

Board Highlights: October 28-29, 2025

2025-26 Budget

The Board of Directors approved Ontario Pork's 2025–26 budget. This budget supports key initiatives such as a new web-based producer portal, emergency management efforts, and expanded consumer marketing and agricultural education campaigns. This approach ensures operations can continue moving forward on strategic priorities that strengthen Ontario's pork sector.

Senecavirus Update

The Board received an update on Senecavirus A (SVA) and Ontario's coordinated response. SVA continues to affect cull sow exports to the U.S. Swine Health Ontario (SHO) has convened a veterinary working group to guide prevention efforts and reduce market risks. SHO continues to collaborate with Ontario Pork, the Canadian Pork Council, and provincial pork organizations to address risks. Producers are reminded to maintain strong biosecurity.

Resolutions Process

The Board reviewed and developed responses to the eight resolutions carried by delegates at the 2025 Policy Day. Staff will finalize the response document for distribution to delegates and local association leaders. The Board also discussed delegate feedback on the policy input process, with many expressing interest in modernizing it to encourage broader participation. Work is underway to develop options that make it easier for producers to share their perspectives while maintaining open debate and transparency.

Environmental Project Update

The Board received an update on Ontario Pork's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions testing project, which is assessing 15 pork production systems to evaluate the DSM Sustell calculator's usability and results. Producer meetings are nearly complete, with data collection finalized for 13 of 15 sites and the remaining two scheduled for mid-October. Data from most sites has been submitted for analysis, with additional feed information being finalized in collaboration with participating companies. The project involves producers from Zones 1 through 4 and represents 10 different feed companies, helping ensure accurate, confidential, and representative data. Once completed, the study will provide a stronger understanding of emissions across Ontario's pork sector.

2026 Zone Meetings

The Board of Directors reviewed the planning process for upcoming zone meetings. Elections for delegate and Board member positions in zones 1 and 5 will take place in February 2026. Additionally, an at-large Board position, representing pork producers across the province, will be up for election at the Ontario Pork Annual General Meeting on March 25, 2026.

The Board decided to hold meetings in all five zones in January-February 2026, to provide producers with opportunities to exchange information, propose new resolutions, and network. These meetings will also serve as an optional venue for local pork producers' associations to conduct their respective meetings.

To support the election process, Ontario Pork will host a meeting for presidents and secretaries of local pork producer associations to provide detailed information. Further communication will be shared with pork producers in advance of the 2026 election cycle.