
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE CANADIAN PORK COUNCIL WELCOMES CANADA'S FALL ECONOMIC STATEMENT

November 22, 2023 (Ottawa, Ont.) - The Canadian Pork Council (CPC) is encouraged by the Government of Canada's fall economic statement for 2024.

"The government's engagement to reduce the risk of African Swine Fever (ASF) entering the country has always been strong, and we appreciate the ongoing commitment," said CPC chair Rene Roy, "but in other areas of agriculture, this government continues to take farmers, and pork producers, for granted."

Roy said the government's recent announcement related to feed assistance in western Canada, for example, did not extend to pork producers.

"We applaud the government's recognition that drought conditions increase feed costs for producers, but it obviously increases feed costs for both cattle and pork producers, so we'd welcome an extension of those programs to ensure all animal production is included."

At the same time, Roy said the ASF funding introduced in 2022 has been crucial for the industry to maintain its food security and global competitiveness. Project support for biosecurity assessments and improvements, wild pig management, the retrofit of existing abattoirs, sector analysis and ASF-related research projects has been important to advance the industry, and we look forward to continuing this work in collaboration with government.

Pork producers also called on the government to ensure bill C-234 passes the Senate.

"Given the government's recognition that carbon taxes have made home heating more expensive, passing C-234 will have an even broader impact on grocery prices – every dollar more a farmer has to pay for heating their barns is an extra dollar Canadians have to pay for their milk, their eggs, or their bacon at the grocery store," said Roy. "Passing C-234 is an easy well to tell Canadians they have been heard on the question of food inflation."

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About the Canadian Pork Council

The CPC is the national voice for pork producers in Canada. A federation of nine provincial pork organizations representing 7,000 farms, the organization plays a leadership role in achieving and maintaining a dynamic and prosperous Canadian pork sector. The CPC serves its membership through national and international advocacy efforts as well as through the development and implementation of initiatives, such as food safety, animal care and health, traceability, environment and sustainability, international trade and nutrition.

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