



## Board Highlights: November 1-2, 2016

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

### 2016-17 Budget

The Board of Directors approved a deficit budget for the 2017 fiscal year. The service fee structure remained the same: the Universal service fee on market hogs will stay at \$0.95 per hog for 2016; a portion of the fee allocated for research is \$0.10 per hog. The service fee on weaner pigs leaving the province will remain at \$0.20 per weaner pig. A number of programs and initiatives was included in the 2017 budget, such as education and training activities that would target the Ontario Pork social responsibility commitments and would advance the pork industry in the province.

### Canada Pork International (CPI)

Greg Giokas, the new President of Canada Pork International (CPI), spoke with the Board about export markets and their specific requirements, focusing on Asian markets, especially Japan and opportunities for the Canadian pork industry. Discussion included food consumption trends and the importance of Canada pork brand recognition and food security.

### Livestock Research Innovation Corporation (LRIC) Update

Tim Nelson, Chief Executive Officer presented an update on LRIC, an organization that provides a single portal through which collective investment in livestock and poultry research conducted in Ontario. Oliver Haan serves as the LRIC Board Chair. The overview included the organization's strategic goals, structure and value for its members such as cross-sectoral synergies in research, call for research proposals, administration and research project management.

### Ontario Pork and Quebec Pork Joint Meeting

The Ontario Pork Board of Directors and the Board of Directors of Les Éleveurs de porcs du Québec held a joint meeting on October 12-13 in Guelph. The discussion focused on the review of the two organizations, their priorities, common issues, government relations, industry partnerships as well as opportunities for collaboration opportunities between two provincial pork organizations.

## **New Research Facility Project**

Staff briefed the Board on the first meeting of the external committee that would negotiate modernizing Ontario's swine research facilities. The committee includes Ontario Pork, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), University of Guelph, and Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO).

## **Sustainability Advisory Group**

The policy recommendations of Ontario Pork's sustainability advisory group have been captured in the position paper of Grow Ontario Together (GOT), which will form the basis of the Ontario Pork and its partner organizations' response to the government plans for Lake Erie.

## **Risk Management Advisory Group**

Bill Wymenga and Doug Ahrens, co-chairs of the Risk Management Advisory Group reported on the meeting held October 21, where the advisory group members developed Ontario Pork's approach for consultations on business risk management programs within the next agricultural framework, Growing Forward 3.

## **Program Development Advisory Group**

Ontario Pork developed the draft On-Farm Emergency Planning Guide, designed to help Ontario pork farmers plan for and manage disasters that can occur on their operation such as power outages, drought, flood, severe snow or ice storms and also catastrophic events, e.g. tornadoes, hurricanes, fires, and disease outbreaks. The resource is in a review stage and will be discussed by the members of the Program Development Advisory Group during their meeting on November 24, 2016.