

Agricultural Service Board Agenda (Committee Room)

October 22, 2020

9:00 a.m.



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
262075 ROCKY VIEW POINT
ROCKY VIEW COUNTY, AB
T4A 0X2

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

UPDATES/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

A CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. March 5, 2020 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Page 3
2. September 10, 2020 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Page 9

B REPORTS

1. All Divisions – Agricultural Fieldman Report
Staff Report Page 10

C APPOINTMENTS

1. All Divisions – 9:30 a.m. Appointment – 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permit Results

Presenter: Steve Hulsman, Manager of Transportation Services

Staff Report Page 12

2. All Divisions – 10:00 a.m. Appointment – Research, Engagement, Action Plan to Support & Foster Continued Development of Agritourism in the Community Futures Wild Rose Region

Presenter: Wendy Gerbrandt, Community Economic Development Project Leader with Community Futures Wild Rose

Staff Report Page 14

D GENERAL BUSINESS

1. All Divisions – Report Card on the Resolutions

Staff Report Page 16

Agricultural Service Board Agenda (Committee Room)

October 22, 2020

9:00 a.m.



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
262075 ROCKY VIEW POINT
ROCKY VIEW COUNTY, AB
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2. All Divisions – Upcoming Events

Staff Report

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G FARM MEMBER REPORTS

1. Farm Member Reports

Verbal Reports

NEXT MEETING: November 26, 2020 (to be rescheduled)

ADJOURN THE MEETING

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Agricultural Service Board of Rocky View County was held in the Committee Room at the County Hall, 262075 Rocky View Point, Rocky View County, Alberta on March 5, 2020 commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present:	Dan Henn	Division 7 Councillor (Chair)
	Kim McKylor	Division 2 Councillor
	Leisa Gallelli	Farm Member
	Ludwig Reicheneder	Farm Member (Vice Chair)
	Travis Eklund	Farm Member
Absent:	Jessica Van Gaalen	Farm Member
	Mark Kamachi	Division 1 Councillor
Also Present:	Jeff Fleischer	Manager, Agriculture and Environment
	Steven Hulsman	Manager, Transportation Services
	Stuart Jewison	Manager, Utility Services
	Steven Altena	Road Operations Technologist
	Matthew Chilakos	Agricultural Services Officer
	Mason Austen	Solid Waste & Recycling Advisor
	Michelle Mitton	Legislative Coordinator

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members present.

2020-03-05-01

Updates/Acceptance of Agenda

MOVED by Councillor McKylor that the March 5, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

2020-03-05-02

Confirmation of Minutes

MOVED by Leisa Gallelli that the January 16, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Carried

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020

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2020-03-05-03 (B-1)

All Divisions – Agricultural Fieldman Report

File: N/A

Jeff Fleischer, Agriculture and Environment Manager, reported on the following:

1. At the February 11, 2020 Council meeting, Council endorsed a one-time Road Ban exemption for agricultural producers, to allow them to haul their commodities during the spring road ban season. The 2020 Road Ban Exemption for Agriculture will allow the hauling of grain, oilseeds, and straw from 2019 unharvested fields, on any roadway under the authority of Rocky View County. This exemption will allow the subject ban on any roadway under the authority of Rocky View County to be increased from current status to 100% of Alberta allowable seasonal axle weights. Agricultural Producers will need to contact the Road Operations division to obtain the free permit in 2020.
2. Steven Hulsman, Manager Transportation Services will present an update to the Board on the progress to date of the draft Road Use Agreement Bylaw. Administration has held two open houses as well as receiving feedback from industry and Ag producers, which will be incorporated into the draft.
3. The Agricultural Services seasonal positions are now being advertised on the Rocky View County website. This season we are looking for four Mower Operators, four Sprayer Operators and six Weed/Crop Inspectors. These positions will remain open until suitable candidates have been found for all positions. The seasonal positions will start on May 4, 2020 with the exception of the mowers who will start on June 1, 2020.
4. The use 2% liquid strychnine will be discontinued. Manufacturers can sell the product until March 4, 2021. Producers can purchase the product until March 4, 2022 to be used by March 4, 2023.
5. Registration is open for farms wanting to share their agriculture story with consumers during the 8th annual Alberta Open Farm Days. This year's event will run province wide the weekend of August 15 and 16, 2020. Last year's event continued to set records with 150 participating farms, 31 culinary events, 42,500 visits, and over \$262,000 in sales. It is a collaborative, province wide, two-day event that gives Albertans an opportunity to experience the farm and understand where their food comes from. Farms can register online at <https://albertafarmdays.ca/host-registration/>. They can choose which day they wish to open their gates, and are provided event insurance at no cost to them when registered to take part.

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020

Page 3

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6. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has compiled all of the data from the crop insect surveys from 2019 and the final report is attached. Wheat Stem sawfly, Bertha armyworm, Cabbage seedpod weevil and Pea leaf Weevil numbers remain very low in Rocky View County. Wheat midge was slightly elevated in one of the five fields surveyed. Producers and agronomists should monitor fields in 2020, as there may be individual fields that have higher numbers.

 7. The Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Minister announced a new Efficient Grain Dryer Program. The Efficient Grain Dryer Program is an energy efficiency program intended to assist producers with reducing the overall energy use on their operations. The program will only fund equipment that shows a significant energy efficiency improvement over standard practice. Eligible activities include: Grain dryer and grain drying system components that significantly improve energy efficiency above standard configuration are eligible under the program. These components can be factory options on new equipment or retrofits installed on existing equipment. More information about the program can be found at the link below or by contacting Delaney McNaughton.
https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/EFFICIENT_GRAIN_DRYER

MOVED by Ludwig Reicheneder that the Agricultural Fieldman Report be received as information.

Carried

2020-03-05-04 (D-1)

All Divisions – Alberta Ag-Plastics Recycle It! - Program Update

File: N/A

Mason Austen, Solid Waste & Recycling Advisor, reported on the following:

It is estimated that as much as 2,500 tonnes of grain bags and up to 3,000 tonnes of twine are available for recycling in Alberta annually. To capture more of this material and to make it more convenient for farmers to recycle it, the Province has funded a three-year pilot program. Collection sites across Alberta have been chosen where farmers can deliver their clean, properly prepared and eligible materials on a year round basis for recycling. The host sites are compensated for the handling of the materials and receive \$55/metric tonne for materials shipped for recycling. This pilot program supports Rocky View's already successful agricultural materials recycling program by reducing the County's risks associated with collecting and marketing this hard-to-handle material

MOVED by Travis Eklund that the Alberta Ag-Plastics Recycle It! Program update report be received as information.

Carried

The Chair called for a recess at 10:20 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:31 a.m.

