. When the co-chairs of all of the roundtables met at the All Chairs Meeting in November 2009, a subcommittee of the Roundtables to focus on food safety was proposed.

Recent food safety and zoonotic disease events, such as E. coli, Salmonella and Listeria, have highlighted the need for industry and government to enhance efforts to manage food safety risks. The Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety will help facilitate dialogue between government and industry in response to emerging food safety events. For example, the Subcommittee can provide a forum for government and industry dialogue on their respective responses and joint actions in response to the 2008 listeriosis outbreak, particularly regarding the recommendations of the Weatherill report.

Rationale

Food safety is an area of shared jurisdiction and responsibility among governments, industry and consumers. Each has important roles to play and collaboration among all partners is key to the success of the overall food safety system. The collective challenge for all partners is to build better risk-based food safety systems that are grounded in prevention and continuous improvement.

While there is a recognized need for engagement with all stakeholders, including consumers, the Subcommittee is designed to promote dialogue between industry and government, given their primary responsibility for food safety. This forum is complemented by other food safety stakeholder engagement mechanisms, such as the Health Canada Food Expert Advisory Committee, which includes broader researcher, consumer, public health and industry representation.

Mandate

The purpose of ASFS is to provide a forum for dialogue among government and industry partners from input suppliers to final marketers. The ASFS will provide a bridge to the

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 1: Continued

industry value chain roundtables and other industry fora to promote broader communication concerning joint government and industry food safety priorities. AAFC, Health Canada (HC), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) always retain decision-making authority and responsibilities.

Specifically, the ASFS will work to:

1. Contribute to the development and implementation of food safety policies and standards (set by either government or industry) that reflect current food safety knowledge and best practices.
2. Consider the application of principles for stronger food safety systems and governance across the Canadian food safety system.
3. Provide a forum for government and industry dialogue on their respective responses and joint actions to improve the food safety system.
4. Consider ways to strengthen the government and industry partnership on consumer food safety education through further engagement of the industry roundtables or other appropriate groups.
5. Consider opportunities to strengthen food safety performance reporting in Canada using data from multiple available sources and identifying potential additional data sources in order to stimulate continuous improvement.
6. Analyze the implementation of agreed-upon actions and ensure results are reported regularly to the value chain roundtables and other industry fora, as well as to appropriate fora within HC, the CFIA, PHAC and AAFC.

Membership

The Subcommittee will be co-chaired by one senior executive from the federal government and one from industry. The work of the co-chairs and overall operations of the Subcommittee will be supported by AAFC.

Initially, industry will have up to 12 members, (one from each of the nine existing roundtables and one from each of three additional organizations if required), with one member from each government organization: AAFC, HC, the CFIA, PHAC (at the Director level or higher) occupying the remaining seats, for an initial total of up to 16 members on the Subcommittee.

Continuity in membership is vital to assuring the success of the Subcommittee. Every effort will be made by members to ensure their ongoing, active participation in the operations.

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 1: Continued

Membership Considerations

The Subcommittee is a government and industry forum for dialogue on food safety issues. Each value chain roundtable will identify one official representative. Industry membership will reflect the broadest possible range of perspectives from across the various roundtables and value chain (e.g. input suppliers, producers, processors, further processors, traders/marketers, retail and food service interests).

The CFIA, AAFC, HC and PHAC will be represented, although the Subcommittee may want to consider if and when to invite any other federal departments or agencies, and provincial/territorial governments on a permanent or ad hoc basis. A limited number of federal employees whose duties are of relevance to the mandate of the Subcommittee may sit as observers.

From time to time, members will assess whether composition is enabling the roundtable to benefit from the full range of perspectives and expertise it requires in order to fulfill its mandate.

The ASFS can nominate additional members from sectors or organizations not represented at the roundtables if they so wish, and guests can be invited as appropriate. Decisions with respect to the operation of the Subcommittee will be made by consensus.

Confidentiality

To be productive, dialogue must be as frank and open as possible. Statements by individual members are assumed to represent their personal views unless identified as positions of the organization they represent. Members agree that unless otherwise indicated (e.g. organizational commitments to agreed-upon action items), individual statements should not be construed or represented to others as an official position of any organization.

Building Agreement

Collaborative research and analysis will, as required, assist the Subcommittee in building a shared understanding of issues and opportunities.

