



November 2, 2020

Jackie Wepruk, General Manager  
National Farm Animal Care Council  
P.O. Box 5061  
Lacombe, Alberta T4L 1W7  
Sent by email: [nfacc@xplornet.com](mailto:nfacc@xplornet.com)

Dear Ms. Wepruk,

On behalf of Ontario pork producers, I am writing to state our full support of the Code Technical Panel's (CTP) proposed amendments to the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs. The health of animals is a concern and priority for the Ontario swine sector, and we are committed to internationally-recognized high standards of animal care and farm practices, based on science, education and animal husbandry best practices.

Regarding the recommendations, the deadline extension to convert existing sow barns to group housing to July 1, 2029, is greatly appreciated by our industry. This allows adequate time to ensure housing systems are developed that best suit the animals, as well as time for proper planning, including financial and structural, to ensure that optimal systems are used.

By developing and implementing a national strategy on management skills for handling sows and gilts in group housing, we are confident that the Canadian Pork Congress will continue its promotion and advocacy of best practices based on science and education. Through experience and information sharing, our producers will continue to grow their knowledge and understanding of various group sow housing systems for effective Code implementation.

We will continue to be engaged on subsequent versions of the Code to ensure that all changes are science-based with a focus on practical solutions that generate the highest possible level of animal wellbeing.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the Panel's proposed amendments.

Sincerely,

Eric Schwindt,  
Board Chair

cc: Board of Directors, Ontario Pork  
Board of Directors, CPC  
Rick Bergmann, Chair, Canadian Pork Council  
John Ross, Executive Director, Canadian Pork Council  
BC Pork  
Alberta Pork  
Sask Pork  
Manitoba Pork Council  
Les Éleveurs de porcs du Québec  
Porc NB Pork  
PEI Pork  
Pork Nova Scotia