



Board Highlights: March 1-2, 2016

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

Ottawa/Carleton/Lanark and Renfrew Amalgamation

At their annual general meeting the Renfrew pork producers decided to disband their association provided that the area would be incorporated into the Ottawa/Carleton/Lanark association. In February 2016, the Ottawa/Carleton/Lanark association ratified the proposed constitution incorporating Renfrew and decided to change the name of the association to the Ottawa Valley Pork Producers' Association. The two association are both within hog producing zone 4 and thereby, meet the requirements of Regulation 403/10 for amalgamation. The Board of Directors approved a revised constitution for the Ottawa Valley Pork Producers' Association.

Strategy for Swine Research Infrastructure Committee Report

The Board of Directors accepted a final report from the Strategy for Swine Research Infrastructure committee and supported in principal the strategy outlined in the report. Board members provided their feedback on the next steps including the infrastructure, governance, and research priority-setting. Ontario Pork will now be working on phase 2 which will include discussions with The Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), as well as the University of Guelph.

Program Update

The Board was briefed on the recent activities addressing PED cases. Over 74% of the primary cases have eliminated PED and are testing negative with several secondary sites also testing negative. Swine Health Ontario hosted a town hall meeting on February 22nd with over 170 participants on the call. Ontario Pork has increased its inventory to better accommodate urgent larger and more frequent tag orders for the PigTrace program. Credit cards are now accepted to facilitate the payment prior to shipping tags.

Ontario Independent Meat Processors (OIMP)

Cory Van Groningen, President and Laurie Nicol, Executive Director presented an update on Ontario Independent Meat Processors (OIMP), an organization that represents abattoirs, processing plants, butcher shops, fine food stores, suppliers and partners across Ontario. The overview included the organization's mandate, structure and value for its members such as government advocacy, communication campaigns, and various industry events.

Annual General Meeting Update

Staff briefed the Board of Directors on preparations for the Annual General Meeting which will be held on March 22-23, 2016 at the Delta Guelph Hotel and Conference Centre. The Resolutions session will be held on March 23rd. John de Bruyn was appointed to chair the Resolutions session at the upcoming AGM. An electronic copy of the 2016 resolutions booklet is available on the Ontario Pork website.

Risk Management Advisory Group

Bill Wymenga and Doug Ahrens, Co-Chairs of the Risk Management Advisory Group, briefed the Board on the development of the hog mortality insurance options paper based on input from the risk management advisory group. Design elements were discussed with the national industry and federal government working group on February 23, 2016.