



ONTARIO PORK

Resolutions Response

June 28, 2024

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Letter from the Board Chair

June 28, 2024

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 resolutions and participating in meaningful debate provide another valuable means for the Board to attain and capture your input.

This resolutions response document contains actions taken and planned with respect to the resolutions debated and carried at the Annual General Meeting on March 20, 2024. Please note that resolutions that were not debated or defeated by delegates (resolutions 3, 9, and 12) are not included in the document.

I encourage 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,



Tara Terpstra
Board Chair

Pork Production Economics

RESOLUTION 1 – Carbon tax

Whereas Bill C-234 has passed by a majority of MPs in the House of Commons; and

Whereas this bill would have exempted farmers from the carbon tax on propane and natural gas; and

Whereas the Senate tried to amend the Bill to exclude heating of farm buildings and only exempt grain drying; and

Whereas Bill C-234 has still not passed the Senate; and

Whereas pork producers without another economical replacement source of heat in their livestock buildings and grain drying of their crops, will experience substantially higher heating costs in their barns as well as on grain drying of their crops; and

Whereas diesel fuel and gasoline also have the carbon tax added; and

Whereas corn and other crops used for feed by pork producers have an additional cost to grow the crop in the field to operate farm machinery; and

Whereas the trucks used to deliver feed grains and commodities to swine farms and delivering of market hogs to meat packing plants, are also subject to a carbon tax on the fuel that they use.

Therefore¹, be it resolved that Ontario Pork calculate the cost of the carbon tax on a per market hog and/or per kilogram of dressed pork of all of the carbon tax incurred by pork producers to heat their swine buildings, the growing of crops used to feed pigs, the delivery of feed and feed commodities, the grain drying of their crops, and the delivery of mkt. hogs to packing plants with the intent to lobby the federal government

¹ As amended by delegates at the Ontario Pork AGM on March 20, 2024

for a carbon tax rebate, since unlike the HST there is no total rebate on food for the carbon tax to farmers.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers' Association

Response: Ontario Pork will be engaging an economist to analyze the financial impact of the carbon tax on pork production costs per hog and per kilogram. This data will be utilized in discussions with policymakers.

RESOLUTION 2 – ASF stabilization programming

Whereas as the swine industry continues to evolve and diversify and contract growers have become a larger part of the swine industry; and

Whereas only producers that physically own pigs can successfully be part of the national AgriStability risk management programs; and

Whereas contract growers have a significant capital investment, that will be affected if ASF and/or other foreign disease were ever to arrive in Canada/USA.

Therefore, be it resolved that Ontario Pork in its negotiations with government on ASF stabilization programming communicate clearly that contract growers are an integral part of the swine industry and have to be included in any funding plan that would be rolled out to the greater industry.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers' Association

Response: Financial support programming is essential for industry preparedness, affecting all related aspects and crucial for ensuring animal welfare and industry recovery. Ontario Pork's internal group consisting of Board and staff members has been working on designing programs to help the hog industry, including contract growers, to adapt to the impact of border closures caused by an outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) or another foreign animal disease outbreak. Ontario Pork will continue to work with the Canadian Pork Council and provincial pork organizations to ensure that these programs will be effective.

RESOLUTION 4 – Deadstock and public image

Whereas the pork industry in Ontario continues to have a serious issue with deadstock negatively impacting our public image; and

Whereas there are several different ideas that producers could use to address these issues; and

Whereas Ontario Pork put together a committee to learn more about the deadstock issue, and their findings helped open up the dialogue between producers and our rendering partners, but it has not gone far enough to address the issue and leaves our public image vulnerable.

Therefore, be it resolved that Ontario Pork set up a committee to address our industries deadstock issue that could tarnish the swine industry public image and readdress best producer practices. This committee should have representation from Ontario Pork, OMAFRA, Darling Ingredients, and pork producers.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers' Association

Response: Ontario Pork's staff will continue providing support to existing producer initiatives to develop workable solutions for deadstock as well as to explore government funding opportunities. Ontario Pork has been supplying information to producers on best practices for deadstock management to mitigate the impact on the public image of the pork industry.

