

Board Highlights: July 3-4, 2024

Policy Day

The Board of Directors discussed information and questions for delegate input that will be sought at the policy day on September 17, 2024. This policy day will be focusing on Ontario Pork value to members and services that the organization delivers to producers. Board members stressed the need for a comprehensive conversation with delegates at the 2024 policy day to evaluate services, identify gaps, and assess the organization's resources. Ontario Pork will be sending information to delegates in late August to prepare for the policy day discussion.

Strategic Planning

As Ontario Pork's current strategic plan nears completion, the Board has begun discussing the process and timing for developing a new or refreshed strategy to align with industry needs. The Board considered an appropriate framework for conducting an in-depth analysis of industry issues and aligning Ontario Pork's strategic intents to address these challenges. The strategic planning framework for Ontario Pork will focus on rigorously testing the organization's mandates. This approach aims to affirm or adapt current strategies through thorough examination and members' input. The process will commence later this fall after receiving input from delegates at the policy day.

Environmental Project

The Board of Directors approved a project proposal for Ontario Pork to undertake greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions testing on 15 pork production systems, utilizing the DSM – Sustell calculator for ease-of-use, data entry and output results. Staff will be providing regular updates on project progress, which is estimated to take 6-8 months. The project outcomes will assist Ontario Pork in the following:

- To support advocacy efforts in discussions with government regarding the swine sector's environmental footprint,
- For producers to know and understand GHG emission levels on-farm and apply best management practices that are appropriate,
- To guide swine research projects that focus on sustainable practices to reduce GHG emissions, and
- For Ontario Pork to determine the feasibility of undertaking additional work that would test GHG emissions on a larger number of swine production systems in Ontario.