

MEDIA RELEASE – Jan 17, 2025

## **Hog Jog 2025!**

After a record turnout and unfortunate last minute weather cancellation in 2024, plans for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Hog Jog are off to the races! The 2025 Hog Jog will be held on the evening of Wednesday, June 18th at the Stratford Rotary Complex (353 McCarthy Road, Stratford, ON) – site of the Ontario Pork Congress.

Since 2005, the Ontario Pork Industry Council (OPIC) has organized the annual Hog Jog to celebrate the people and products of the pork industry while giving back to local community organizations. Over the last 20 years Hog Jog has raised over \$700,000 for 17 very worthy local causes. With nearly 500 runners/walkers each year participating in the 3.5 km, 10 km and Weaner Run events and coming together for a delicious pork meal post-race. Hog Jog's continuing success comes from the enthusiastic participation of runners and walkers, sponsors, neighborhood and industry cheerleaders, and the many volunteers who participate each year. Not a runner, no problem. Our walkers and industry teams greatly contribute to the funds raised. Come out, families welcome for a fun and meaningful event.

The 2025 Hog Jog is in support of Stratford House of Blessing Food Bank. Unfortunately demand for local banks has surged and community food banks like the House of blessing rely on community donations of food and funds

The Stratford House of Blessing Food Bank works to support families and individuals facing food insecurity in Stratford and the surrounding area. For over 40 years they have been working to alleviate hunger and provide hope in the local community. In addition to their Food bank program, they provide personal care items, baby formula and diapers through their Welcome to the World baskets, Back to School Smiling and Christmas Toy programs, as well as emergency food support for people living with insecure housing. The 2025 Hog Jog planning committee is excited and enthusiastic about organizing such a fun and exciting event in support of such a great cause.

The Stratford House of Blessing Food Bank has been chosen as the beneficiary for the 2025 Hog Jog to support the retrofit of their red delivery van with refrigeration equipment. This much needed upgrade will significantly increase the capacity to safely transport perishable food items such as dairy and frozen meat donated by or purchased from various community partners. This project will directly enhance their ability to support the local community and aligns seamlessly with the Hog Jog's mission of giving back.

The Hog Jog is proud to support Stratford House of Blessing Food Bank in this fundraising objective and work towards their goal of making a difference together!

To register or for further information about Hog Jog 2025, including a course map, pledge forms, and volunteering opportunities, please visit [www.hogjog.ca](http://www.hogjog.ca). Would your company like to sponsor this great event? Sponsorship details are also available from [sponsorship@hogjog.ca](mailto:sponsorship@hogjog.ca).

For more information, contact:

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