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AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020

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2020-03-05-05 (D-2)

All Divisions – Master Farm Family Award

File: N/A

MOVED by Ludwig Reicheneder that the Master Farm Family Award for 2020 be presented to the farm family recommended by the Board, with the announcement of the recipient at the annual Agricultural Tour on July 23, 2020.

Carried

2020-03-05-06 (D-3)

All Divisions – Agricultural Pests & Nuisances Procedure

File: N/A

MOVED by Leisa Gallelli that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Agricultural Pests & Nuisance Procedure, Procedure 502, as amended.

Carried

2020-03-05-07 (D-4)

All Divisions – Upcoming Events

File: N/A

Jeff Fleischer, Agriculture and Environment Manager, reported on the following:

1. Serious Animal Disease Emergencies, March 6, 2020. Cambridge Hotel, Red Deer, AB. Details at, <https://animalhealth.ca/>.
2. The 38th Western Canadian Dairy Seminar, March 10-13, 2020. Cambridge Hotel, Red Deer, AB. Details at, <https://wcds.ualberta.ca/>.
3. Foothills Forage 2020 Annual General Meeting, featuring Danielle Smith, March 18, 2020. Highwood Memorial Centre, High River, AB. Details at, <https://www.foothillsforage.com/>.
4. 2020 Livestock Care Conference, March 18-19, 2020. Olds, AB. Details at, <https://www.afac.ab.ca/livestock-care-conference/2020-event/2020-agenda/>.
5. Proposed Rocky View County sponsored workshops, list below:
 - a. Vegetable Gardening 1 – Wednesday, February 26th – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 - b. Beekeeping 101 – Wednesday, March 4th – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020

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- c. Farm & Rural Security – Thursday, March 19th – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 - d. Septic Sense – Wednesday, March 25th – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 - e. Farm Transition (in partnership with Wheatland County and Vulcan County) – Monday, March 30th – Carseland Community Hall – 9:00 pm to 4:00 pm – Cost: \$85 (lunch included) – Register online at 2020farmtransition.eventbrite.com or Phone: 403-361-2166 Email: Gay.Mowat@wheatlandcounty.ca
 - f. Vegetable Gardening 2 – Wednesday, April 1st – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 - g. Building a Bumble Bee Box – Wednesday, April 8th – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 - h. Managing Wildlife (Bear Safety, Living with Coyotes) – Wednesday, April 29th – Council Chambers – Rocky View County Hall – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 - i. Other topics mental health, pollinators
 - j. Aggie Days – April 4th - 5th, 2020
 - k. AgVenture Tour – Thursday, July 23rd SE Rocky View \$50.00/person

MOVED by Councillor McKylor that the Upcoming Events Report be received as information.

Carried

2020-03-05-08 (G-1)
Farm Member Reports

Leisa Gallelli reported on the following:

- Calm before the storm, first few calves are hitting the ground.
- Very few fields able to come off from last year yet due to weather.

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020

Page 6

Ludwig Reicheneder reported on the following:

- With the grain prices people have been taking advantage of it and moving grain bags from the field.
- The markets have been ok despite coronavirus worries and rail issues.
- There has been a spark in rural crime, there was a body found right by their property and there have been an increased number of break and enters in the area.
- Getting all equipment ready to start the new year.

Travis Eklund reported on the following:

- Calving will be starting soon.
- Calf insurance prices are the same as last year.
- Vitamin A and D are not longer available in Canada to inject into the cattle, alternate sources being looked at to source these vitamins.
- Should the Board consider putting forward a resolution to encourage manufacturer standardization to allow for the recycling of silage wrappers.

MOVED by Councillor McKylor that the Farm Member Reports be received as information.

Carried

Next Meeting Date

The next Agricultural Service Board meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

MOVED by Travis Eklund that the March 5, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Carried

CHAIR

MUNICIPAL CLERK

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Agricultural Service Board of Rocky View County was held in the Council Chambers at County Hall, 262075 Rocky View Point, Rocky View County, Alberta on September 10, 2020 commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present:	Leisa Galleli	Farm Member
Absent:	Dan Henn	Division 7 Councillor (Chair)
	Mark Kamachi	Division 1 Councillor
	Kim McKylor	Division 2 Councillor
	Jessica Van Gaalen	Farm Member
	Ludwig Reicheneder	Farm Member (Vice Chair)
	Travis Eklund	Farm Member
Also Present:	Jeff Fleischer	Manager, Agriculture and Environment
	Ashley Stewart	Agricultural Services Officer
	Delany McNaughton	Agricultural Services Officer
	Laura Poile	Agricultural Services Officer
	Matthew Chilakos	Agricultural Services Officer
	Michelle Mitton	Legislative Coordinator
	Alan Efetha	Provincial Agricultural Service Board Specialist
	Kellie Jackson	Strategic Evaluation Specialist

Call to Order

The meeting was not called to order as both the Chair and Vice Chair were not present and there was no quorum present.

The meeting was adjourned immediately at 9:00 a.m. as it was confirmed that quorum would not be present for the meeting.

CHAIR

MUNICIPAL CLERK



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: Agricultural Service Board
DATE: October 22, 2020 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: Agricultural Fieldman Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides updates on Agricultural Services matters since the last update provided on March 5, 2020. The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) should be aware of the following items for County Council consideration.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Fieldman report be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

Since the last meeting of the ASB, the following highlights have taken place within the Agricultural Services section.

DISCUSSION:

1. The seasonal agricultural operations are nearing completion for 2020.
 - Agricultural and Environmental Services hired a reduced seasonal crew for the 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The seasonal Equipment Operators commenced on June 1, 2020 and the Crop and Weed Inspectors commenced on June 8, 2020.
 - Herbicide application to control prohibited noxious and noxious weeds on County roads is completed on a 3 year rotation. This year the roadside ditches in Divisions 1, 4 and 9 were inspected and controlled for invasive weeds. The roadside spraying program began on June 15, 2020.
 - Agricultural and Environmental Services had to make the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Agricultural Tour due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Administration evaluated several different scenarios in order to hold the tour but did not want to jeopardize anyone's safety or experience on the tour.
 - The roadside mowing program commenced on June 2, 2020. The operators have completed one pass on all roads and completed a second pass in select areas of the County.
 - The grasshopper, elm bark beetle, emerald ash borer and bertha armyworm insect surveys have all been completed and the County remains at a low risk for the insects.
 - The mosquito larvae reduction program in Langdon and Church Ranches has been completed for 2020.

