



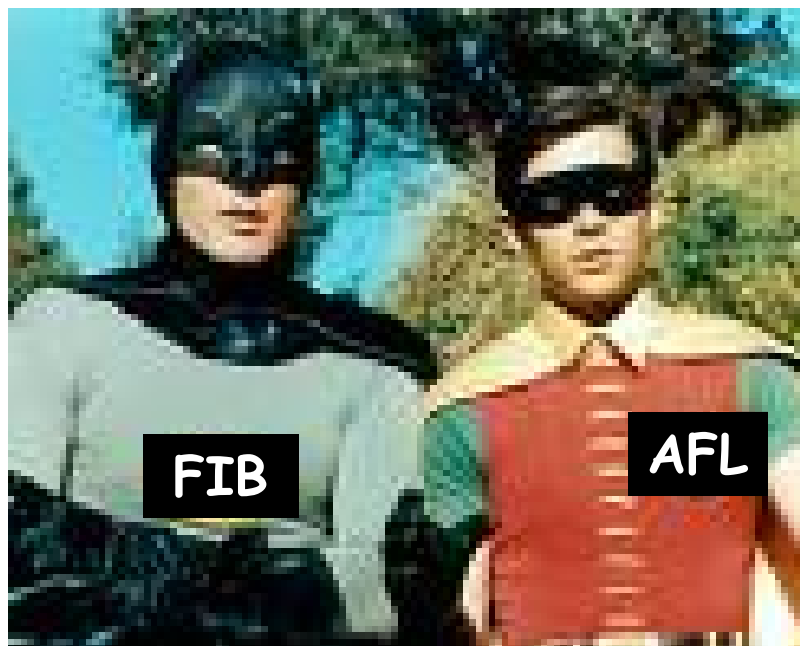
News @ Noon
OMAFRA – University of
Guelph Agreement

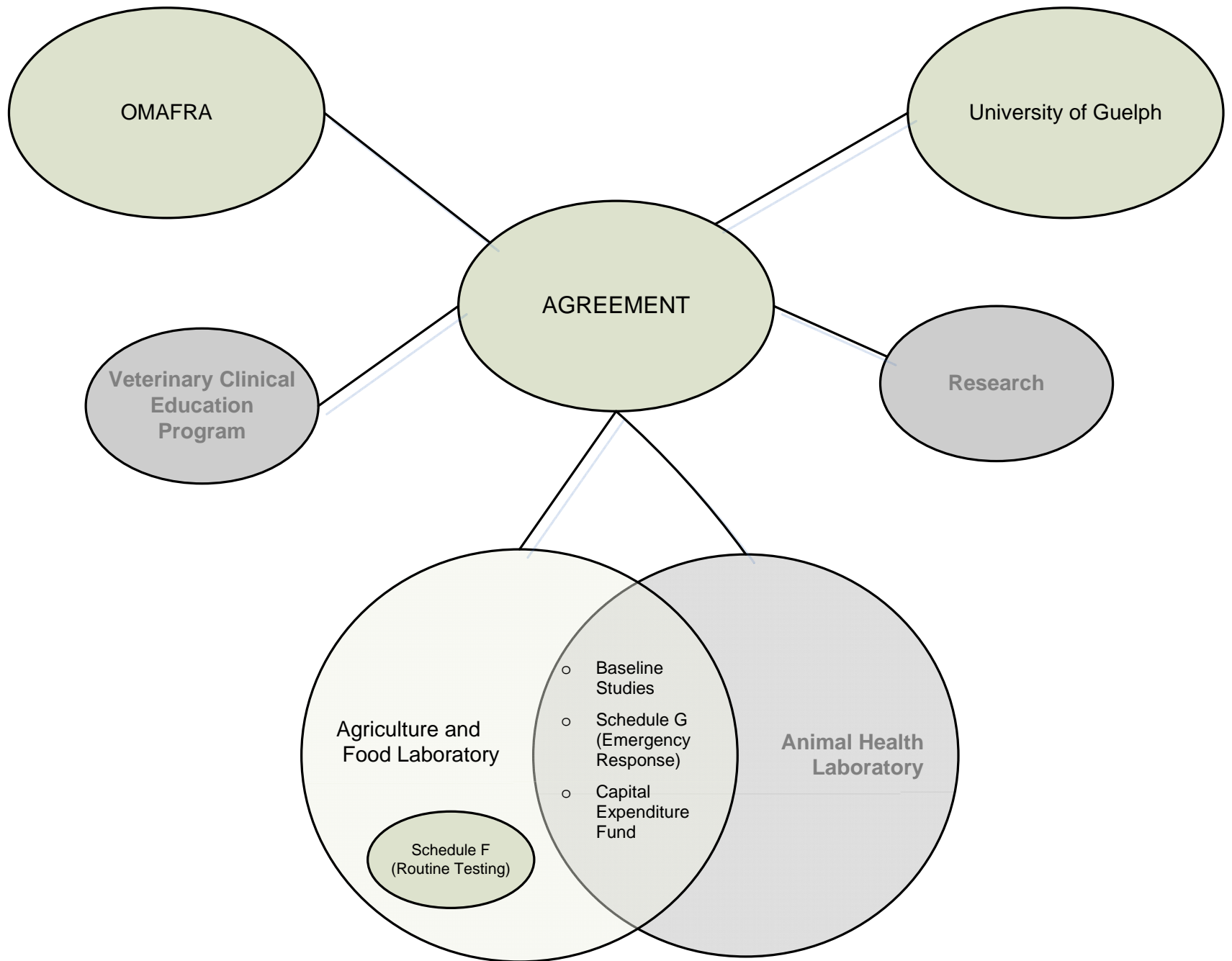
Rena Hubers
Director, Food Inspection Branch
June 19, 2009



