



Board Highlights: April 12-13, 2016

The purpose of Board Highlights is to help keep you informed on the issues the Board is dealing with on your behalf.

This update is sent by e-mail. If you would like to be added to or removed from our distribution list, please let us know.

Please direct any questions or comments to the Ontario Pork Communications department at 1-877-ONT-PORK (668-7675) or by e-mail to comm@ontariopork.on.ca

The following are highlights from the April 2016 Ontario Pork board meeting.

Advisory Group Model Review

The Board of Directors evaluated the advisory group model, created last year, and decided to postpone the Value-Chain Advisory Group until further notice. A new Program Development Advisory Group was created to provide advice on converting industry policies into practical, workable programs that meet the needs of Ontario pork producers.

2016/2017 Ontario Pork Board Elections

According to the Ontario Pork By-Laws, elections were held for all Board positions for 2016-2017. The election results are as follows:

Amy Cronin, **Board Chairperson**
Eric Schwindt, **Vice-Chairperson**

Advisory Groups:

Risk Management: Bill Wymenga, Doug Ahrens
Sustainability: Arno Schober, John de Bruyn
Program Development: Oliver Haan, Teresa Van Raay, Chris Cossitt

Board Committees:

Audit Committee: Doug Ahrens (Chair), John de Bruyn, Teresa Van Raay
Research Committee: Arno Schober (Chair), Oliver Haan, Chris Cossitt
Resolutions Committee: Teresa Van Raay (Chair), Doug Ahrens

The Board also appointed representatives to the following organizations:

Ontario Agricultural Commodity Council: Bill Wymenga, Doug Ahrens
Pork Value Chain Roundtable: Amy Cronin
Farm and Food Care – Ontario – Farm Animal Advisory Council:
Teresa Van Raay
Farm and Food Care – Ontario – AgCare Environment Advisory Council:
John de Bruyn
Livestock Research Innovation Corporation: Oliver Haan
London Swine Conference: Teresa Van Raay

Swine Innovation Porc Update

Stewart Cressman, Chair of Swine Innovation Porc (SIP) met with the Board and delivered a thorough overview of the SIP mandate and activities. SIP is a non-profit corporation committed to facilitating research in the Canadian swine sector. Its main objective is to enhance the profitability and sustainability of the pork industry by supporting the development of the most innovative technologies that will benefit the pork value chain.

Annual General Meeting Review

The Board reviewed a summary of evaluations and participants' feedback, which was largely positive.

Sustainability Advisory Group

Arno Schober and John de Bruyn, Co-Chairs of the Sustainability Advisory Group, informed the Board that the provincial government is requesting urgent input from agriculture into the domestic action plan development to address phosphorous run-off into Lake Erie. A meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Group will be scheduled next week to finalize the group's recommendations for Ontario Pork to take into industry consultations on the government's domestic action plan for Lake Erie.

Domestic Action Plan for Lake Erie Information Meetings

The Board of Directors decided to hold information meetings to present Ontario Pork's recommendations for the provincial government's domestic action plan for Lake Erie and to gather producers' feedback. The meetings will be held in each pork producing zone in June 2016.

Research Committee Update

The Board approved a funding for the following seven projects, recommended by the Research Committee at their recent meeting on April 1, 2016:

- Friendship, Robert – Comparison of single timed artificial insemination in gilts using OvuGel or eCG/pLH to synchronize ovulation
- O'Sullivan, Terri – Assessing the efficacy of ketoprofen and meloxicam when mixed with iron dextran on pain relief following castration in piglet
- Friendship, Robert – Mortality and morbidity on 50 Ontario swine nurseries
- de Lange, Kees – Precision feeding of gestating sows: use of electronic sow feeders to reduce feed costs and nutrient losses into the environment, while improving sow productivity and welfare
- Poljak, Zvonimir – Comparative pathogenicity of two recent Ontario PRRSV strains and their molecular characterization
- Fan, Ming – Calcium-precipitation based removal of free phosphorus from swine manure
- Grey, Chris – Novel antimicrobials for swine infections

These projects will focus on Ontario Pork's research priority areas.