Administration Resources

Jeff Fleischer, Agricultural and Environmental Services



- Currently administration is finalizing the clubroot, blackleg and fusarium head blight surveys throughout the County. To date, two (2) additional canola fields have tested positive for clubroot and administration is currently working with the landowners to develop a control strategy.
2. County Council gave third and final reading to the new Land Use Bylaw C-8000-2020 and associated Direct Control Districts at the July 28, 2020 Council Meeting. The bylaws, which came into effect on September 8, 2020, have been consolidated based on the amendments made by Council prior to final approval. The bylaws are available for review online at rockyview.ca.
 3. Linda Hunt has accepted the position of Executive Assistant for the ASB Provincial Committee. Linda is a professional agrologist with over ten years' experience working with and for municipal and provincial governments. Linda is very familiar with the process of government, has experience writing briefings and research for input to program & policy development. In her most recent position with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, she performed ASB Field Visits and is familiar with the five (5) Acts and associated regulations managed by ASB programs. Throughout her career and personal life, she has been involved with boards including supporting and encouraging board governance process for not for profit associations.
 4. The services provided by the Ag-Info Centre (310-FARM) have changed. The Ag-Info Centre will focus on providing information about Agriculture and Forestry programs and services and connecting producers with the many non-government resources available to them. The Ag-Info Centre will no longer offer crop, livestock or other one-to-one specialist services. Callers looking for specialist services will now be directed to other resources in the department or to other agricultural organizations.
 5. Rocky View County is currently seeking one member at large from east of Highway 2 to sit on the Agricultural Service Board. Jessica Dugdale will have completed the maximum term of six consecutive years on the Agricultural Service Board. Administration would like to thank Jessica for her 6 years of dedicated service to the Agricultural Service Board.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

OPTIONS:

Option #1 THAT the Agricultural Fieldman Report be received as information.

Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Jeff Fleischer”

“Byron Riemann”

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services

Executive Director, Operations



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: Agricultural Service Board
DATE: October 22, 2020 **DIVISION:** All
TIME: 9:30 AM
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permit Results

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At the February 11, 2020 meeting of Council, a one-time Road Ban Agricultural Permit was approved. harvest had been delayed in some areas and the County endeavored to assist farmers by allowing them to haul their commodities during the spring road ban season. A 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permit allowed the permit holder to haul grain, oilseeds and straw from 2019 unharvested fields, on any roadway under the authority of Rocky View County. This permit allowed the subject ban on any roadway under the authority of Rocky View County to be increased from current status to 100% of Alberta allowable seasonal axle weights. Administration committed to bring a report back to Council with the results.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permit Results be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

Road Operations issued a total of 14, 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permits. The feedback was positive from those that participated with no road damages identified. It should be noted that the Provincial COVID-19 road ban exemption implemented on March 17, 2020 negated any further requests for permits as it exempted many of those intended for the 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permit.

DISCUSSION:

Steve Hulsman, Manager of Transportation Services will provide the Board with and update regarding the 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permits.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

OPTIONS:

- Option #1 THAT the 2020 Road Ban Exemption Agricultural Permit Results be received as information.
- Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Steve Hulsman”

“Byron Riemann”

Manager, Transportation Services

Executive Director, Operations



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: Agricultural Service Board

DATE: October 22, 2020 **DIVISION:** All

TIME: 10:00 AM

FILE: N/A

SUBJECT: Research, Engagement, Action Plan to Support & Foster Continued Development of Agritourism in the Community Futures Wild Rose Region

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Alberta Open Farm Days has served as a catalyst to mobilize agriculture stakeholders to explore diversifying and strengthening their revenue potential by educating consumers through on farm experiences. Community Futures Wild Rose has provided regional leadership in building awareness and uptake by agritourism operators, leading to significant growth in Open Farm Day participation in the region. Over the past year, Community Futures Wild Rose has engaged agritourism stakeholders in a study of the industry resulting in the development of a regional strategy, positioning Alberta's Wild Rose region as a leader in agritourism development in Alberta

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the Research, Engagement, Action Plan to Support & Foster Continued Development of Agritourism in the Community Futures Wild Rose Region Report be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this project was to facilitate a workplan that would provide useful and useable information to engage farms and stakeholders with an action plan supporting and fostering the ongoing development of the agritourism sector to continue to flourish and thrive in the Wild Rose Region. This project has been made possible through the Tourism Growth Innovation Fund from the Government of Alberta and in partnership with financial contributions from Community Futures Wild Rose, Wheatland County, Kneehill County and Rocky View County.

DISCUSSION:

Wendy Gerbrandt, Community Economic Development Project Leader with Community Futures Wild Rose will be providing the ASB with a presentation about the project.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

Administration Resources

Jeff Fleischer, Agricultural and Environmental Services



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

OPTIONS:

- Option #1 THAT the Research, Engagement, Action Plan to Support & Foster Continued Development of Agritourism in the Community Futures Wild Rose Region Report be received as information.
- Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Jeff Fleischer”

“Byron Riemann”

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services

Executive Director, Operations



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: Agricultural Service Board
DATE: October 22, 2020 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: Report Card on the Resolutions

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Committee has provided ASB members and staff with the Report Card on government and non-government responses to the 2020 Provincial ASB Resolutions.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the Report Card on the Resolutions be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

At the annual Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference resolutions are presented and voted on by Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs). The resolutions that are passed at the conference are then sent to the appropriate Government and/or Non-Government agencies for review. After they have been reviewed they are sent back to the Provincial ASB Committee for grading and further review by municipal ASB's.

DISCUSSION:

The draft 2020 Report Card on Resolutions is attached for review. The 2020 Report Card on Resolutions has the Whereas and Therefore Be It Resolved sections, response, response grade, and comments from the ASB Committee for each resolution that was passed at the 2020 ASB Provincial Conference. There are four grades that can be assigned to a resolutions response:

- Accept the Response;
- Accept in Principle;
- Incomplete, and
- Unsatisfactory.

The quality of the response determines the grade that is assigned to each resolution. This report also summarizes actions undertaken by the Provincial ASB Committee on current and previous resolutions. The grades assigned by the Committee are intended to provide further direction on advocacy efforts for each resolution.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

OPTIONS:

Option #1 THAT the Report Card on the Resolutions be received as information.

Administration Resources
Jeff Fleischer, Agricultural and Environmental Services



Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,


“Jeff Fleischer”

“Byron Riemann”

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services

Executive Director, Operations

Attachment ‘A’ – Draft 2020 Report Card on the Resolutions
Attachment ‘B’ – Resolution Grading



Report Card on the Resolutions

2020

DRAFT

Abstract

2020 Resolution Responses and Update on previous year's resolution

Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee

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Executive Summary

The Provincial ASB Committee has assigned the following grades to responses by government and non-government organizations for resolutions passed at the 2020 Provincial ASB Conference.

