Canada’s New Delegate to the World Organisation for Animal Health

Dr. Harpreet S. Kochhar

On February 26, 2017, Dr. Harpreet Kochhar was appointed as Canada’s new delegate to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). Dr. Kochhar is also the Chief Veterinary Officer for Canada and the Associate Vice-President, Operations, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Dr. Kochhar is a veterinarian with a Master's degree in Veterinary Science and a Doctorate (Ph.D.) in biotechnology. He has served as an expert in animal biotechnology for the World Organisation for Animal Health and has worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Dr. Kochhar joined the CFIA in 2002 from the University of Guelph's Ontario Veterinary College, where he was an assistant professor with research interests in animal biotechnology. He also worked as a veterinarian in private practice prior to joining the CFIA. He has since held a number of senior-level positions within the CFIA.

As Chief Veterinary Officer and OIE Delegate, Dr. Kochhar leads Canada's efforts to manage current and emerging disease threats in order to protect animal and human health. He plays a crucial role in the development and adoption of animal health standards and guidelines, and ensures that they are appropriately and consistently implemented in Canada.

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