



Message from the President

I continue to be highly optimistic about the state of the purebred swine industry in Canada in the years 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The attendance of Canadian Swine Exporters at Eurotier 2008 in Hanover, Germany indicates continued demand for exports to Europe, particularly to Russia. The Europe-China Pig Summit at Eurotier still indicated Chinese buyers are looking for improved breeding pigs from which to supply commercial sows that have better feed efficiency and productivity than local pigs.

I was luckily able to fly to China with a load of 616 breeding pigs destined for Chongqing in late December. The pigs originated from three Alberta herds; two Ontario herds as well as two Prince Edward Island herds. This safe delivery was followed by a visit to a large integrated piggery/processing company to pitch the sale of Canadian breeding pigs. I hope these marketing efforts can be sustained in these coming years.

Of interest to us is the demand for pedigreed pigs from Canada exported to China and Russia. Not only do the pigs need a paper pedigree to accompany the load but the breeding herds have to be brought up to date so as to pedigree these young export pigs. Pigs can, and do, originate from breeding herds across the country. Some of our larger, international breeding companies are also supplying boars and gilts to these export countries - to give additional advantage to Canadian breeding stock quality.

I noted in our local paper that a farm near Leduc is starting to raise Berkshire heritage pigs for pork sales. I may need to follow up to see if the pigs are purebreds and whether there is any intent to maintain the pedigrees in the breeding program. PEAK Swine Genetics breeders have registered Lacombe pigs again in 2008. These small breeders are still important to our industry as well as contributing funds to CSBA through their annual memberships and registration fees.

Of further interest is the development of the *Canadabred* brand by Ontario breeders. We had visitors at our Western Swine Testing Association Annual Meeting in January. A number of CSBA breeders that participate under the Canadian Centre for

Swine Improvement program are breeding their pigs based on EBV indexes, avoiding inbreeding and looking for highly conformed, physically sound pigs to continue the brand. Ontario Swine Improvement is assisting in this regard, to promote the *Canadabred* pigs locally and internationally. If you want more details, visit the OSI site at www.osi.org to see this new development.

I look forward to the Annual Meeting in March in Joliette, Quebec. A sincere thank you to the breeders in SEPQ for hosting this meeting.

Alfred Wahl, P.Ag.

Annual General Meeting March 30, 2009

This year's CSBA AGM is being held at the Château Joliette Hotel in Joliette, Quebec in the afternoon of Monday March 30th, 2009.

Canadian Swine Breeders Association Annual General Meeting

Date: Monday, March 30 2009

13:00 to 17:30
General meeting

6:30 pm Supper and award presentations at the maple sugar house

Hotel Location:
Hôtel Château Joliette
450 rue St -Thomas
Joliette, Québec, J6E 3R1



Reservations: 1-800-361-0572 (toll-free)
Email: chateaujoliette@videotron.ca
Web: www.chateaujoliette.com

Maple Sugar House Location:
Cabane Chez Guy
1091 9^e rang
St-Ambroise de Kildare, J0K 1C0

Directions to Hôtel Château Joliette from Montreal.

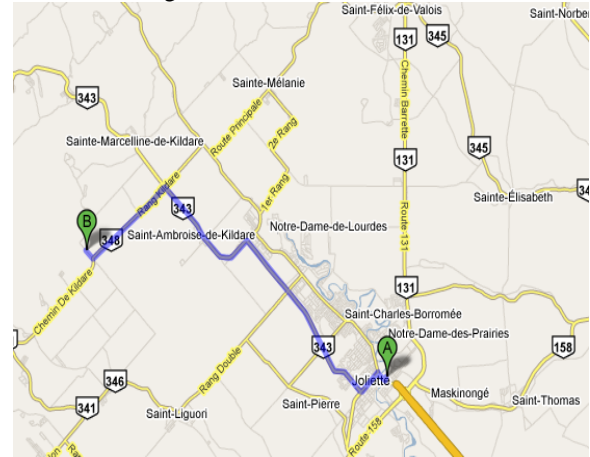
Take auto-route 40 East from Montreal to Exit 122 North, which is route 131. This becomes route 31 and then rue Dollard when you get to Joliette. Turn right on to rue St-Thomas, which is the first right once you arrive in Joliette. The hotel is located at 450 rue St-Thomas.



Source : www.chateaujoliette.com

Directions to Cabane Chez Guy from Hôtel Château Joliette.

Head south on rue-St Thomas and turn right on rue du Père Wilfrid-Corbeil. Keep to the right to merge onto rue St.-Charles –Borromée South and turn left at Boulevard Manseau. Turn right at rue Beaudry North. This is also known as route 343. Keep driving about 10 km to Saint-Ambroise-de-Kildare where you will turn left to stay on route 343. Drive another 6 km and turn left at Rang St-Kildare (also known as route 348). Drive 5 km and turn right on 9e rang Kildare. Cabane Chez Guy is at 1091 on 9e rang.



Source: Google Maps



Pre-Registration for CSBA AGM Monday March 30, 2009

To help us in planning, please contact Francine Roy to pre-register.

Tel: (613) 731-5531 Ext. 21,
Email: francine@canswine.ca.
Or fax this form to (613) 233-8903

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

If others will accompany you, please specify the total number of people including yourself: _____

Awards Presentations

Number of people attending the banquet: _____

There is no charge for the banquet. We would like to thank the SEPQ (Société des Éleveurs de Porcs du Québec) for hosting and sponsoring the banquet.

Pre-registration by **Wednesday March 16, 2009** would be appreciated.