Resolution Number	Title	Proposed Grade
1-20	Ropin' the Web	Accept the Response
2-20	Weed and Pest Surveillance and Monitoring Technology Grant	Incomplete
3-20	Clubroot Pathotype Testing	Unsatisfactory
4-20	Education Campaign for Cleanliness of Equipment for Industry Sectors	Unsatisfactory
5-20	AFSC Assist in Preventing the Spread of Regulated Crop Pests	Unsatisfactory
6-20	Beehive Depredation	Accept in Principle
7-20	Agricultural Related Lease Dispositions	Accept in Principle
8-20	Emergency Livestock Removal	Accept in Principle
9-20	Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom	Unsatisfactory
10-20	Reinstate a Shelterbelt Program	Accept in Principle
11-20	Compensation to Producers on Denied Land Access to Hunters	Defeated
12-20	Proposed Amendments to Part XV of the Federal <i>Health of Animals Regulations</i>	Accept in Principle
13-20	Canadian Product and Canadian Made	Incomplete
E1-20	Review of Business Risk Management Programs	Unsatisfactory
E2-20	Initiate Agri-Recovery Framework	Unsatisfactory
E3-20	Agri-Invest and Agri-Stability Changes	Unsatisfactory

Introduction

The Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee is pleased to provide Agricultural Service Board (ASB) members and staff with the 2020 Report Card on the Resolutions. This report contains the government and non-government responses to resolutions passed at the 2020 Provincial ASB Conference. The Report Card on the Resolutions includes the *Whereas* and *Therefore Be It Resolved* sections from the resolutions, response, response grade and comments from the Committee and ASBs for each resolution. The resolutions and responses are also posted on the Agricultural Service Board website at agriculturalserviceboards.com. Actions taken by the Committee on current and prior resolutions are also included in this report.

2020 ASB Provincial Committee Members

Members	Alternates	Representation
Corey Beck, Chair	Dale Smith	Peace
Marc Jubinville, Vice Chair	Kevin Smook	Northeast
Morgan Rockenbach	Shawn Rodgers	South
Wayne Nixon	Brenda Knight	Central
Dale Kluin	Vacant	Northwest
Brian Brewin		Rural Municipalities of Alberta
Sebastien Dutrisac		Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen
Doug Macaulay		Agriculture and Forestry
Jane Fulton, Secretary		Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary		Agriculture and Forestry

The Committee reviewed the responses and assigned one of four grades: *Accept the Response*, *Accept in Principle*, *Incomplete* and *Unsatisfactory*. The Committee considers the quality of each response and grading and comments submitted by ASBs when grading the resolutions. The grades assigned by the Committee are intended to provide further direction for advocacy efforts for each resolution. Please contact your Regional Representative if you have questions or comments about the grade assigned to a resolution or advocacy efforts.

A summary of grading provided by ASBs is attached for information. The Committee appreciates the input of ASBs into the grading process.

2020 Activities

Meetings:

January 21, 2020

- Regular ASB Provincial Committee Meeting
- AAAF Meeting
- Rural Municipalities of Alberta Meeting

March 16, 2020

- Regular Meeting
- Delegation: John Conrad, Assistant Deputy Minister, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

April 30, 2020

- Regular Meeting

May 22, 2020

- Regular Meeting

June 23, 2020

- Regular Meeting
- Delegation: Jamie Whyte, Acting Deputy Minister, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

September 1, 2020

- Meeting with Deputy Minister Lajeunesse and Assistant Deputy Minister Loo

Other Activities:

Hiring of new Executive Assistant

South Caucus Invitation - TBD

Events:

January 21 – 24, 2020: 75th Anniversary of ASBs, Provincial Conference

Definition of Terms

The Provincial ASB Committee has chosen four indicators to grade resolution responses from government and non-government organizations.

Accept the Response

A response that has been graded as **Accept the Response** addresses the resolution as presented or meets the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee.

Accept in Principle

A response that is graded **Accept in Principle** addresses the resolution in part or contains information that indicates that further action is being considered.

Incomplete

A response that is graded as **Incomplete** does not provide enough information or does not completely address the resolution. Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

Unsatisfactory

A response that is graded as **Unsatisfactory** does not address the resolution as presented or does not meet the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee

2020 Resolutions

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 1-20: ROPIN' THE WEB

- WHEREAS:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is responsible for the policies, legislation, regulations, programs, and services that enable Alberta's agriculture, food, and forest sectors to grow, prosper, and diversify;
- WHEREAS:** The Ministry of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Ropin' the Web provided relevant and reliable information from knowledgeable specialists and experts and a general store for agricultural and forestry related supplies and services;
- WHEREAS:** Rural businesses and organizations were provided opportunities to facilitate business networks with assistance from the Ministry through the Ministry website Ropin' the Web;
- WHEREAS:** As part of a larger Government of Alberta web consolidation project, Agriculture and Forestry's web presence, including Ropin' the Web, moved to Alberta.ca and by March 31, 2019, online government directories and some relevant agricultural information was no longer available;
- WHEREAS:** The intent of the consolidation of the various Alberta Government websites on Alberta.ca to provide a one-stop shop for government information and services that is useable and accessible to all Albertans, is no longer providing a valuable services and information for Alberta's farmers;
- WHEREAS:** The former Alberta Agriculture Website "Ropin the Web" was easy to use and navigate for farmers and those involved in agriculture;
- WHEREAS:** Many farmers and people working in the agriculture sector appreciate web-based learning, information sources, and web-based tools;
- WHEREAS:** The current revised Alberta Agriculture Website is difficult to navigate and with some of the useful extension material no longer available;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that the Government of Alberta review its Agriculture section of the website ensuring that extension material, online courses and other useful items are easy to find and access for farmers and those in the agriculture industry and reintroduce the general store.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Agriculture and Forestry's web presence is an important source of information for Alberta farmers. In early 2019, Ropin' the Web content was moved over to the main government website, Alberta.ca. More than 700 pages of content were transferred. Many of the reports and

publications that were found on Ropin' the Web can now be found on the Alberta government's Open Data site, [open.Alberta.ca](https://open.alberta.ca)

Our former website also offered a listings service for producers seeking to purchase and sell hay, straw, pasture and various species of livestock. While these directories have been discontinued, the demand for these services have remained strong. Alberta farmers have been clear that the hay and livestock listings are a well-used tool for producers in their day-to-day business.

With the operation of buy-and-sell product and services websites falling outside the role of government, Agriculture and Forestry has provided the Alberta Forage Industry Network with a one-time grant through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership to host the hay, straw, pasture and livestock marketplace listings. Progress on this project was shared at the Alberta Forage Industry Network's March 10, 2020, Annual General Meeting with a final product projected for late spring.

SERVICE ALBERTA

No response received; Alberta Agriculture & Forestry submitted response on their behalf.

