



Canadian Pork Council
Conseil canadien du porc

November 4, 2021

Via email: gudie.hutchings@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Gudie Hutchings
Minister of Rural Economic Development
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Minister Hutchings:

On behalf of Canada's 7,000 pork producers, farm families who work hard every day to care for over 28 million animals on farms from coast to coast, I want to congratulate you on your appointment as Minister of Rural Economic Development.

The Prime Minister has trusted you to continue with this incredible responsibility during a uniquely challenging time in our history. The last several years have been particularly challenging for pork producers. Supply chain disruptions, drought and the impacts of climate change, acute labour shortages, trade barriers and the ongoing threat from African Swine Fever have had a significant impact on producers.

While these challenges are significant, the opportunities that lie ahead are even more substantial. Canadian pork producers have one of the smallest environmental footprints globally, and we are doing more to increase our sustainability. Our diversified exports mean that we can meet the growing demand for high-quality, sustainable, nutritious protein. Food security is a global challenge, and promoting free and fair trade will help ensure Canadian pork can feed families in Canada and around the world. Finally, with the support of governments, producers are investing in research and innovation to help reduce our footprint, improve our profitability, and position us for even greater success.

Your portfolio can play a critical role as pork producers drive rural economies across Canada. The need for increased rural connectivity, better infrastructure and supporting local communities are essential issues for pork producers.

I look forward to working with you to support resilient, sustainable and thriving rural communities and welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your officials to get that work started. CPC staff will follow up with your office on this request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Bergmann". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Rick Bergmann
Chair