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For immediate release

MP KRAMP APPLAUDS INVESTMENTS IN HOG INDUSTRY

Belleville, ON— Daryl Kramp, Member of Parliament for Prince Edward-Hastings, applauds the recent announcement by Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz of more than \$3.7 million in investments strengthening the Canadian Pork Council’s national swine traceability system. This new investment brings the total investment for this initiative up to \$7 million.

“Canadian hog producers will gain an increased competitive edge when accessing worldwide markets as a result of this investment”, said Mr. Kramp. “Hog farmers here in Prince Edward-Hastings shall see the benefits along with farmers across the country.”

The Canadian Pork Council’s traceability system, “Pig Trace Canada” tracks the movement of hogs across the country. The creation of a tag distribution system for hogs was implemented in Phase 1 and Phase 2 will combine swine movement information into a national database.

A national traceability system gives Canada a competitive edge while accessing new markets and also can be used as a marketing tool for hog producers to help them get better returns on their products.

An example of how this database could work would be evident during an outbreak of disease among the swine population – the database would allow the Canadian Pork Council to quickly ascertain from which farm the animal originated and what other hogs it may have come into contact with. This speed in identification would limit economic and trade impact.

This investment will be delivered through Growing Forward through the Canadian Integrated Food Safety Initiative (CIFS) a program which supports national organizations in the development and implementation of traceability processes and systems. This investment is subject to the signing of a contribution agreement.

To find out more about this initiative, please visit www.agr.gc.ca/cifsi