



ONTARIO PORK

# Resolutions Response

June 30, 2022

# Letter from the Board Chair

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Dear Delegates, Substitutes, Presidents and Secretaries:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank all delegates and pork producers' associations for participating in the resolution process. Your efforts in developing thoughtful resolutions and participating in meaningful debate provide another valuable means for the Board to attain and capture your input. This booklet contains actions taken and planned with respect to the resolutions debated and carried at the Annual General Meeting on March 23, 2022.

I encourage each of you to read and consider the responses given. Further questions pertaining to the issues outlined in these resolutions can be directed to the Board of Directors, or to Ontario Pork staff.

Sincerely,



John de Bruyn  
Board Chair

## **RESOLUTION 2 – Pork Production Carbon Footprint**

**Whereas** 26% of Ontario pork production’s carbon footprint comes from manure storage and treatment.

**Whereas** swine manure management is an under-researched topic due to its position as a by-product of pork production, outside the scope of crop production research, and generally undesirable for researchers to probe.

**Whereas** increasing the nutrient use efficiency of swine manure could also reduce the carbon footprint of feed production which is 52% of Ontario pork production’s carbon footprint.

**Therefore** be resolved that Ontario Pork fund at least 1 research project per year that investigates economical methods of decreasing swine manure’s green house gas emissions, or increasing its nutrient use efficiency.

### **Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers’ Association**

**RESPONSE:** Given the importance for the pork industry to find innovative solutions to further reduce its impact on the environment, the Ontario Pork Research Advisory Group will focus its efforts on developing priorities for research that are responsive to the needs of pork producers in Ontario.

Ontario Pork identified the need to benchmark our industry’s carbon footprint to determine swine sector priorities that enable successful change.

Ontario’s pork industry is proactive in the use of environmentally friendly farming practices, as proud stewards of the land on which they farm. This is extremely important to the communities in which our members live and work, and to the business of farming. Ontario Pork and its members continue to support soil health, with a key environmental focus as a commodity organization being nutrient management.

To further reduce GHGs associated with manure, and to utilize the nutrients found in manure, Ontario Pork is committed to undertaking research on how nutrients can be best managed and used.

The importance of nutrient management (manure) and its impact on GHGs and climate change has been discussed by Ontario Pork at its 2021 Policy Day, and through participation in several OMAFRA committees.

Research is currently underway on the following:

- Advancing 4R Nutrient Stewardship for Sustainable Use of Phosphorus from Pig Manure Slurry for Crop Production. While the benefits of organic matter in pig slurry to soil are well known, its role in governing soil P chemistry is not well understood. This research will clarify the effects of pig slurry organic matter on the chemistry of soil and fertilizer P and validate Ontario’s current soil P test in soils amended with pig manure slurry. When improperly managed as a nutrient source for crop production, pig manure slurry can be a serious environmental concern, especially when application rates are based on N supply alone. Expected completion is fall 2023.

- Improving 4R nutrient stewardship practices for crop production systems currently or previously receiving manures. The purpose of this research is to improve/develop chemical fertilizer 4R practices by efficiently utilizing available N and P provided both directly and indirectly by manures previously or currently applied. Expected completion is spring 2027.

### **RESOLUTION 3 – Supplementary Grants**

**Whereas** Ontario Pork Grant Program in tandem with local associations prohibits some groups from receiving funds:

**Whereas** Ontario Pork offers local associations an opportunity to support local groups;

**Whereas** Registered charities are prohibited in receiving the grant, but in need of assistance in unprecedented numbers;

**Therefore** be it resolved that Ontario Pork reconsider the grant guidelines and process.

#### **Submitted by the Lambton Pork Producers’ Association**

**RESPONSE:** Ontario Pork allocates \$90,000 a year for annual grants and supplementary grants for all associations. Approximately 50% of this amount is fixed allocation to association annual grant.

A local pork producers’ association can apply for a supplementary grant for qualified projects through an application process 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 current policy caps funds for supplementary grants at \$10,000 per association per year to ensure that multiple associations can access the grants.

Ontario Pork supports events that benefit all Ontario pork producers; events are evaluated using the following criteria: cost, promotion of the Ontario pork brand, increasing consumption of pork, and educating consumers who may not usually eat pork. Various promotional resources and event support are available for associations and can be covered by the existing supplementary grants program.

Currently, donations are not eligible for reimbursement under supplementary grant program for local pork producers’ associations.

However, if local pork producers’ associations chose to support a charity, they may utilize funds allocated to them through their association annual grant provided by Ontario Pork.

Ontario Pork donates \$40,000 per year to Feed Ontario and encourage matching industry donations. Money raised is used to purchase ground pork distributed to the thousands of families that visit food banks in the province each year. To date, 188,000 pounds of pork were donated to food banks, which supported 1,200 and helped feed 510,000 Ontarians facing hunger.