PROPOSED GRADE: Accept the Response

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded the resolution as Accept the Response as the government is continuing to provide access to extension materials and other documents through the open.alberta.ca data site, and has granted funding to an industry organization to develop a market place replacement website.*

RESOLUTION 2-20: WEED AND PEST SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING TECHNOLOGY GRANT

- WHEREAS:** Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) advise on and help organize direct weed and pest control;
- WHEREAS:** ASBs promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer;
- WHEREAS:** ASBs promote and develop agricultural policies to meet the needs of the municipality;
- WHEREAS:** All ASBs must report weed and pest monitoring and surveillance as part of their grant requirement;
- WHEREAS:** The compilation of data collected from the 69 different Agricultural Service Boards requires extensive labour and time on the part of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and municipalities;
- WHEREAS:** The information received may be for up to 2 growing seasons and has become dated for municipal and provincial use;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry provide a technology grant and personnel resources to assist municipalities in establishing a provincial pest and weed surveillance and monitoring system to improve timely access to data for all the Agricultural stakeholders.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Agriculture and Forestry administers the Weed Control Act and Agricultural Pests Act, and their associated Regulations, and it is our mandate to monitor regulated pests and survey for new and evolving pests that pose a risk to Alberta crop production.

We recognize the limitations in the current pest tracking and reporting system, and the challenges in accessing data in a timely manner. In this regard, Agriculture and Forestry had begun development of a data management system in the early 2010s, but rapidly changing technology advancements made the computer-based system redundant.

We are currently exploring the development of a new database that effectively Interacts (communicates) with mobile devices and allows for timely dissemination of data. At this time, no timeline is available for initiation/completion of this initiative.

PROPOSED GRADE: Incomplete

COMMENTS: *The committee graded this resolution as Incomplete as the response did not include important details about the new database that is being explored. A letter has been drafted to send to the Minister requesting further information and the Committee plans to bring up the issue with the Minister when they are able to meet.*

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 3-20: CLUBROOT PATHOTYPE TESTING

- WHEREAS:** Canola production generates over \$7 billion in revenues in the Province of Alberta annually, is adversely impacted by clubroot;
- WHEREAS:** Clubroot surveillance and pathotype testing completed by the University of Alberta Clubroot Research Team led by Dr. Strelkov is the only testing of its kind being done in Western Canada, and is used to inform the Industry, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and producers;
- WHEREAS:** The unbiased, world recognized testing conducted by the University of Alberta has been vital to the agricultural industry in breeding canola cultivars resistant to the ever-evolving number of pathotypes being found in Alberta agricultural fields;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Agriculture and Forestry recently denied a Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Project funding application which would allow this extremely important research to continue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUES**

the Province of Alberta commit to consistent and sustainable funding for the Clubroot Surveillance and Pathotype Monitoring conducted by the University of Alberta.

STATUS: Provincial**RESPONSE:****ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

Agriculture and Forestry has a mandate to monitor regulated pests like *Plasmodiophora brassicae*, the causal agent of clubroot. The department conducts clubroot surveillance activities in collaboration with stakeholders such as rural municipalities, Applied Research Associations, the canola industry, and the University of Alberta.

- The recent profiling of virulent pathotypes of clubroot, for which current sources of resistance are not effective, and the development of the Canadian Clubroot Differential Set are both positive examples of results delivered through effective collaboration.
- A significant portion of this work took place in Agriculture and Forestry facilities located at the Crop Diversification Centre North in Edmonton.

In 2019, we provided \$1.1 million for two three-year projects at the University of Alberta via the Strategic Research and Development Grant Program to support further research on management options (such as resistance testing, rotations, liming, weed implications, impact of inoculum pressure) and pathotyping through the development of a polymerase chain reaction based assay. In addition, through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Plant Health Surveillance Program, Agriculture and Forestry approved a project supporting clubroot surveillance activities in six

county and municipal districts in the North East Region, and a second project supporting clubroot surveillance activities by 13 county and municipal districts in the Peace Region.

The department also provides support to the crop community in the area of crop assurance through grants, a dedicated Agriculture and Forestry monitoring/surveillance program, and a Level Two Diagnostics Lab.

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Unsatisfactory as the response does not acknowledge the importance of committing to consistent sustainable funding for Clubroot Surveillance and Pathotype Monitoring. The response does not respond to the current situation being experienced by the municipalities and the issues that the U of A researchers have put forward.*

Going forward the Committee will write a letter to the minister reiterating the need for ongoing monitoring and surveillance support at the U of A and clarifying the value of this work to the industry. The committee will also continue to discuss this issue with the minister when they meet.

Aug 10 update: An email was received from Dr. Strelkov regarding the outcome of this resolution. His email is copied below and will be used to inform the final grading of this resolution:

"I appreciate the strong support from the ASB for the important clubroot pathotyping and monitoring work. I would like to update you on the status of the situation.

We had submitted two proposals for pathotyping research to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF), for support under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Program. The first was rejected in a letter dated Oct. 16, 2019, and the second (revised based on the comments on the first proposal) was rejected in a letter dated Jan. 6, 2020.

However, I would like to share some good news: in an email dated Jan. 21, 2020 from Brian Karisa, Science Lead, Innovation Agriculture Grants (AAF), we were invited to resubmit our pathotyping proposal for consideration through the Strategic Research and Development Program (SRDP).

We submitted the revised proposal as requested, and I'm happy to inform you that this proposal was SUCCESSFUL, with funding to be provided for continued clubroot surveillance and pathotyping for the period March 2020 - March 2024. Hence, there is now support for this research for the next few years under the SRDP program.

I am happy to chat further in person if you have any questions: I am available anytime this afternoon from 1:00 - 4:30 pm or other times this week. However, given that we did receive support in the end, albeit via the SRDP rather than CAP program, I think the matter has been resolved in an acceptable manner.

Thank you once again for your support. I believe that the resolution and support from the Ag Service Boards helped to secure this continued funding.

Sincerely,
Steve"

Aug 10, 2020

RESOLUTION 4-20: EDUCATION CAMPAIGN FOR CLEANLINESS OF EQUIPMENT FOR INDUSTRY SECTORS

WHEREAS: Farm and construction equipment can be purchased from any dealership and moved to any area;

WHEREAS: Equipment dealerships could play a better role in ensuring weeds and pests from one area stays out of another area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry create an education campaign directed specifically at equipment dealerships or equipment auction services that outlines their role and promotes the importance of moving clean, uncontaminated equipment.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Equipment in multiple sectors—including farming, construction, and oil and gas—can inadvertently transport soil-borne diseases as well as plant material and weed seeds. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's pest management programs focus on integrating monitoring and policy to protect Alberta's agricultural crops from the invasion and spread of plant pests. The Agricultural Pests Act is the provincial legislation to help prevent the introduction and spread of pests in Alberta. Certain parts of the Act prohibit the propagation, sale and distribution of anything containing a pest, which would include soil movement.

As part of AF's mandate to monitor soil-borne regulated pests, such as clubroot (*Plasmodiophora brassicae*), we have evaluated methods of reducing the inadvertent movement of this and other soil borne pests, including methods of transmission and control options.

