



Canadian Pork Council
Conseil canadien du porc

November 3, 2021

Via email: carla.qualtrough@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Carla Qualtrough
Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Minister Qualtrough:

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 Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion.

The Prime Minister has trusted you with this important responsibility during a uniquely challenging time in our history. These times have been challenging for producers too, with labour shortages having a growing impact on our value chain. While access to labour has been a chronic challenge for agriculture, it has become an acute problem over the last year. It is increasingly limiting our ability to achieve our full potential.

While the challenges pork producers face 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.

However, labour will be a limiting factor for our value chain until we find long-term, sustainable solutions. We look forward to working with you to develop these solutions to increase our sector's resiliency and contribute to Canada's environmental, economic and social sustainability.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you soon to continue our vital work together. 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