OMAFRA Food Inspection Branch's Vision:
Safeguard Ontario's food supply
through the delivery of an innovative,
world-class food inspection system

A strong partnership





OMAFRA

University of Guelph

AGREEMENT

Veterinary Clinical
Education
Program

Research

Agriculture and
Food Laboratory



Animal Health
Laboratory

- Baseline Studies
- Schedule G (Emergency Response)
- Capital Expenditure Fund

Schedule F
(Routine Testing)



How the partnership supports Food Inspection Branch

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- Guaranteed access to high-quality, special purpose laboratory services
 - Collaborative work to develop project descriptions and sampling plans
 - University contributes leading faculty, research personnel and laboratory technologists
 - Branch can focus on core sampling and testing programs
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Schedule F



- Outlines OMAFRA's regulatory, surveillance, monitoring and investigation testing programs.
- For FIB, these include drug residue, microbiological and environmental contaminant testing for:
 - Meat
 - Dairy
 - Foods of Plant Origin
- \$5.2 million dollars worth of testing annually (as of 08-09)
- Governed by a dedicated Agriculture and Food Laboratory Program Management Committee (AFL-PMC) with two co-chairs: Director of FIB and Director of AFL





Baseline Studies

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- Additional food testing outside of Schedule F
 - Baseline studies:
 - Determine the prevalence of hazards associated with various foods:
 - microbiological
 - physical
 - chemical
 - Establish baseline data and scientific information used to target:
 - intervention programs
 - inspection and control programs
 - research efforts
 - Up to \$500,000 per year
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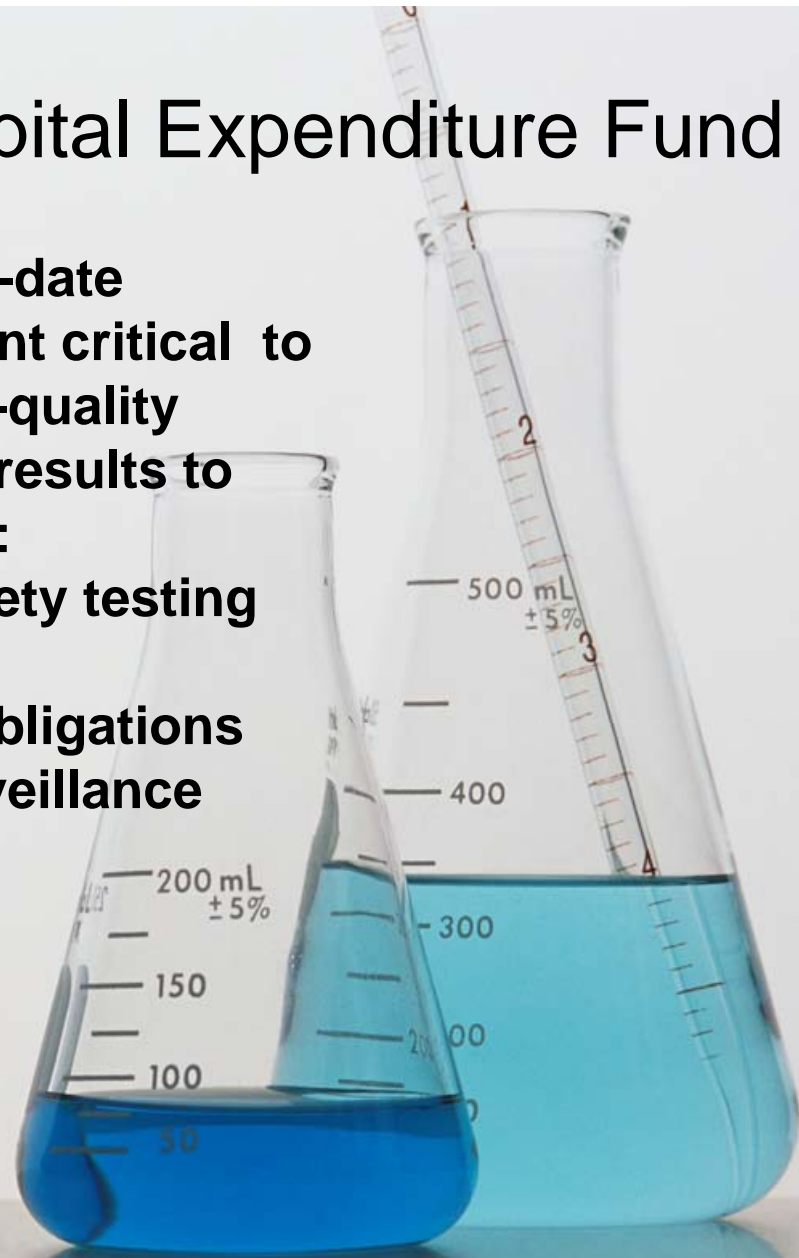