The department has published sanitation options for managing the inadvertent movement of soil borne pests. For example, the 'Clubroot Management Plan', describes best management practices for producers and industry for cleaning equipment that may spread soil borne disease. The Clubroot Management Plan was revised in 2019 and can be found on Alberta.ca at the following link: <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-clubroot-management-plan.aspx>. Many of the strategies for sanitation can be extrapolated to weeds and weed seeds in soil as well. For example, Aphanomyces root rot of peas is also soil borne, and AF's sanitation measures can be applied to help control this disease in Alberta.

AF also supports industry/government activities such as the Clubroot Management Committee, a multi-stakeholder group with interest in canola and clubroot. The Clubroot Management Committee provides a forum to represent the interests and views of the agriculture and oil and

gas industries in Alberta and Western Canada regarding the management of clubroot. The Committee:

- Recommends management strategies, and
- Assists in educating the agriculture, oil and gas industries in Western Canada about clubroot and the threat it represents to canola and cole crop production.

Extension activities by AF include presentations to industry as well as field demonstrations on sanitation and mitigating the risk of pest spread through equipment cleaning measures. Lectures at colleges and universities reach both agriculture students as well as those in natural resource management, land reclamation, and energy programs.

Additionally, AF co-leads the Biosecurity Working Group under the umbrella of the Canadian Plant Health Council. The working group is invested in assessing gaps in on-farm biosecurity, which includes equipment sanitation and mitigating the threats to crop health.

While we promote equipment sanitation in our presentations and field demonstrations, we do not currently have additional educational activities planned.

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Unsatisfactory as it did not address the intent of the resolution or meet the expectations of the Committee. The intent of the resolution was to encourage the government of Alberta to commit to a campaign similar to the one they have for zebra mussels. A letter from the Committee to the ministry explaining the unsatisfactory rating and clarifying the type of response being requested will be sent. This topic will be brought up with the minister when the Committee meets with him later this year.*

This topic has been added to the list of advocacy topics to be brought to the attention of the Alberta Canola Producers Commission to see if there is a fit with their organization or partners.

RESOLUTION 5-20: AFSC ASSIST IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF REGULATED CROP PESTS

- WHEREAS:** Crop diseases are becoming more prevalent and wide spread in Alberta due to shortened crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** Disease resistance is breaking down more quickly due to shortened crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** Longer crop rotations can significantly decrease pest and disease infestations;
- WHEREAS:** Most crop producers carry crop insurance through the provincial crown corporation Agricultural Financial Services Corporation (AFSC);
- WHEREAS:** AFSC has the ability to promote better and longer crop rotations by declining or pricing insurance in a manner that discourages short crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** Other jurisdictions such as Saskatchewan use their provincial Crown corporations for crop insurance to promote recommended crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** The Minister has the ability under the Agricultural Pests Act Section 3(d) to enter into an agreement with AFSC to prevent establishment of or control or destroy pests;
- WHEREAS:** During the 2015 ASB Provincial Conference Resolution #1 ADAPT CROP INSURANCE TO PROTECT CLUBROOT TOLERANT VARIETIES was passed. The resolution requested similar actions to be taken, the response report card deemed actions taken to be unsatisfactory;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That the Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Forestry per section 3(d) of the Agricultural Pests Act enter into an agreement with AFSC to decline insurance on canola acres under their program if canola has been planted back to back in rotation.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That the Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Forestry per section 3(d) of the Agricultural Pests Act enter into an agreement with AFSC to impose an insurance premium on land which has been planted to canola in contradiction to the Province's Clubroot Management Plan.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Clubroot and blackleg of canola are some of the declared pests under Agriculture and Forestry's Agricultural Pest Act (APA). This act sets out the duties of individuals and local authorities (municipalities) related to the prevention and destruction of pests, and allows the local authority to deal with pests that affect agricultural production. In addition, it also outlines the appointment and powers of inspectors to enforce the APA.

With support from the province, enforcement of the APA and the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation is done through Agriculture Service Boards and the Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldmen. Alberta also has a Clubroot Management Plan that outlines best management practices for clubroot, which include various practices such as the use of resistant varieties, equipment sanitization, and a one-in-four year crop rotation for crucifer crops.

In 2015 and 2016, Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) included the topic of clubroot management as a topic in the client consultation meetings held in several locations throughout the province. Feedback indicated clients did not feel AFSC should enforce crop rotations or advise on management practices. The current crop insurance mechanisms were seen as reasonably able to cover most cases. For instance, while AFSC does not expressly prohibit growing practices that may contribute to clubroot, the organization does encourage producers to use best management practices through:

- The option to deny or reduce an indemnity on a claim when best practices are not followed;
- The ability to provide coverage based on individual yield history. As a disease such as clubroot adversely impacts crop yield, the subsequent coverage for that crop will be adversely affected;
- Applying a surcharge on subsequent coverage for producers with high loss experience; and
- Denying, limiting or restricting crop insurance coverage when any practice or action taken by the insured would prove detrimental or would limit the production of a producer's crop.

The removal of Fusarium head blight as a declared pest under the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation is a Red Tape Reduction initiative by Agriculture and Forestry. Alberta was the only jurisdiction to regulate Fusarium, limiting growers and producers access to seed varieties. Fusarium is established in significant portions of the province making absolute control of the pest untenable. Moving to a best management practice approach to mitigate spread recognizes the significance of the pest while allowing for more flexibility for producers to manage their operations. Agriculture and Forestry has worked closely with our industry partners on this change to ensure it is supported and the benefits recognized.

AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION ALBERTA

Clubroot, a serious soil-borne disease, is a declared pest under the Alberta Agricultural Pest Act (APA). This act, which is administered by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF), is the legislative authority for the enforcement of control measures for declared pests.

This act sets out the duties of individuals and local authorities (municipalities) related to the prevention and destruction of pests, and allows the local authority to deal with pests which affect agricultural production. In addition, it also outlines the appointment and powers of inspectors to enforce the APA.

Under the act, Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) have the responsibility to administer and enforce the APA. With support from the province, enforcement of the APA and the Pest and

Nuisance Control Regulation is done through Agriculture Service Boards, the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties, and the Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldmen. Under the APA, all agricultural fieldmen are inspectors. As such, the County is responsible for limiting the spread of clubroot and providing adequate enforcement.

Alberta has a Clubroot Management Plan (CMP) that outlines best management practices for clubroot. These best management practices include various practices such as the use of resistant varieties, equipment sanitization and a one-in-four year crop rotation for crucifer crops.

In 2015 and 2016, AFSC included clubroot management as a topic in the client consultation meetings held in several locations throughout the province. Feedback indicated clients did not feel AFSC should enforce crop rotations or advise on management practices. The current crop insurance mechanisms were seen as reasonable to cover most cases.

AFSC does not provide compensate producers for clubroot-related losses, even though clubroot is a declared pest under the APA.

