

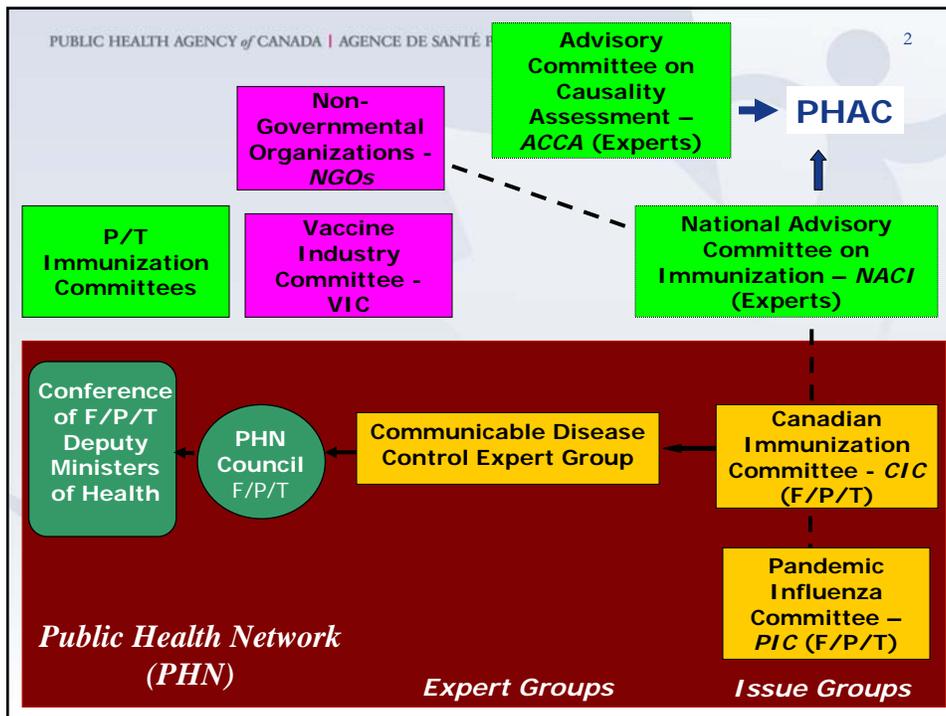
# How Expert Committees on Immunization Could Function Better *A Public Health Perspective*

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY *of* CANADA  
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## The National Immunization Strategy has:

### 5 Key Components

1. National Goals and Targets
2. Equitable Access: Collaborative Immunization Program Planning
3. Vaccine Supply
4. Immunization Registries
5. Vaccine Safety

### 5 Supporting Themes

1. Research
2. Public Education
3. Professional Education
4. Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance
5. Approaches to Special Populations

## Considerations

- NACI, CIC and P/T Immunization Committees deal with similar issues and challenges and often use the same data to make their decisions
- Research, including clinical trials, conducted by the vaccine industry is an important element of the evidence-based decision-making for both scientific recommendations and program implementation decisions
- Non-Government Organizations also develop immunization recommendations

## Considerations

- P/T immunization committees guided by their respective jurisdiction's public health priorities
- Achieving a reasonable balance between recruiting scientific experts with necessary expertise while avoiding potential, perceived and real conflicts
  - Different guidance in organizations and jurisdictions
- Difficulties in making timely recommendations given limited human resources and funding

## Moving Forward

- Different approaches to leverage Federal, Provincial, Territorial public health resources and research
- Develop rules of engagement for public health to benefit from industry research and expertise
- Strengthen linkages with NGOs in developing communication strategies, education and other collaborations
- Facilitate timely information on new vaccines on the horizon to assist with the development of timely recommendations

## Moving Forward

- CIC is facilitating Collaborative Program Planning to:
  - reduce duplication of efforts
  - improve access to vaccines and
  - facilitate policy analysis of new vaccines, through national collaboration on the assessment and prioritization of new vaccines using common criteria

## Moving Forward

- CIC is working towards harmonization of immunization programs through
  - Equitable access
  - Avoiding duplication
  - Maximizing program effectiveness and efficiency
  - Research and evaluation to help develop optimal schedules

## New Approaches – HPV

- Research priorities setting workshop
- Joint NACI/CIC HPV Work Group established in June 2006 as a new collaborative approach to develop the National Immunization Strategy Analytical Framework for HPV vaccines



## New Approaches (Cont'd)

- Similar approach being considered for other new vaccines approved for use
  - Capitalise on province territorial capacities
  - Leverage funding to address the analytic framework
- Providing advice for the pandemic vaccine strategy and the use of prototype pandemic vaccines



## **Role of Immunization and Respiratory Infections Division, PHAC**

- Secretariat
- Reference and data management
- Financial support:
  - literature review, reference database, economic, acceptability, feasibility studies
- Technical support
- Facilitating collaboration