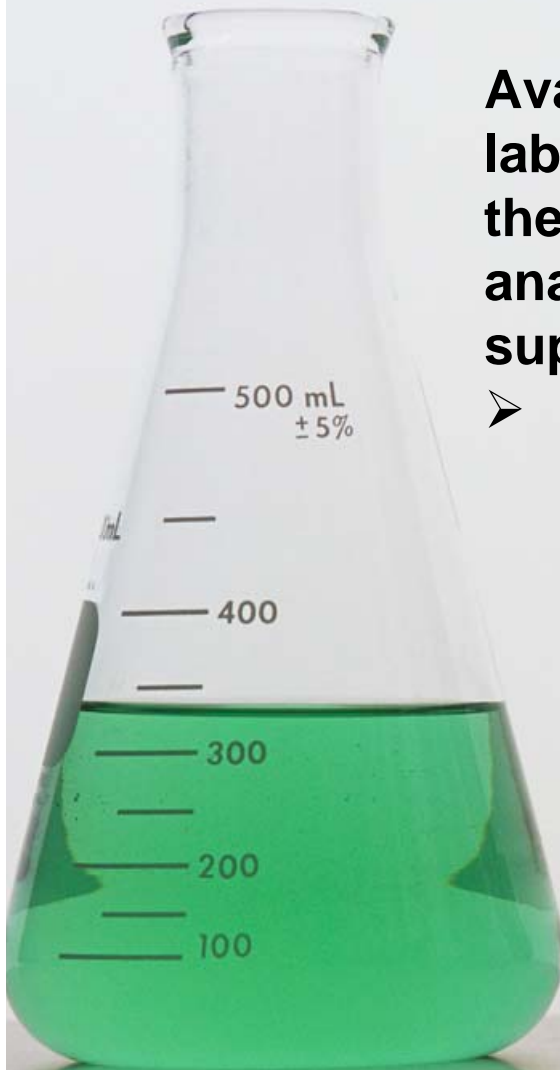
Schedule G

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- Emergency response / Non-routine testing
 - The agreement sets out the obligations between the parties to:
 - establish emergency planning and preparation milestones which the parties work together to achieve, and
 - in the event of an emergency, ensure the University is able to:
 - meet additional program requirements
 - continue delivering the programs
 - Example: **Pigeon King International (PKI)**
 - Antibiotics and drug residue testing required
 - had to moved quickly to put a testing program in place -- testing protocol did not as yet exist anywhere in the world.
 - developed and validated a comprehensive, novel approach in two weeks
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Capital Expenditure Fund


Availability of up-to-date laboratory equipment critical to the delivery of high-quality analytical data and results to support OMAFRA's:

- **routine food safety testing**
- **regulatory obligations**
- **disease surveillance programs.**





The Future of the Agreement (1)

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- Maximizing:
 - Transparency and accountability
 - Flexibility to adjust sampling and testing programs to emerging food safety challenges
 - Ability to respond quickly and accurately to emergency situations
 - Balance between guaranteed quality laboratory capacity and value-for-money service

The Future of the Agreement (2)

- Exploring areas for future innovation and collaboration:
 - Implement rapid, multi-residue testing methodologies
 - Develop testing methodologies
 - Establish performance measurement
 - Develop various performance measures using Year 1 (2008-09) data to develop baselines for future performance indicators.
 - Fully analyze these measures and performance indicators in Year 2 to further develop the agreement

