Topigs Norsvin

THE INSIDER

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PRODUCER PROFILE:

PHOENIX SOW BARN, CANADA PACKERS

With a heritage of trust and quality, Canada Packers is driven to be the global standard in sustainable pork and as one of North America's leaders in "Pork Raised Without Antibiotics" (RWA), Canada Packers is scaling up a purpose driven approach to meat protein the world can trust. Canada Packers, a subsidiary of Maple Leaf Foods, employs around 3,600 people across Canadian farms and plants, as well as in Canadian and Asian offices.

Phoenix Sow barn stands in the former site of Clearview Sow in Sperling, Manitoba. Originally built in 2003, Clearview Sow housed 1,500 sows and had an attached nursery. In 2021, the gestation area underwent significant renovations to become a crate-free, full open-housing system.

In the early morning of October 12, 2023, three local fire detachments responded to a fire that had started in the sow barn. Tragically, the sow barn was lost to the fire, but thanks to the efforts of the local firefighters, the nursery barn and 5,500 piglets were saved.

Phoenix Sow barn will rise from the ashes of Clearview Sow, to aid Canada Packers in meeting the global demand for quality pork products.

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PRODUCER PROFILE: PHOENIX SOW BARN, CANADA PACKERS CONTINUED...



The first barn to be built by the company in over 20 years, this new project has generated significant excitement.

Phoenix will house 1,750 sows, annually producing 7,250 more weaned pigs than its predecessor.

Recognizing the importance of supporting Canadian agriculture and the Canadian economy, Canada Packers prioritizes sourcing feed ingredients locally. The majority of the feed ingredients that Canada Packers uses is produced by Manitoban and Canadian farmers.

Canada Packers sources 50% of their corn and 75% of their wheat and barley from Manitoba farmers!

In addition to creating direct employment at the Phoenix site, the operation of this barn will also sustain jobs in feed mills, transportation and logistics, and among Manitoba's crop producers.

The pigs supplied from this farm will provide the bellies to produce almost 39 MILLION packs of bacon over the next 25 years.

A modern barn design for Biosecurity, Welfare and Efficiency
The planning and design for the new barn was a thoughtful and collaborative effort, "Much time was spent in the design of the new facility with feedback from industry partners, including Topigs Norsvin, to ensure that we have a facility that will stand the test of time with a focus on animal welfare and productivity," said Jonathan Sawatzky, Senior Vice President, Hog Production and Procurement at Canada Packers. This attention to detail extended beyond design and construction of the barn.

A proactive approach to biosecurity is important to not only Phoenix Sow barn, but all potential neighboring barns as well as the pig industry as a whole. Strong biosecurity policies, supported by effective monitoring technologies will help to protect against any potential health threats. One such technology being used is Farm Health Guardian, an app that uses your mobile device to detect a geofence surrounding the site. If an individual crosses the geofence, they are allowed or denied access to the site based on their downtime and recent visiting history at other sites.

Over 116km of aircraft cable was used in the making of enrichment toys for the animals.

Allowing pigs to exhibit natural behaviors is important to the welfare of the animal, including socializing and play. At Phoenix, enrichment is provided through the use of items such as flavored chew toys, or hard discs and chains for the more mature pigs.

Phoenix Sow barn features a custom advanced open sow housing system, promoting social interactions. This innovative pen layout also allows the sows to find their own preferred microclimate within the pen, supporting comfort and welfare.

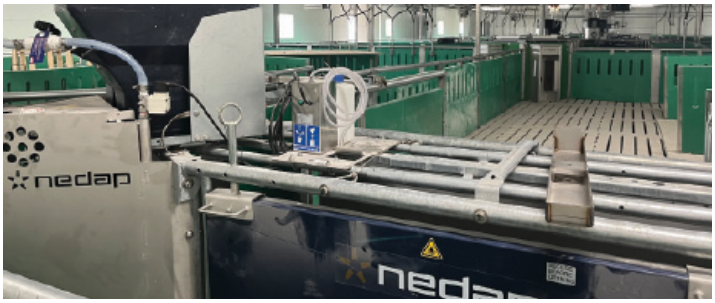
The sow barn alone will produce 4 million US gallons of manure per year – enough to fertilize 300 – 400 acres per year on a three-year rotation.

RFID tags are utilized in combination with an Electronic Sow Feeding system. This technology tracks a specific animal's feed intake, supports early detection of health issues, and allows the delivery of a tailored diet for each individual sow.

To maintain optimal conditions year-round, Phoenix Sow barn has fans and inlets for both the winter and the summer. Three-phase power has been brought to the site, allowing the use of electrified heating sources such as heating mats in the farrowing rooms, and also allows for new technologies to be used in the future that can further reduce emissions.

"The completion of our new sow barn build, Phoenix Sow, is an important milestone in our company's history and demonstrates our commitment to farming with care and discipline through innovation, animal welfare, and sustainable growth," said Jonathan Sawatzky. Now strengthened by the addition of Phoenix Sow barn, Canada Packers can continue to meet the growing global demand for high quality pork, while continuing to lead in sustainable pork production and providing a premium protein product.





DR. ANDRIY KORBETSKYY, GLOBAL MALE REPRODUCTION SERVICES SPECIALIST

Dr. Andriy Korbetskyy, originally from Ukraine, holds a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, a Masters of Veterinary Science, and a Ph.D. leading advanced research and practical applications in veterinary reproductive medicine and biotechnology. He has over 20 years of experience in animal reproduction, focusing on translating research innovations into on-farm solutions.

Andriy worked at Carlo Genetics Inc. in Manitoba before joining Topigs Norsvin, allowing him to gain valuable insight into the high standards of quality and health control in Canadian AI boar stud centers.

Being eager to use his extensive expertise to support Topigs Norsvin's mission, Andriy expressed, "I'm looking forward to supporting and improving boar semen processing protocols globally, helping AI stations enhance efficiency, and sharing knowledge through training and collaboration. I'm passionate about leveraging science to drive genetic progress and reproductive success". We are proud to have Andriy as a part of the Topigs Norsvin team.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: TRENT LEPPKY

I grew up on a dairy farm in southern Manitoba, near the town of Otterburne. Much of my time was spent working on the farm, participating in the local 4-H club, and curling at the Otterburne curling club. I attended the University of Manitoba, where I studied in the Faculty of Agriculture.

After graduation, I started a mixed farming operation that included beef cattle and crop land. After five years, I started moving into the accounting field, joining a Certified Management Accounting (CMA) firm and specializing in agriculture-related business. This led to an opportunity with the accounting department of Elite Swine Inc. From there I transferred into the genetics industry, which has evolved into my current role as Financial Controller with Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc.

I really appreciate my role within the agriculture community, as it allows me to stay connected to the land and to the farming community that shaped my early years.

I now live in Winnipeg with my wife and two daughters. In my free time I enjoy going outside for walks, playing golf, and cycling.





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PITCH, PORK AND PARTNERSHIP:

TOPIGS NORSVIN HOSTS SUMMER BBQS



Manitoba

During the summer, Topigs Norsvin hosted Customer Appreciation BBQs in Manitoba, Ontario and Alberta. A BBQ is scheduled in Montana for August 27.

A great day at the 2025 Oakville BBQ

On May 27, Topigs Norsvin welcomed over 200 customers and industry partners to our annual summer BBQ, held at Morrison Sports Park in Oakville, Manitoba. It was a beautiful sunny day filled with great food, friendly competition, and lively conversation. Highlights of the day included baseball games, axe throwing, and a delicious meal of smokies and BBQ pork loin. The “BBQ Chef” Ike Kleinsasser of Rosebank Colony did a fabulous job as usual. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the day a success. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Please save the date for next year’s BBQ on May 26 at the same venue.

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Alberta

Family, Food and Fun at the Ontario BBQ

On Tuesday, July 15, 2025, the Ontario Summer BBQ was held at the Rock Glen Conservation Area in Arkona. Staff, industry partners, and customers gathered at the pavilion to socialize and share a delicious meal from Lambton Meat Products.

It was lovely to see everyone's families! The children played yard games, many hikes to the waterfalls were taken, and our guests were able to take home supper for those who couldn't join us because they were in the field doing wheat!

This is an event we look forward to every year, and we would like to thank everyone who joined us. We will see you at Rock Glen again next year!


Ontario

Strong Turnout for 2025 Alberta Customer BBQ in Southern Alberta

Topigs Norsvin Canada was thrilled to welcome customers once again for its annual customer appreciation BBQ, held on July 8, 2025, at the Rotary Picnic Shelter in Lethbridge, Alberta.

This year's event drew an impressive crowd from all corners of the province, with guests traveling in to celebrate the continued success and growth of our operations in Alberta and Western Canada. Attendees enjoyed a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, with great conversations and plenty of excitement about the future.

The BBQ featured delicious smoked pork chops and premium sausages, expertly prepared by Topigs Norsvin staff and volunteers. Guests were quick to compliment the quality of the food and the warm, festive spirit of the day.

Among the day's highlights was a pitching contest that brought out some friendly competition, especially among the younger guests. The weather was perfect this year, allowing for uninterrupted activities and plenty of time for customers and staff to connect.

Topigs Norsvin Canada looks forward to building on the momentum of this event and continuing to bring communities together as we grow across the region.

This is an event we look forward to every year, and we would like to thank everyone who joined us.

We will see you at our summer BBQs again next year!

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TOPIGS NORSVIN HOSTS INAUGURAL PARTNERS IN PROGRESS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT IN SUPPORT OF CANCERCARE MANITOBA FOUNDATION



On July 22, 2025, Topigs Norsvin proudly hosted the inaugural Partners in Progress charity Golf tournament at the stunning Quarry Oaks Golf Course near Steinbach, Manitoba. This scenic 27-hole course provided the perfect setting for a day of connection and community – welcoming golfers of all skill levels.

This event served a dual purpose: to raise funds for the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation; and to foster collaboration and build connections within the agriculture industry. With 100% of proceeds staying in the province, this Foundation plays a critical role in supporting cancer patients and their families throughout Manitoba. Cancer touches countless lives, and this cause resonated deeply within the community and industry alike.

An incredible 29 companies came together as sponsors, helping to raise an impressive $30,000 for CancerCare Manitoba Foundation! Sponsorships were available at three tiers, offering businesses the chance to showcase their brand, while contributing to a meaningful cause. Additional tee box sponsorships provided extra visibility throughout the course.

The tournament featured fun and friendly competition, with prizes awarded for Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, Best Score, and even Most Honest Score. During registration, players enjoyed a delicious pork-on-a-bun lunch, generously sponsored by Manitoba Pork. After the round, players gathered for a casual stand-up cocktail reception to celebrate the day.

The morning began with heavy rain, flooding part of a fairway, and washing out a cart path. Thanks to the quick action of Quarry Oak's staff, all necessary repairs were made, and the tournament was only slightly delayed. By 1:00 pm, the skies cleared enough to tee off, and despite the soggy start, turnout was strong, and spirits were high.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our amazing sponsors, participants, and to the team at Quarry Oaks for helping make the day such a success. We are already looking forward to building on this momentum and making next year's event even better!









PIG OF THE MONTH



June:
Martinsdale Colony, MT

We are proud to recognize TN70 0264 as Topigs Norsvin's Top Pig of the Month for June! Currently pregnant with her third litter, she has had an average of 18 piglets born alive over her previous two litters - with zero mortality from farrowing to weaning and an impressive average of 15.5 piglets weaned.

We are looking forward to seeing continued performance from 0264 when she farrows in September. Congratulations to the Team at Martinsdale Colony for their outstanding care and management!



July:
Interlake Colony, MB

Topigs Norsvin's Top Pig of the Month for July is TN70 Sow 4316 at Interlake Colony! Across five litters, this impressive sow has delivered outstanding performance, averaging 16.2 pigs born alive. In addition, she successfully fostered an additional 2.2 pigs per litter, allowing her to wean an average of 16.8 pigs per litter.

Congratulations to Interlake Colony!



August:
Penetics Inc., ON

Congratulations to Z-line sow 3118 from Penetics Inc., a Topigs Norsvin multiplier in Ontario, for being named Top Pig of the Month for August. This sow previously averaged 13.25 piglets born alive and weaned 13.5 per litter, before recently farrowing her fifth litter with an impressive 18 piglets born alive and weaned. Her new average now stands at 14.2 piglets born alive per litter. A big congratulations to Jessica Postma and the Penetics Inc. team for their exceptional work in sow management and genetic performance!

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Topigs Norsvin Canada
Unit 1, 20 South Landing Drive
Oak Bluff, MB
Canada R4G 0C4
www.topigsnorsvin.ca

CONTACTS

John Sawatzky
National Sales Manager
(204) 981-0243
john.sawatzky@topigsnorsvin.ca

Marcos Amorim
Western Canada Sales Manager
(204) 381-8913
marcos.amorim@topigsnorsvin.ca

Gord Edwards
Eastern Canada Sales Manager
(519) 440-8128
gord.edwards@topigsnorsvin.ca

Veronica Anderson
Ontario Sales Manager
(519) 440-6226
veronica.anderson@topigsnorsvin.ca

André Lavergne
Québec Sales Manager
(418) 551-1142
andre.lavergne@topigsnorsvin.ca

Sheldon Friesen
Alberta Business Development Representative
(403) 331-1109
sheldon.friesen@topigsnorsvin.ca

Wes Friesen
Alberta Business Development Representative
(403) 330-8380
wes.friesen@topigsnorsvin.ca

Russ Penner
Manitoba Business Development Representative
(204) 770-1885
russ.penner@topigsnorsvin.ca

Xavier Temple
Customer Relations Liaison
(204) 390-7975
xavier.temple@topigsnorsvin.ca

Jeff Crossman
Ontario Business Development Representative
(519) 496-4923
jeff.crossman@topigsnorsvin.ca

Tassi Edwards
Ontario Logistics & Technical Support
(519) 531-1187
tassi.edwards@topigsnorsvin.ca

Pieter Van Den Boogaard
Ontario Business Development Representative
(548) 994-0315
pieter.van.den.boogaard@topigsnorsvin.ca

Rick Beunen
Ontario Business Development Representative
(519) 317-7403
rick.beunen@topigsnorsvin.ca

AI STUD STATIONS

Carlo Genetics Inc.
Ste. Anne, MB
Katrin Braasch
(204) 371-0411
Order Desk (204) 355-4012

C & M Genetics
Lucan, ON
Dr. Corneliu Oltean
(888) 259-7594

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(418) 889-9748

Magnum Swine Genetics Inc.
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Rod de Wolde
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Sunrise Genetics
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Mike MacDonald
(902) 661-7883

Total Swine Genetics Inc.
Tillsonburg, ON
Stuart De Vries
(800) 844-9913

INSIDER QUIZ

HOW TO PLAY

Please answer the questions in our Insider Quiz. All the answers are in this newsletter. Then fax, mail or email your answers, along with your name, address, and phone number to: Fax: 204-489-3152 or Email: info@topigsnorsvin.ca

Entries are to be received by **November 1, 2025.** The *first 10 entries drawn with the correct answers* will receive a $20.00 gift card. The Topigs Norsvin rep in your area will deliver the prize. Employees of Topigs Norsvin and their subsidiaries are not eligible. PLEASE INCLUDE FULL COMPANY NAMES AND ADDRESS DETAILS OR YOU WILL BE INELIGIBLE.

1. What technology is being used at Phoenix Sow barn to guard against potential health threats?

2. How many years of experience does Andriy Korbetskyy have in animal reproduction?

3. What kind of contest did they have at Alberta's customer appreciation BBQ in July?

4. How much money was raised in support of CancerCare Manitoba Foundation at the Partners in Progress golf tournament?

Name:

Address:

Phone #: Fax #: Email:

Topigs Norsvin INSIDER Quiz Winners
Topigs Norsvin Insider Quiz Winners from the 2024 Winter (December) issue will receive a $20.00 gift card.
Kayla Hofer, Starlite Colony, MB; Jessica Vehof, Bright Pork Livestock, ON; Jason Wipf, Meadowlane Colony, MT; Joey Waldner, Blumengart Colony, MB; Levi Stahl, Whitesand Colony, AB; Delilah Entz, Pennant, SK; Alvin Waldner, Brantwood Colony, MB; Leah Hofer, Beechy Colony, SK; Braden Hofer, Baker Colony, AB; Terry Entz, Cypress Colony, SK.