

NATIONAL FARM ANIMAL CARE COUNCIL CONSEIL NATIONAL POUR LES SOINS AUX ANIMAUX D'ELEVAGE

What You Need to Know about the Five-Year Review Summary Report – Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs

8 recommendations:

- 5 that require amendments to the pig Code
- 2 external to the Code to be led by Canadian Pork Council
- 1 to be addressed in the next full pig Code update starting 2024

The Canadian Pork Council is committed to providing an annual progress report highlighting the producer commitment to ensuring the care of their animals. This report will include data showing the progress being made in transitioning to group housing, to NFACC and its members (click here).

Canadian pork producers have an on-farm animal care assessment program (PigCare) that:

- Reflects all 104 Code requirements
- Is a mandatory component of the Canadian Pork Council's on farm program
- Covers 97% of market pigs in Canada

Animal welfare standards are crucial for the domestic market. Even though Canada's main international pork importers do not yet have animal care requirements, PigCARE is included as an important component of the Verified Canadian Pork platform that is used in both domestic and export markets (click here).

The Codes of Practice are incorporated by reference in several provinces (<u>click here</u>). Canadian pork producers' participation in CPC's animal care assessment program helps ensure they are able to meet the requirements of their Code.

Periodic exercise, as stipulated under Section 1.1.2 of the pig Code has turned out to be impractical to implement in a meaningful manner (<u>click here</u>).

Producers remain committed to transitioning to group housing, but it is a complex endeavor that requires a significant amount of financing, the implementation of a new production system and, potentially, of new breeding. Not all producers will be able to achieve it by the 2024 deadline that was established as part of the development of the 2014 Code of Practice (click here). The Code Technical Panel recognized this, (click here), hence recommendations 2 – 8 were made, relative to the transition date, enrichment, space allowance, and training of stockpersons and handlers.

Research is ongoing with the pork producers commitment illustrated by its investments in research both in the past (<u>click here</u>) present, and future (<u>click here</u>).