

Board Highlights: August 13-14, 2019

2019 Policy Day

Ontario Pork's Policy Day will be held on **September 10, 2019** at the **Holiday Inn Guelph Hotel & Conference Centre**, 601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph. Elected delegates, presidents, and secretaries are encouraged to attend the event and provide their feedback for each discussion topic. This year's Policy Day will focus on the Ontario Pork Political Structure review. The Political Structure Review Committee members met on July 30, 2019 to review the draft white paper and put together questions for delegates' feedback. The Policy Day agenda will also include the AgManifest demo and an update African swine fever. The Policy Day materials will be circulated shortly.

New Research Facility Project

Earlier this summer, an official announcement was made by the provincial government of the building of the new Swine Research Facility in the Elora area by Minister Hardeman. The tendering process for the design firm for the research facility closed on July 5, 2019. The design committee, which includes representatives from Ontario Pork and the University of Guelph (Physical Resources, Research, Contract Administration, Facility Management) has been assessing the submitted design projects and holding interviews with design firms.

Pig Code Review Update

The Canadian Pork Council is leading the five-year review of the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs. A Code Technical Panel has been formed and tasked with reviewing the Code of practice, drafting a summary report for presentation to the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC). James Reesor, Ontario Pork's representative on the Code Technical Panel and Hans Kristensen, CPC representative on the Panel, joined the meeting to provide an update on the work of the panel to date. The panel suggested several improvements to the draft Code Awareness and Implementation and Value and Relevance of the Code sections of the review panel's report. Clarifications were added to better reflect the effort producers have been doing to implement the code. The panel is drafting a summary report for presentation to the NFACC.

Risk Management Program

The provincial government has made a commitment to add an additional \$50 million to the RMP on the condition that the current RMP is re-designed to act as an insurance based program. To achieve the goal of transition to the insurance based program in 2021, livestock commodities have been tasked with presenting a design concept to Minister Hardeman by early fall of this year. To that end, Ontario Pork have been working with Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) representatives on design options as well as data analysis. A meeting with the Ontario Pork's Risk Management Advisory group is planned in late August to discuss potential design options.

Program Development Advisory Group

Members of the Program Development Advisory group met on July 3 and August 6, 2019 to provide input on the final structure, focus areas and delivery of the 2019 Social Responsibility Report. The group also confirmed report priorities and identified social responsibility report key performance indicators (KPIs). The 2019 report will be finalized and presented at the Ontario Pork's reception for MPPs at Queen's park in November 2019.