While AFSC does not expressly prohibit growing practices which may contribute to clubroot, it encourages the use of best management practices through the following:

- The ability to deny or reduce an indemnity on a claim when:
 - improper crop rotation practices are used;
 - seed not recommended for the area is used;
 - unapproved, untimely or improperly applied methods for the control of plant diseases are used; and
 - failure to follow acceptable practices as recommended by the Alberta government responsible for Agriculture (Alberta Agriculture and Forestry).
- The ability to provide coverage based on individual yield history. As a disease (e.g., clubroot) adversely impacts crop yield, the subsequent coverage for that crop will be adversely affected.
- The ability to apply a surcharge on subsequent coverage for producers with high loss experience.
- The ability to deny, limit or restrict crop insurance coverage when any practice or action taken by the insured would prove detrimental or limits the production of a producer's crop.

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Unsatisfactory since the responses did not meet the expectation of the ASB. The intent of the resolution was to reward producers who followed best management practices outlined in the Clubroot Management Plan. We believe that offering lower premiums to farmers that have a lower risk of clubroot, encourages producers to look at the Clubroot Management Plan and consider adopting the recommended practices. Rewarding lower risk clients with lower premiums is a common practice in the insurance industry, and fits with the mission of AFSC to "...grow agriculture in Alberta.". Following the recommendations of the Clubroot Management Plan lowers the risk of clubroot increasing to levels that affect crop yields, and the profitability of the farms*

that support rural economies. The intent is not to impose further regulations, red tape or burden on producers, or restrict in anyway the rights of producers to make decisions on their crop rotations.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 6-20: BEEHIVE DEPREDATION

- WHEREAS:** Alberta agriculture has a spectrum of different farming and ranching operation;
- WHEREAS:** The Ungulate Damage Prevention Program, offers producers advice and assistance to prevent ungulates from spoiling stored feed and unharvested crops;
- WHEREAS:** All commercially grown cereal, oilseed, special and other crops that can be insured under the Production and Straight Hail Insurance programs are eligible for compensation;
- WHEREAS:** The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program provides compensation to ranchers whose livestock are killed or injured by wildlife predators;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Beekeepers, as an Alberta Agricultural Producers, also experiences wildlife damages such as hive destruction every year by bear depredation but is not covered by a program;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Alberta Environment and Parks work with Agriculture Financial Services Corporation to amend the Wildlife Compensation Program to include coverage for hive destruction by bear activity.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

From February 6 to 13, 2020, AFSC conducted five Input Advisory Groups meetings throughout the province with Alberta beekeepers. These meetings—held in Falher, Lacombe, Lethbridge, Vermillion, and Westlock—focused on the suite of Business Risk Management (BRM) and Wildlife programs currently administered by AFSC and how those programs work for beekeepers.

AFSC is reviewing the feedback collected at these meetings and formulating potential program improvements that will be vetted through additional industry consultation. Program improvements are expected to be implemented by 2021.

AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION ALBERTA

From February 6 to 13, 2020, AFSC conducted five Input Advisory Groups (IAG) meetings throughout the province with Alberta beekeepers. These meetings, held in Falher, Lacombe, Lethbridge, Vermillion and Westlock, focused on the suite of Business Risk Management and Wildlife programs currently administered by AFSC and how those programs work for beekeepers.

AFSC is reviewing the feedback collected at these meetings and formulating potential program improvements that will be vetted through additional industry consultation. Program improvements are expected to be implemented by 2021.

ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS**PROPOSED GRADE: Accept in Principle**

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Accept in Principle as the responses to the resolution were that there were consultations ongoing and changes to the program to be implemented by 2021. The Committee has added this resolution to the list of resolutions to monitor and request information as it becomes available.*

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 7-20: AGRICULTURAL RELATED LEASE DISPOSITIONS

WHEREAS: Agricultural Lease Dispositions on Public Lands are an integral component of many livestock operations throughout the Province of Alberta;

WHEREAS: The demographics of the Province of Alberta's Agricultural Producers indicate that the sector is experiencing and will continue to experience the rapid succession of livestock operations for the foreseeable future;

WHEREAS: The sale and/or purchase of Agricultural Lease Dispositions represent the transfer of an asset and the capital used to develop that asset;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

the Government of Alberta streamline and/or provide increased resources to expedite the disposition of Agricultural Leases within the Province of Alberta.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Environment and Parks is modernizing and bringing into compliance all agricultural dispositions under the Public Lands Administration Regulation. As part of this process, Environment and Parks is overhauling its approach to agricultural dispositions to improve the assignment process, and their goal is to ensure that department's approach is as streamlined as possible. So far, they have updated the grazing rental rates and assignment fees. For more information, please visit www.alberta.ca and search for "public lands fee updates".

Additionally, Environment and Parks has embarked on a grazing lease renewal backlog project, as many of our agricultural dispositions have expired. They are excited about this project and have already seen a significant positive impact on both their department and those that hold grazing leases.

Environment and Parks is confident the work being done to streamline agricultural disposition processing will better serve Albertans by shortening processing times.

ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

Response as above

PROPOSED GRADE: Accept in Principle

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Accept in Principle as the responses indicated that the government was aware of the issues and working to address them. It is noted that there was no commitment to increased resources to address the problems, however streamlining the process was their intention. The Committee will monitor this process and revisit when new information becomes available.*

RESOLUTION 8-20: **EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK REMOVAL**

- WHEREAS:** Maintaining livestock health, viability and profitability during emergency situations such as, but not limited to, disease, fire and flooding is a major priority to livestock producers;
- WHEREAS:** Livestock removal during emergency situations pose major challenges to producers' safety, livelihoods and animal welfare;
- WHEREAS:** Major challenges arise from transportation, acquiring pasture and red tape from various departments to access grazing reserves;
- WHEREAS:** These major challenges restrict the ability of these producers to evacuate rapidly and pose serious risk to life and property;
- WHEREAS:** Removal of red tape and rapid access to grazing reserves and/or created areas allotted for the use during emergency situations would improve the evacuation process, protect life and property;
- WHEREAS:** Currently Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and Forestry do not coordinate an effort to make livestock removal a priority under the Emergency Management Act in rural areas;
- WHEREAS:** The purpose of an Agricultural Service Board is to improve the economic welfare and safety of producers and by not having a provincial streamlined system to safely and effectively remove and rehome livestock; emergency situations will continue to plague the life and property of producers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD REQUEST**

that Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and Forestry work together to research and develop best practice procedures in the event livestock are to be left behind due to an Evacuation Order issued under the *Emergency Management Act*.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Agriculture and Forestry and Municipal Affairs, through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, acknowledge that livestock removal during emergency situations poses major challenges to producer safety, livelihoods and animal welfare. We have been working together to improve the emergency management systems' ability to address livestock concerns during emergencies, including evacuations. The emergency management system is intricate and has a number of different levels that need to be considered when addressing livestock in emergencies.

