**Agriculture & Agri-food Student Policy Brief Competition**

 **Instructions**

**Background**

Agriculture and Agri-food (AAFC) Canada’s Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau, PC MP, read the attached joint Statement from the Chief Veterinary Officers of Canada and the United States (May 22, 2019) which outlines an agreement between Canada and the U.S. to allow safe trade to continue between the two countries in the event of a reported incidence of African swine fever (ASF) in either country.

The Minister is concerned about the global impacts of African Swine fever (ASF) globally and its potential effects in Canada and how the Canadian Government will respond.

**Instructions**

The Minister has asked for a briefing on the potential impact of ASF in Canada, and recommendations on measures that can be taken by the Government to address this challenge to the pork industry.

You have been given the responsibility to write the briefing note for the Minister. The briefing note should not exceed three (3) pages and should be at a level that will help the Minister make an informed decision.

A briefing note consists of several sections which are described in the attached template. Each section of the note has a specific purpose, so read the instructions on the template carefully. Some background documents are listed below to help you get started. You may use these as you see fit to help gather the required information for the various parts of the note. The Background section is used for broader context while the Issue section is used to highlight the particular issue over which the Minister will be making informed decisions. The Considerations section can be used to highlight how the issue at hand may have linkages to other issues and policies across the department in particular and government in general, stakeholders and economic phenomenon, and other practical considerations . The Options sections provides the Minister with some concrete choices (usually two or three) about a policy direction, while the Recommendation section defends one of these options as the most-favoured alternative. The Summary Box is best dealt with once you have completed the main body of the briefing note and has to bring out the key messages and recommendation.

Please use attached Briefing Note template and submit to Jennifer Vignola at jennifer.vignola@canada.ca by Monday January 20, 2020 4 P.M. EST

**Background Documents**

1. Joint Statement from the Chief Veterinary Officers of Canada and the United States (May 22, 2019) <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/swine-disease-information/african-swine-fever/joint-statement>
2. African Swine Fever Backgrounder
3. Impact of African Swine Fever on global markets/Nathan Pitts
4. News release\_ Canada cannot let our guard down in African Swine Fever Fight.