Regulations

RESOLUTION 5 – CFIA processing time

Whereas the office of the CFIA has up to two years from the date of an alleged offence involving livestock to set a fine against all those they believe to be responsible; not limited to the owner of said livestock involved, the shipper of said livestock involved, and the truck driver of said livestock involved in the alleged offence; and

Whereas during a two-year period, records and memory of said incidence become harder to access.

Therefore, let it be resolved that Ontario Pork work with other livestock groups to lobby that the maximum time a fine can be brought forward be reduced from up to two years to a maximum of three months.

Submitted by the Oxford Pork Producers' Association

Response: Ontario Pork will be establishing an industry-wide working group to develop an overview of challenges created by the CFIA processing times to the pork industry. The working group input will become the foundation of the Ontario Pork lobby efforts.

RESOLUTION 6 – Exporting large volumes of water out of Ontario

Whereas agriculture and predominantly food animal agriculture have come under the radar of water wastage and sustainability, in the last round of climate talks at the United Nations (COP 23); and

Whereas water exports have come under question, with water content in exported food product; and

Whereas in Ontario there exists a bottling water industry exporting millions of liters per day (7.6 million) with very little economic value to Ontario and the aquifer community that the water is exported from; and

Whereas the export of water is seen as depleting the local and regional ground water aquifer systems within watersheds in Ontario.

Therefore, be it resolved that Ontario Pork investigate with other like-minded organizations and cities (Guelph) to better understand the risk of our ground water by allowing large volume water bottling companies to export water out of Ontario.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers' Association

Response: In 2019, as Nestlé's water-taking permit in Aberfoyle was up for renewal, Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) participated in meetings with the City of Guelph and environmental groups on the amount of water being taken by Nestlé and the impact on water sources. Studies² found that there is no long-term impact on aquifers. Nestlé is also fully compliant with federal and provincial water requirements. The latest renewal of Permit to Take Water No. 1381-95ATPY for Triton Water Canada Holdings, Inc. for water bottling purposes was issued on November 15, 2021, with an expiry date of November 15, 2026. City of Guelph supported the renewed permit and recommends

² https://www.corporate.nestle.ca/sites/g/files/pydnoa556/files/asset-library/documents/nwaters_aberfoyle_2015_report.pdf

that upon renewal in 2026, further study be taken of the impact on water resources. Ontario Pork looks to OFA to participate in the future consultation.

Trade and Market Access

RESOLUTION 7 – Mitigating disruptions of Canadian pork exports to Asia

Whereas 45% of our pork exports in 2023 went to Japan(18%), China(12%), the Philippines(7%), South Korea(4%), and Taiwan(4%); and

Whereas China’s military has been harassing its neighbours, such as demonstrating its ability to blockade Taiwan and swamping a Philippine coast guard vessel in 2023; and

Whereas the Chinese military has the ability to control the South China Sea.

Therefore, let it be resolved that Ontario Pork work with the Canadian Agrifood Trade Alliance to develop a strategy to mitigate disruptions of our exports to Asia in case of Chinese military action against Taiwan.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers’ Association

Response: Recognizing the importance of maintaining stable trade channels, Ontario Pork continues to strongly advocate for government support to safeguard and promote pork industry’s access to international markets. This includes urging the government to honor and defend the provisions outlined in trade agreements, ensuring that markets remain open and accessible despite external challenges. The Canadian Pork Council (CPC) is the pork sector representative on the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA), a coalition of national organizations that support a more open and fair international trading environment for agriculture and agri-food. Ontario Pork is committed to supporting these partner organizations in mitigation of risks associated with export disruptions.

