



LAST CHANCE FOR ANIMALS EXPOSES SYSTEMIC NEGLECT AND ABUSE OF PIGS AT OLYMEL SUPPLIER

*-- International Animal Advocacy Group Calls for Enforcement of the Criminal Code and
the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act --*

TORONTO, ON, November 3, 2016 – An undercover investigation released today by **Last Chance For Animals (“LCA”)** exposed multiple incidents of abuse and neglect at a pig breeding farm that supplies Olymel, Canada's largest pork processor.

Hidden-camera video taken by **LCA** at Crimson Lane Farms, a breed-to-wean facility in Kenilworth, ON, documented systemic neglect and abuse, including:

- Workers kicking, striking and shocking pregnant pigs.
- Workers repeatedly throwing piglets against the barn floor as an ineffective means of attempted euthanasia, resulting in live piglets suffering among piles of dead pigs.
- Pigs with life-threatening uterine prolapses impermissibly kept alive.
- Inadequate medical treatments and failure to promptly euthanize pigs suffering from debilitating illness and injuries resulting in a slow deterioration of the pigs' health, sometimes until death.
- Newborn piglets stuck in farrowing crate floors dying from resulting injuries as well as from the inability to access food, water, or heat.

To view the undercover video, as well as learn more about the findings of the investigation, visit www.factoryfarm360.org.

Olymel is Canada's largest pig processor, processing approximately eight million pigs per year. Olymel's products are sold by major retailers across Canada, including Walmart, Metro and Real Canadian Superstore, all of which are part of the Retail Council of Canada (RCC).

Both Olymel and the RCC claim they require the humane treatment of animals raised by their suppliers. Olymel's official policy states, “Olymel requires that its employees and suppliers treat the animals with the greatest respect. From breeding and shipping to slaughtering, our company meets the highest standards of animal welfare and has adopted a consistent policy in this area.”

After completing the investigation, LCA submitted complaints to the Ontario Provincial Police and the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) detailing over 70 violations of the *Criminal Code* and the *OSPCA Act*. Law enforcement has initiated their investigation into the matter.

“All animals, whether they are in our homes or on a farm, deserve protection from neglect and abuse,” said Adam Wilson, Director of Investigations for LCA. “The only way to curtail the systemic culture of abuse occurring on Canadian factory farms is the prioritization of animal cruelty cases and consistent enforcement of federal and provincial anti-cruelty laws.”

“It is clear from this extensive footage, that there are serious animal welfare concerns at this sow operation. Clearly, humane treatment and compassion are not taught to the staff at this facility, and as such, I can only hope that when the authorities witness these tapes, they will take the proper steps necessary to ensure that this farm is no longer allowed to keep animals in their care,” said Dr. Mary Richardson, DVM, former Chair of the Animal Care Review Board in Ontario and former Chair of the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Welfare Committee.

Dr. John Sorenson, Professor of Sociology at Brock University in Ontario, stated, “Based on my review of the video evidence, this operation is clearly characterized by poor standards of “animal welfare,” even in the limited sense used by the industry, unsanitary conditions, improper medical treatment, improper euthanasia, and neglect and abuse on the part of workers.”

For more information about the investigation, including broadcast-quality high definition photos and video, please visit www.factoryfarm360.org.

Last Chance for Animals (LCA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating animal exploitation through education, investigations, legislation, and public awareness campaigns. Since its formation in 1984, LCA has succeeded as one of the nation’s pioneer animal advocacy organizations. Working internationally, LCA’s Sam Simon Special Investigations Unit documents abuse in research labs, puppy mills, factory farms, and the entertainment industry, and works with prosecutors to enforce animal cruelty laws. LCA’s educational and public outreach programs have empowered the public to make positive changes for the animals in their own communities. For more information, please visit <http://www.lcanimal.org/>.

###

Contact:

Adam Wilson
Director of Investigations
+1 (310) 271-6096 ext 32