



Helping Local Meat Processors Increase Efficiency and Maintain Food Safety

March 18, 2024

Hastings – Lennox and Addington - The governments of Canada and Ontario are making investments through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) to help meat processing businesses and abattoirs in the province make upgrades that will increase production capacity, efficiency and maintain Ontario's high food safety standards.

Ric Bresee, MPP for Hastings – Lennox and Addington, welcomes this announcement as the Meat Processors Capacity Improvement Initiative will provide:

- Up to \$17,000 for Quinn's Meats Ltd. in Yarker, to purchase and install a propane boiler to increase processing capacity and production.
- Up to \$136,000 for Hastings Meat Market in Stirling to purchase and install a new jerky slicer, meat slicer and carcass splitting saw to increase meat processing capacity.

A total of 151 meat processors are receiving cost-share funding through the Meat Processors Capacity Improvement Initiative to make upgrades to meat handling and processing equipment, technology and practices that will improve productivity, efficiency and food safety.

“So many of our small farms have expressed the need for expanded meat processing capacity,” said Ric Bresee, MPP for Hastings – Lennox and Addington. “I’m pleased to see our government, under the leadership of Premier Ford, listening to our farmers and supporting them with this funding.”

“The Meat Processors Capacity Improvement Initiative is a prime example of how our government is making the right investments in the right places,” said Lisa Thompson, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. “By supporting meat processors who are working to improve efficiencies and increase capacity, we’re ensuring that Ontario’s meat processing sector can compete globally and opening doors to new opportunities.”

The Meat Processors Capacity Improvement Initiative also covers training and engineering costs associated with completing the projects. Applications opened on

August 31, 2023, and closed on September 25, 2023. All projects are expected to be fully completed with equipment delivered by March 1, 2024.

The action builds on previous investments of over \$14 million in the Meat Processors Capacity Improvement Initiative funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) since 2020.

Sustainable CAP is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by the provinces and territories.

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