Reporting

The Subcommittee's success will depend, in part, on the shared commitment of all of its members to delivering on agreed-upon actions and results. Members agree to hold each other mutually accountable for the achievement of results. Individual members will report to the Subcommittee as a whole on the status of agreed-upon actions. In addition, it is expected that the Subcommittee will provide periodic updates to the federal roundtables as well as to appropriate fora within HC, the CFIA, PHAC and AAFC.

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 1: Continued

Frequency / Duration

The Subcommittee is expected to be an ongoing forum for government and industry dialogue and collaborative action. In the first year of operation, the Subcommittee may need to meet at least four times. As it evolves, less frequent meetings may be required.

Costs

AAFC will cover up to 50% of reasonable and appropriate travel and accommodation costs (as determined by relevant Treasury Board policies and directives) that are directly related to a member's participation in a Subcommittee meeting, the expenses of the meeting and research as required.

Secretariat

Planning and coordination of the Subcommittee's operations will be supported by the VCRT Secretariat, AAFC.

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 2:

Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety: Membership Principles, Process and Criteria

Membership Principles

1. The ASFS will seek members with expertise or experience related to its mandate.
2. Industry membership should reflect the broadest possible range of perspectives from across the various agri-food sectors and value chains.
3. Additional members should represent sectors or organizations not currently represented on the Subcommittee.
4. To ensure continuity in membership, members will commit to a two-year term with the possibility of extension.
5. If a member misses three consecutive meetings of the ASFS, he or she will be asked to step down and the sector will be asked to propose a replacement.
6. In order to facilitate the mandate of the ASFS, membership will be limited to a maximum of 20 individuals.

Process and Criteria

- Industry members shall be nominated by their value chain roundtable or sector organization, and should meet the following criteria:
 - demonstrated knowledge and commitment to food safety
 - demonstrated ability to represent the entire supply chain of their sector
 - demonstrated knowledge of the federal food safety system
 - demonstrated ability to act as a liaison between the sector and the ASFS
 - demonstrated ability to work with government and industry members toward a common goal
- Federal members shall be nominated by their respective Deputy Heads and shall meet the following criteria:
 - demonstrated knowledge and commitment to food safety
 - demonstrated knowledge of food safety policy issues
 - demonstrated ability to represent the federal government
 - demonstrated ability to work with government and industry members toward a common goal
- Nominees will demonstrate how they meet the criteria for membership by providing a biography that includes evidence of the relevant experience and expertise required.

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 2: Continued

- Final decisions on membership shall be made by the federal and industry co-chairs.
- The industry co-chair shall be chosen by the Subcommittee as a whole.
- The federal co-chair shall be chosen by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.
- In addition to meeting the criteria for industry members and federal members respectively, the industry co-chair and federal co-chair shall meet the following additional criterion:
 - demonstrated ability to facilitate discussion and action among government and industry members representing diverse views and interests.

SECTION V:

APPENDIX 3:

Members of the Agri-Subcommittee on Food Safety as of March 31, 2012

Names	Organization
Co-Chairs	
Dennis Laycraft (Industry Co-Chair)	Canadian Cattlemen's Association
Anna Romano (Government Co-Chair)	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Industry Members	
Albert Chambers	Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition
Brian Read [Beef]	XL Foods / Canada Meat Council
Chris Kyte/George Paterson [Food Processing]	Food Processors of Canada
Fred Andersen [Grains]	Viterra
Heather Gale [Horticulture]	Canadian Horticultural Council
Julianne Curran [Pulses]	Pulse Canada
Patrick McGuinness [Seafood]	Fisheries Council of Canada
Rick Phillips/Réjean Bouchard [Dairy]	Dairy Farmers of Canada
Rob Wreyford [Poultry]	Cargill Ltd.
Rob Freeman [Food Services]	McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd.
Rory McAlpine [Pork]	Maple Leaf Foods Inc.
Shelly Juurlink [Organics]	Organic Meadows
Sherry Casey [Retail Sector]	Loblaw Companies Ltd.
Tom Halpenny [Special crops]	Mustard Capital Inc.
Federal Members	
Mariellen Chisholm	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Samuel Godefroy	Health Canada
Susan Read	Public Health Agency of Canada
Theresa Iuliano	Canadian Food Inspection Agency

