Simon Otto
Dr. Simon Otto is an Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. He is a veterinarian and epidemiologist whose research investigates the One Health epidemiology of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) to create evidence to tackle this wicked problem. He works closely with government and industry partners to create realistic strategies for antimicrobial stewardship using a One Health approach.

Frank Aarestrup
Frank Møller Aarestrup obtained his DVM in 1992 and a PhD in bovine mastitis in 1995, at which time he got involved in research around the transmission of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) from food animals to humans. Frank played a central role in establishing AMR surveillance in Denmark and conducting research leading to global and local methodologies for surveillance of AMR, zoonotic pathogens and more recently infectious disease in general. The research contributed to an EU wide ban on antimicrobial growth promoters from 2006 and the implementation of the concept of categorization from 2006 by WHO.

During the last decade his focus has been on combining genomics and metagenomics, data sharing and bioinformatics/epidemiology for understanding the global occurrence of all microbes (bacteria, parasites fungi and virus). He has published the first evaluation of NGS for AMR detection, and showed that metagenomics can be used for detection of pathogens in clinical samples, and have shown the ability to determine the presence and abundance of bacteria, virus and parasites in metagenomics data and perform combined analyses. Frank Aarestrup is also head of the EU, FAO and WHO reference laboratories for AMR.

Lynora Saxinger
Lynora Saxinger is an Infectious Diseases specialist whose clinical practice includes HIV, Hepatitis C, nontransplant immunocompromised hosts, and Travel and Tropical Medicine. Co-Chair of the Alberta Health Services Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee, she is involved in national Stewardship initiatives to promote best practices in antibiotic use. Areas of research interest include Antimicrobial Utilization, epidemiology of antimicrobial resistance, and derivation of Stewardship best practices.
Richard Reid-Smith
Richard Reid-Smith completed an Honours BSc in Zoology at the University of Western Ontario in 1985, followed by a DVM degree in 1990 and a Doctor of Veterinary Science in Clinical Epidemiology in 1999, both at the University of Guelph. He spent 15 years, full- and part-time in companion animal veterinary practice in Toronto, and 1 year as an assistant professor at the University of Guelph. He joined the Public Health Agency of Canada’s Laboratory for Foodborne Zoonoses in 2000, working on the development and operationalization of the Canadian Integrated Program for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (CIPARS). He is currently with PHAC’s Centre for Food-borne, Environmental and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases as the CIPARS surveillance operations and targeted studies coordinator. He is an adjunct professor in the Dept. of Population Medicine, University of Guelph; a former member of the WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance; and co-lead of the Risk Work Package of the Genomics Research and Development Initiative Interdepartmental Project on AMR. He has co-authored over 165 peer-reviewed papers on antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial use in food animals, the food chain, humans, companion animals, wildlife, and the environment.

Ed Topp
A native of Montréal, Ed obtained his PhD from the Department of Microbiology at the University of Minnesota in 1988. Ed’s research concerns the interface between agriculture and human and environmental health, and has generated over 275 co-authored publications. In the last decade he has notably led several national studies concerning the fate and management in agro-ecosystems of pharmaceuticals and pathogenic and antibiotic-resistant bacteria. He is the project coordinator for the Genomics Research and Development Initiative on antimicrobial resistance, a key component of the Canadian Federal Framework for action on antimicrobial resistance.