



CPC Addresses Standing Committee on International Trade About TPP

June 7, 2016 (Ottawa, ON) – Speaking on behalf of Canada’s pork producers, the Executive Director of the Canadian Pork Council (CPC), John Ross, discussed the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement (TPP) with the House of Commons Standing Committee on International Trade.

“We are a trade dependent sector,” said Ross, explaining that more than two thirds of the hogs produced in Canada are exported as either live hogs or as pork products. Canada has exported pork to more than 125 countries over the past five years with 2015 exports valued at \$3.4 billion.

“According to an analysis conducted for the Council, the Canadian pork industry would increase its exports by \$300 million and would create 4,000 new jobs once the TPP is fully implemented,” added Ross. “This growth is the result of Canada having improved access into other TPP countries relative to our non-TPP pork competitors. This is particularly important in high value, high growth markets such as Japan and Vietnam.”

Ross reminded members that as part of the CPC global strategy, the Canadian pork sector relies on the Government of Canada to be as successful in securing equal access to global markets as the governments of its competitors. Not doing so threatens the national industry.

“Canada needs to take a leadership position in helping advance the ratification of the TPP. If it appears that the implementation of the TTP will be unduly delayed, we strongly recommend the Canadian government undertake a vigorous strategy of bilateral or regional trade negotiations in high-priority markets such as Japan and Vietnam.”

The CPC believes it is in Canada’s best interests, as one of the founding members of the TPP, to ratify the agreement as soon as possible. It strongly supports the TPP and will continue to work closely with the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance and its other agri-food exporter members in supporting ratification of the agreement.

The CPC serves as the national voice for hog producers in Canada. It is a federation of nine provincial pork industry associations representing approximately 7,000 hog farms, producing 25.5 million animals a year and generating over \$13 billion in economic activity. The 31,000 farm jobs they create contribute to the total direct, indirect and induced \$23.8 billion and 103,000 jobs across the country. The organization's purpose is to play a leadership role in achieving and maintaining a dynamic and prosperous Canadian pork sector.

- 30 -

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