



May 9, 2024

The Hon. Paul Calandra  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Sent by email: [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Dear Minister:

**Re: Ontario Pork submission on ERO 019-8462, the review of proposed policies for a new provincial planning policy instrument**

Ontario Pork welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on ERO 019-8462, the review of proposed policies for a new provincial planning policy instrument, PPS2024.

Ontario Pork represents the province's 1,919 pork farms, and a leader in the agriculture industry. Led by producers, Ontario Pork is committed to sustainable growth in the pork sector, delivering government representation, research investment, and industry improvements in areas including animal care and environmental sustainability, while growing the brand and reputation of producers and their product. Ontario's pork sector represents a significant part of the Canadian economy, combining - from "farm to fork" - \$1.34 billion in GDP, over 18,347 full-time jobs and \$3.51 billion in economic output.

We continue to support the government's objective of getting 1.5 million homes built over the next 10 years in order to address a housing supply shortage that affects all Ontarians including the farm and agricultural sector. We must, however, stress the importance of government policies and proposals that increase housing supply while also focused on the Grow Ontario strategy objectives of strengthening the agri-food sector, supporting economic growth, and ensuring an efficient, reliable and responsive food supply for Ontarians, as well as the right to farm under Ontario's Farming and Food Production Protection Act, 1998.

Our organization would once again like to thank the government for including the recommendation put forward by Ontario Pork and other commodity groups to remove the previously proposed policy (PPS2023) that would have allowed for the creation of the three additional residential lots per parcel in prime agricultural areas.

### **Additional Residential Units (ARU)**

Ontario Pork supports the proposed PPS2024 allowance of at least two additional residential units (ARU) on farm property. This is in line with government and pork sector goals of addressing succession planning, additional farm family housing, and worker housing needs.

In an agricultural commodity group consultation hosted by OMAFRA on May 1, 2024, Ontario Pork voiced concerns regarding the lack of specific ARU criteria in the PPS2024 consultation discussion paper, including the type, size, scale, and location of ARUs, consideration and guidance for onsite infrastructure and servicing, a requirement that minimum distance separation (MDS) must be adhered to, and whether this policy is exclusive to farm lots or includes rural lots as well.

### **Proposal**

Ontario Pork recommends that the government form a working group to further discuss ARU criteria. Ontario Pork would welcome the opportunity to participate in this group.

On behalf of Ontario's pork producers, thank you again for the opportunity to participate in this important consultation.

Sincerely,



Tara Terpstra  
Board Chair

cc: The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Lindsay Smith, Director of Strategy, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Hannah Anderson, Director of Stakeholder and Caucus Relations, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing