

National Pork Producers Council  
122 C Street, NW, Suite 875  
Washington, DC, USA 20001

March 21, 2025

International Trade Policy Division (U.S. Tariff Consultations)  
Department of Finance  
90 Elgin Street, 14th Floor  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5

**Dear International Trade Policy Division,**

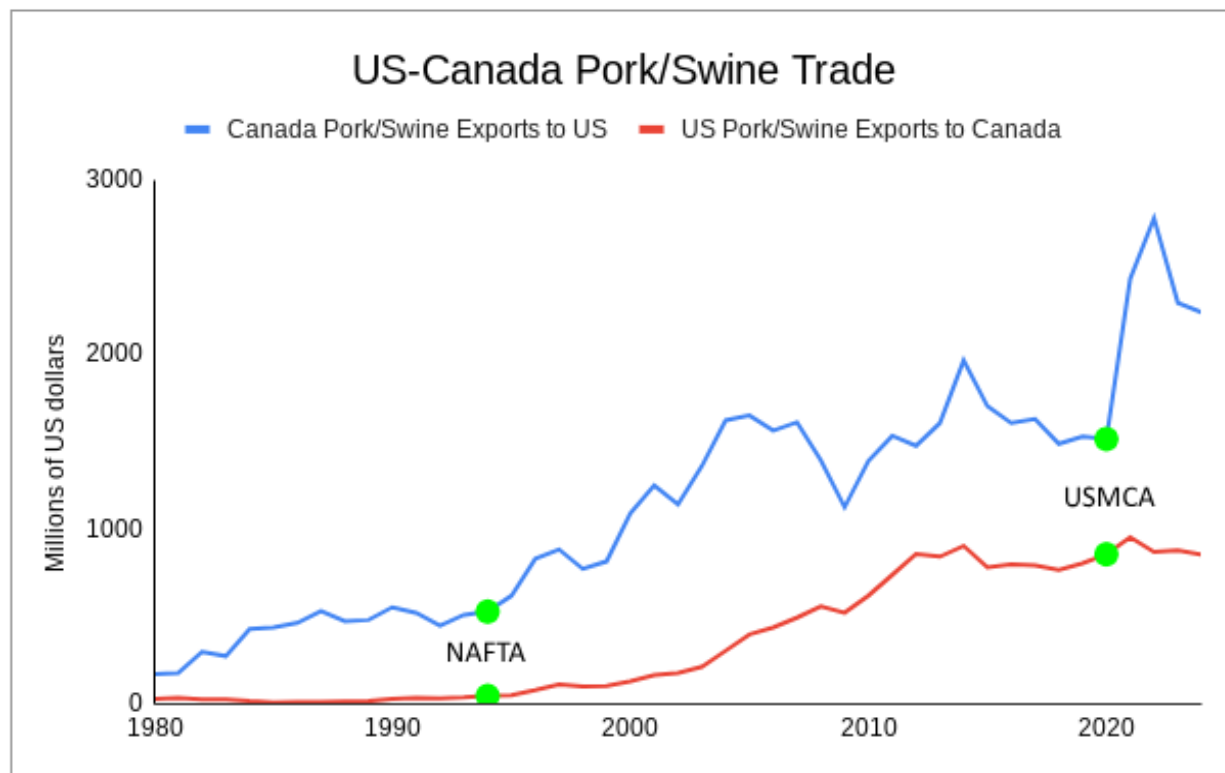
Thank you for considering these comments from the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC), a U.S.-based trade association representing pork producers in all 50 states. We write to express opposition to potential tariffs on U.S. swine and pork exports to Canada.

NPPC represents 41 state producer organizations and the domestic and global interests of more than 60,000 U.S. pork operations. The U.S. pork industry is a major value-added enterprise in the U.S. agricultural economy and a significant contributor to the overall U.S. economy, producing more than 28 billion pounds of high-quality, safe, and affordable pork in 2024. More than 500,000 American jobs are supported by U.S. pork production, and U.S. pork exports sustain more than 155,000 of these jobs. In any given year, the U.S. pork industry ships product to more than 100 countries. Exports contribute significantly to the bottom line of all U.S. pork producers, accounting for more than \$66 of value for each hog marketed in 2024. Last year, the U.S. pork industry exported 3 million metric tons of pork and pork products valued at over \$8.6 billion.

The deep integration in the U.S.-Canada pork market is a North American success story. NPPC has fought hard to support both the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and USMCA/CUSMA in expanding and preserving free trade between our countries. We will continue our robust support for an open North American market for our industry.

In 2024, Canada imported over \$850 million in pork products from the United States while exporting around \$1.7 billion to the United States. In addition, Canada exported over \$560 million worth of live swine in 2024, primarily to U.S. finishing and slaughter facilities where hogs are comingled with U.S. swine, and much of the resulting pork then comes back to Canada as U.S. pork exports. This two-way trade is mutually beneficial for our countries and for producers and consumers alike. In contrast, escalating trade wars will produce no winners. A trade war will leave the North American pork sector weaker and more fragmented.

While we understand the impulse to impose tariffs on U.S. goods in response to unjustified U.S. tariffs, such duties likely would rupture the integrated supply chain that has been so beneficial to our two countries, especially since the creation of NAFTA:



The pork industry supports hundreds of thousands of jobs on both sides of the border. The tit-for-tat tariff exchanges will disrupt supply chains that have been built up over decades. We request that Canada seeks to preserve the benefits of the integrated North American market to the maximum extent practicable, including by excluding U.S. pork imports from retaliation.

As of this writing, goods originating in North America, including Canadian pork, are exempt from tariffs. While we cannot predict what will happen in the future, NPPC supports continued duty-free trade in both directions and will continue to advocate for preserving the free trade area in North America during the upcoming USMCA/CUSMA negotiations.

U.S. and Canadian agriculture also have a great deal of common ground in international policymaking, such as through Codex Alimentarius, the World Organization for Animal Health, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Trade Organization. Our countries have historically been tightly aligned on the issues most important to agricultural producers, and we are eager to see that collaboration continue.



The Global Voice for  
the U.S. Pork Industry

NPPC will continue to support free trade in North America. This is a tense moment, and we understand Canada's desire to see the tariffs eliminated quickly, but disrupting successful integration will just make it harder to maintain the integrated supply chains going forward, which NPPC strongly believes is in the interests of both countries and their respective pork industries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Zieba', written in a cursive style.

Maria C. Zieba  
Vice President of Government Affairs  
National Pork Producers Council