

Board Highlights: April 16-17, 2019

2019/2020 Ontario Pork Board Elections

At the first meeting after the annual general meeting, the Board held elections for all Board positions for 2018-2019. The election results are as follows:

Eric Schwindt, Board Chair

John de Bruyn, Board Vice-Chair

Advisory Groups:

Risk Management: Doug Ahrens, Eric Hartemink

Sustainability: Arno Schober, Mike Mitchell

Program Development: Oliver Haan, Teresa Van Raay, Chris Cossitt

Board Committees:

Audit Committee: Doug Ahrens, Eric Hartemink, Teresa Van Raay

Resolutions Committee: Teresa Van Raay, Mike Mitchell

Research Committee: Arno Schober, Oliver Haan, Chris Cossitt

The Board also appointed representatives to the following organizations:

Ontario Agricultural Commodity Council: Eric Hartemink

Farm and Food Care – Ontario – Farm Animal Advisory Council: Eric Hartemink

Farm and Food Care – Ontario – AgCare Environment Advisory Council: Mike Mitchell

Livestock Research Innovation Corporation: Oliver Haan

London Swine Conference Steering Committee: Teresa Van Raay

Ontario Pork's Political Structure Review Committee

In the 2018-2021 strategic report, the Board of Directors identified the need to evaluate the political structure of Ontario Pork with the aim to better serve the changing producer demographic. To assist in evaluating the current Ontario Pork political structure, the Board established an ad-hoc committee, which will begin its work later this spring. Two Board members and five producers at-large will serve on the committee. The first step of this long-term project, would be for the committee to develop a white paper that will be circulated to all associations for a discussion at the policy day.

2019 Policy Day

The Board of Directors made a decision to hold the Ontario Pork Policy Day on September 10, 2019. The main focus of the discussion at this year meeting will be the Ontario Pork Political Structure review.

Canadian Pork Council Update

Oliver Haan and Doug Ahrens updated the Board on the recent meeting of the CPC members and the Board of Directors held on April 9-10, 2019 in Ottawa. Discussion topics included: African swine fever, PigTRACE sustainability, Canadian Pork Excellence, Pig Code Review, and advocacy.

Barn Fire Safety Committee

The ad-hoc Barn Fire Safety committee has now completed its work; the committee role was to develop strategy recommendations to deal with barn fires that would address existing gaps, resources, and regulations. The Board of Directors accepted a final report from the committee and supported in principal the strategy recommendations outlined in the report. Staff will present a draft implementation plan for the Board review at the May meeting.

Leadership Training

The Ontario Pork Leadership Training program for 2018-19 has concluded. Eight producers participated in the course. The course covered leadership traits personal assessment, governance, media training, policy development, strategic thinking, and government relations training. The value-chain tour, a new program

component, was added this year. Participants' comments will help Ontario Pork to evaluate the course objectives, to maintain and improve the quality of the course and the learning environment. Recruitment for the 2019-20 leadership course will commence in early June. All producers interested in advancing themselves in their leadership journey are encouraged to apply. The cost of the program is covered by Ontario Pork.