



September 26, 2025

Hon. RJ Sigurdson  
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation  
Members of Executive Council  
Executive Branch  
131 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

We appreciate the Government of Alberta's consultation on the future of wild boar farming. While varying perspectives have been shared through this process, the facts remain clear: farmed wild boar are the primary source of Wild Boar-at-Large, creating unacceptable risks for taxpayers, municipalities, and Alberta's entire livestock sector.

The stakes of not addressing Alberta's Wild-Boar-at-Large problem are unacceptably high. A foreign animal disease outbreak linked to Wild Boar-at-Large could devastate Canada's livestock industries, jeopardize tens of thousands of jobs, and disrupt all major livestock sectors. Alberta cannot afford to carry this risk.

Expecting to manage this issue with additional regulation is unrealistic. For more than a decade, the Alberta Government and its partners have attempted to bring this industry into compliance with containment and traceability standards. These efforts have failed. Enforcement under current legislation is weak, and non-compliance remains the norm. Municipalities and Agriculture Service Boards, which face the daily burden of managing Wild Boar-at-Large, do not have the tools or support needed to address the problem.

A buyout is the only sensible and effective option. Taking this step would demonstrate strong leadership and send a clear message to industry, Albertans, and trading partners that Alberta is serious about protecting animal health, global food security, and the provincial economy.

Other provinces, such as Ontario, have successfully implemented buyouts, allowing producers to pivot into heritage breeds and niche markets. Alberta now needs to do its part. A buyout here would cost \$2 - 2.5 million - less than has already been spent on eradication efforts since 2020—and is by far the most fiscally responsible path forward.

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We strongly urge the Government of Alberta to meet the leadership shown in other provinces and move quickly with a buyout of wild boar and hybrid wild boar farms. This is the necessary route to keep our herds healthy and our international market access secure.

Sincerely,

A black ink signature of Alastair Bratton, featuring a stylized 'A' and 'B'.

Alastair Bratton  
Chair, Alberta Pork

A black ink signature of Doug Roxburgh, featuring a stylized 'D' and 'R'.

Doug Roxburgh  
Chair, Alberta Beef

A blue ink signature of Keith Gregory, featuring a stylized 'K' and 'G'.

Keith Gregory,  
Chair, Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association

cc: The Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta  
Jason Hale, Deputy Minister  
John Conrad, Assistant Deputy Minister