



Canadian Pork Council
Conseil canadien du porc

Canadian Pork Producers Address Ag Policy Framework

November 3, 2016 (Ottawa, ON) – Representatives from the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) were in Ottawa this week to address the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food regarding Canada’s next Agricultural Policy Framework.

“There is tremendous opportunity for Canada’s pork producers,” said Hans Kristensen, a pork producer from New Canaan, NB and the Maritime representative on CPC’s Board of Directors. “Canadian consumers include pork as part of a healthy diet and there is a growing export demand fueled by both population and income growth.”

Stressing the necessity of increased industry investment, especially hog barns, Kristensen also spoke on Canadian pork producer’s need for a core business risk management (BRM) suite of programs that help manage market risk. He also focused on the importance of disease prevention as a priority for the industry.

The Council is calling on both the federal and provincial governments to improve programs and seek new approaches to risk management. Changes to the AgriStability program that moved the positive margin coverage from 85% to 70% significantly reduced the programs capacity to assist the hog industry. This program should be returned to the 85% level and paired with a variety of tools such as mortality insurance and a hedging program to help producers find the best options to manage the risks for their operations.

“I would like to thank Hans for outlining some of the industries priorities with the committee and support his comment that risk management is a fundamental cornerstone in any business venture with volatility in revenue and costs,” stated CPC Chair Rick Bergmann. “Governments need to recommit to developing an effective BRM suite for implementation by 2018.”

Disease prevention remains a focus for the pork industry. Initiatives like traceability, biosecurity and disease surveillance be a priority in the next agricultural framework.

The pork industry plays an important role within Canada's agriculture and agri -food sector. Canadian pork production amounts to close 2 million tonnes per year and over two-thirds of this is exported. In 2015, over 1.1 million tonnes of pork, valued

at C\$3.4 billion was exported to over 100 different countries. Canada is the third largest pork exporting country in terms of both value and volume and represents 20% of the world pork trade.

The CPC serves as the national voice for hog producers in Canada and is a federation of nine provincial pork industry associations. The organization takes a leadership role in trade and market access, business risk management and animal health so that all of Canada benefits from a dynamic and prosperous pork sector.

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