



April, 2015

Board Highlights:
April 7-8, 2015

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

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The following are highlights from the April 2015 Ontario Pork board meeting.

Annual General Meeting Review

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

2015-2016 Ontario Pork Board Elections

According to the Ontario Pork By-Laws, elections were held for the Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair positions for 2015-2016. The election results are as follows

Amy Cronin, Board Chairperson

Eric Schwindt, Vice-Chairperson

Elections were also held for the Board standing committees:

Audit Committee: Doug Ahrens (Chair), John de Bruyn, Teresa Van Raay

Research Committee: Arno Schober (Chair), John de Bruyn, Oliver Haan

Resolutions Committee: Teresa Van Raay (Chair), Doug Ahrens

The Board also appointed Bill Wymenga as a representative to the Ontario Agricultural Commodity Council (OACC).

Board Committee Model

Board members reviewed a new committee and affiliations framework and decided to discuss respective representation at the next meeting. This framework is designed to support broader collaboration among producers, senior staff, and other industry stakeholders within main areas of value chain, sustainability, and business risk management, where workload is balanced and shared depending on the issue area and participants' core competencies.

Supplementary Grants Policy

The Board of Directors approved a new supplementary grants policy that will replace an old policy. The new policy will clarify eligibility criteria for special projects. Supplementary grants are available to local pork producers associations for special projects through an application process. The process

is put in place to ensure that these funds are distributed in an open, fair and accountable process and to the best benefit of the pork industry in Ontario. The new policy will be circulated to presidents and secretaries of pork producers' associations. Their feedback on the policy will be invited annually at the Presidents and Secretaries meeting in December.

Canadian Pork Council (CPC) Update

Bill Wymenga and Teresa Van Raay provided an update on recent CPC activities including Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), traceability and antimicrobial resistance. The next CPC board meeting as well as a meeting for Chairs and General Managers of provincial pork boards will be held in late April in Ottawa.

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) Update

The Board was briefed on the recent activities of the PED industry working group including addressing PED surveillance, truck wash, research and control and elimination. Approximately 50% of the primary cases have eliminated PED and are testing negative. To date, no new on-farm cases have been found from the positive results detected from the plant/abattoir surveillance.

Government Relations

Tom McLaren presented Ontario Pork's government relations plan for 2015. This year's plan aligns around four fundamentals - building and maintaining relationships with government, achieving its policy advocacy goals, building the capacity of Ontario Pork to improve and maintain the organization's advocacy skills and abilities; and policy leadership.