RESOLUTION 8 – Directed research on PRRS virus

Whereas PRRS is probably the most repetitive and devastating virus that swine farms have to deal with; and

Whereas PRRS is probably the most destructive, inhumane, employee demoralizing, and financially impacting virus that swine farms are impacted with; and

Whereas research and prevention have been mostly left up to pharmaceutical and vaccine companies; and

Whereas research on elimination or blocking style remedies is not in the best interest of the pharmaceutical and vaccine companies.

Therefore, be it resolved that Ontario Pork within its funding of research, put a call out to researchers for OP directed research on the PRRS Virus for new and novel ways of control/eliminate/block of the devastating virus.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers' Association

Response: One of Ontario Pork's strategic goals is to enhance the pork industry through targeted research. To support this goal, the Board of Directors formed the Research Priority Setting Committee, tasked with recommending research priorities that strengthen industry viability, competitiveness, and sustainability. Priorities recommended by the committee were incorporated into the Ontario Pork's call for research proposals in 2023.

Following the Research Proposal Review committee's recommendations, the Board allocated \$80,000 this year to fund the "Aptamer-based Multiplex Sensing of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome and Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea" research projects. Once completed, the study results will be communicated to pork producers.

Pork Consumption

RESOLUTION 10 – Plant based menus in post-secondary institutions

Whereas many universities and colleges across Canada have committed to offering upwards to 80% of their menus be plant-based in response to student demand and misguided efforts to be more sustainable; and

Whereas plant-based options are touted as better for the planet, most crops represent increased resource efficiency and food security risk due to water intensity, fertilizer, and pesticide use. Compared to animal protein, these factors significantly impact greenhouse gas emissions, water quality, and soil health, resulting in biodiversity and ecosystem loss; and

Whereas proper nutrition is important to help students juggle the demands of their education and extra-curricular activities, a concerning number - especially young women - have inadequate intakes of nutrients found in meat - iron, zinc, and vitamin B12 - resulting in low energy levels, reduced work capacity, lower resistance to infections and fatigue; and

Whereas plant-based proteins are not nutritionally equivalent to animal-source proteins, the discrepancies in quality become dramatic when the calories are accounted for, an important consideration given that obesity is one of today's largest public health challenges.

Therefore, be it resolved that Ontario Pork work with the Canadian College and University Food Service Association as well as other agriculture commodity groups to ensure animal proteins remain as menu items.

Submitted by the Perth Pork Producers' Association

Response: Ontario Pork will be meeting with the Canadian College and University Food Service Association to discuss menu choices and meat as an important protein source for healthy diets. Ontario Pork is focusing its consumer marketing efforts on

boosting domestic demand for pork and promoting discussions about healthy eating, supporting local producers, and strengthening community ties.

Consumer Education

RESOLUTION 11 – Supplementary grant and per diems

Whereas fair booth participation and education days are:

- for students
- where promotional material is given out to consumers
- where these events support the industry as a whole and increases public awareness
- where it IS participation in agricultural fairs and with agricultural societies,
- where advertising materials are used
- where (at some locations) pork is a prize from a raffle ticket; and

Whereas fair booth and education days are most effective when local producer associations are involved in these events, placing local faces in local places; and

Whereas running booths at local fairs and participating in education days takes a commitment of time to organize and also to be part of during running hours, at a time where local associations struggle to find the manpower to do these events justice; and

Whereas promotional materials are eligible for supplementary grants; and

Whereas the Supplementary Grant Policy GP #2v states that per diems for volunteers are not eligible expenses; and

Whereas the interpretation of Supplementary Grant Policy GP #2v is that per diems, with no qualification, are ineligible expenses.

Therefore, be it resolved that Supplementary Grant Policy GP #2v be interpreted as it is written, and that per diems of those appointed by their associations to serve at local fairs and other educational events are eligible expenses.

Submitted by the Haldimand-Norfolk and Golden Horseshoe Pork Producers' Associations

Response: Ontario Pork's Board of Directors plans to solicit additional input from delegates regarding the supplementary grant coverage at the policy day on September 17, 2024, due to the budget impact, accountability, and equitable policy application. Additional information will be provided ahead of time to facilitate an informed discussion.