

## **Board Highlights: January 27-28, 2026**

### ***2026 Zone Meetings and Elections***

The Board of Directors was briefed on zone meetings. All pork producers are invited to attend a meeting in their zone. Topics are based on issues that have a high impact and relevance for the pork sector, including swine health, insurance changes, cybersecurity tips, an economic update, and the Board report. Ontario Pork's staff is coordinating the event planning, including announcements, registration, speakers, presentations, venues, and meals. The meetings provide an opportunity and a venue for local pork producers' associations to hold their meetings, as well as networking opportunities during lunch or dinner before the meeting. Elections for delegate and Board member positions will be conducted in zone 1 and zone 5. One at-large Board position, representing pork producers within the province, will be subject to election at the Ontario Pork annual general meeting on March 25, 2026. More information can be found: <https://ontariopork.on.ca/news/2026-zone-meetings/>

### ***Financial Statements***

The Board of Directors approved the audited Consolidated Financial Statements of Ontario Pork for the last fiscal year, following a thorough review by the Audit Committee. The auditors attended the meeting to present their findings and address any questions from the Board, to ensure responsible financial oversight.

### ***2026-2030 Business Plan***

The Board of Directors approved the 2026–2030 business plan, which guides Ontario Pork's operations in delivering on the strategic plan. The business plan outlines the key tactics, timelines, and success measures required to support implementation of the 2025–2030 strategic plan, connecting the Board's desired outcomes to clear, actionable work plans for staff. Key themes essential to successful implementation include producer engagement, cross-team collaboration, technology, and strategic partnerships. The plan is designed to be adaptive and will be reviewed annually to ensure continued alignment with emerging risks, evolving industry conditions, and producer input.

### ***Ontario DON Hybrid Trials***

The Ontario Pork Board of Directors approved funding to support Ontario Corn Committee corn hybrid assessments for Deoxynivalenol (DON), recognizing DON as a significant risk to the pork sector. Following widespread corn ear mould challenges in 2018, substantial research has focused on reducing the risks associated with Gibberella Ear Rot (GER) and DON. Hybrid susceptibility is one of the most important factors influencing DON levels, with significant differences observed among corn hybrids. This research helps reduce feed risk and supports the long-term resilience of Ontario's pork industry.

### ***Green House Gas (GHG) - Environmental Project***

Ontario Pork continues to advance its commitment to environmental performance through in-barn greenhouse gas (GHG) benchmarking work across the pork sector. As part of a pilot project, 14 farms across Southern Ontario participated in the calculation of their GHG emissions, including farrow-to-wean, farrow-to-finish, and grower/finisher operations. Farms were selected to reflect a range of production systems, geographic areas, and management practices.

This work supports Ontario Pork's efforts to establish credible, Ontario-specific GHG benchmarks using real barn-level data, strengthening the sector's ability to participate in provincial and federal climate discussions. The in-barn benchmarking initiative is one of three environmental footprint projects currently underway. The others include Living Lab – Ontario, which measures emissions from manure storage systems, and a Canadian Pork Council project focused on developing a national swine lifecycle assessment, benchmarking database, and best management practices.

Based on the data collected, Ontario's average greenhouse gas emissions were calculated at 3.51 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per kg liveweight, which is 20.8% below the most recent published national average.

### ***Ontario Swine Conference and Ontario Pork's Annual General Meeting***

The Ontario Swine Conference will be taking place on March 24-25, 2025, at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel, in Niagara Falls. The 2026 conference will showcase new ideas, emerging research, and practical tools to help producers navigate change and strengthen their operations. The conference program features a distinguished roster of international plenary speakers addressing genetics and production innovation, economic outlook, animal welfare and stockmanship, resilience, global trade, and practical feeding strategies. In addition to the plenaries, attendees will have access to a broad range of breakout sessions, including AI tools for farm data, smart-barn technology, pig flow and barn management, employee management, transport innovation, farrowing-room practices, and emerging animal-health challenges. Program information is available on the Ontario Swine Conference website:

<https://ontarioswineconference.ca/>

As part of the conference, Ontario Pork will be hosting its Annual General Meeting at 8:30 a.m. on March 25. The AGM will feature an update on Ontario Pork's activities and initiatives for the last year, the financial and audit reports, and elections for an at-large Board position. Further information about the AGM will be circulated to delegates in February. For questions regarding the Ontario Pork AGM, contact [Ontario Pork](#).