The initial responsibility for being prepared for emergencies rests with individuals (including farmers and other small businesses). Each farm should have its own plan for when, how and to where the farmer would evacuate their livestock should it be necessary. When the emergency event is more than an individual or business can manage on their own, they should reach out to

their municipality for assistance, who can provides support through the traditional emergency services. The municipality is also responsible for developing response plans and strategies. When the emergency event is greater than a community can manage on their own, they can reach out to the provincial government for assistance. Requests for provincial assistance are coordinated through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency's Provincial Emergency Operations Centre, at which all provincial departments work collaboratively to provide support and assistance to communities in need.

Following discussions with communities after the 2019 Wildfire season, Agriculture and Forestry is looking at a multipronged approach to improving the emergency management system's ability to address livestock issues, while enhancing farmers' awareness of the emergency management system and their own emergency preparedness. In this regard, we will provide support to the extension efforts of Agriculture Service Boards to enhance emergency planning at the community level. Agriculture and Forestry will also continue to work with agriculture industry associations to support on-farm emergency preparedness and the development of response and recovery strategies for large emergencies, disease outbreaks or other disasters.

Further efforts in this area include finalizing the development of a temporary re-entry process that communities could build upon and implement after they have ordered an evacuation; working with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency to complete a "Livestock Emergency Planning Guide" for communities; and working with Environment and Parks to develop a rapid access protocol for the provincial grazing reserves, so that communities or the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre will have a quick option to consider when there is a need to evacuate large numbers of animals.

ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

Answer was coordinated with AF. See above response.

ALBERTA MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Alberta's emergency management system operates on a decentralized model with local authorities, such as municipalities, Metis Settlements, and First Nations having the primary responsibility for managing emergency or disaster events within their boundaries. In January 2020, the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation came into effect, and is intended to strengthen local authority emergency management systems.

Decisions on evacuation are generally made by the local authority under a state of local emergency, and would include considerations such as evacuation of livestock. I encourage local authorities having a significant livestock presence in their communities to ensure they have considered livestock evacuation within their municipal emergency management plans.

Thank you again for writing and for your efforts on behalf of Alberta's economic growth and development.

PROPOSED GRADE: Accept in Principle

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Accept in Principle as the ministries are aware of the need for Emergency Livestock Removal to be addressed in emergency response planning and have*

been working with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency to address the concerns that have come out of the 2019 wildfire responses. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is working on a “multipronged” approach to improve the emergency response system and increase awareness of the need for emergency response planning to be done by producers who own livestock, and states that they will “support” efforts of municipalities to increase awareness with livestock owners. There were no firm commitments to resources or activities in the resolution response, the Committee will monitor the progress and follow up if needed.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 9-20: MANDATORY AGRICULTURE EDUCATION IN THE CLASSROOM

- WHEREAS:** Agricultural production in Alberta has historically been and continues to be a major economic force and employer of workers;
- WHEREAS:** Generations ago, most Albertans grew up on the family farm and had an intimate knowledge about how livestock, crops, and other agricultural commodities were raised;
- WHEREAS:** Most Albertans now live in urban non -farm environments and do not have the same level of knowledge about how livestock, crops, and other agricultural commodities are being raised;
- WHEREAS:** The general public has historically had a high regard for agriculture and farmers as they put food on their table in Alberta, Canada, and the rest of the world;
- WHEREAS:** Modern agriculture in Alberta is being severely tested by concerns about how livestock, crops, and agricultural produce is being raised, especially regarding environmental impacts, animal cruelty, and farm safety;
- WHEREAS:** Many of these concerns stem from a lack of knowledge about agriculture in the general community;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Education is currently reviewing the teaching curriculum making it very timely to consider this resolution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that the Agricultural Service Boards, Rural Municipalities of Alberta and Alberta Agriculture & Forestry work with other rural stakeholders, Alberta Education, and the Alberta Teachers' Association to request that mandatory agriculture education be implemented in the school curriculum in Alberta.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Alberta Education be approached to add Canada Agriculture Day as an event to their school activities.

STATUS: Provincial**RESPONSE:**ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

The Government of Alberta recognizes the need to connect consumers with where their food comes from. To facilitate public understanding of the industry, government has taken concrete steps to support agriculture education in our province.

In partnership with Alberta Education, Agriculture and Forestry has developed the Green Certificate Program, a dual-credit program where students can earn both high school credits and an industry certification in a variety of agriculture career paths. Students select a specialization,

and under the guidance of a trainer, work towards mastering all of the skills within their training program. Upon completion, the trainee receives 16 grade-12 credits.

We are also committed to working with Alberta Education as it reviews the curriculum to find ways to integrate agriculture into Alberta's K-12 core courses like science and social studies. Currently, agriculture is represented in subjects like Social Studies, Science, Foods and Health, but many teachers may not have the knowledge or the resources to be able to integrate agriculture themes into the curriculum.

To help facilitate getting agriculture into classrooms, Agriculture and Forestry developed a Canadian Agricultural Partnership Public Trust Youth Agriculture Education Grant for industry organizations and education organizations to develop curriculum-linked programs that build public trust in agriculture. The grant has \$2 million dollars allocated over the five-year agreement.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES OF ALBERTA

Thank you for your letter dated February 7, 2020 regarding ASB resolution 9-20: Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom. I wanted to share with you a similar resolution endorsed at our fall 2019 RMA convention, 23-19F: Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom.

<https://rmaalberta.com/resolutions/23-19f-mandatory-agriculture-education-in-the-classroom/>

We received a response from the Government of Alberta (GOA) outlining the current agricultural education opportunities offered in Alberta schools. However, the GOA response does not indicate action to have mandatory education in agricultural topics for all Alberta students. As a result, RMA has assigned this resolution a status of intent not met.

I look forward to working together as we continue to advocate on this issue.

ALBERTA EDUCATION

I believe all Albertans share the same values in wanting a strong, vibrant education system that meets the learning needs of all students and gives them the skills and knowledge they will need to be successful in school, work and life.

As a farmer myself, I am very aware that agriculture is an important part of Alberta's economy, and I appreciate the value of providing students with an understanding of this industry and of its role in food production. Both the current Science and Social Studies Kindergarten to Grade 12 curriculum provide students opportunities to learn about a wide range of topics, including concepts related to agriculture in Alberta. I have asked my department to explore the possibilities of further enhancement to the curriculum.

Alberta's provincial Kindergarten to Grade 12 curriculum outlines what students are expected to know, understand and be able to do in each subject and grade. While Alberta Education determines curriculum content, teachers use their professional judgement to determine how students achieve the learning outcomes in the provincial curriculum. School authorities have the

autonomy, flexibility and responsibility to determine which supports, resources or programs are most appropriate for their students and school community. This provides Alberta's school jurisdictions with the opportunity to best address the needs of the students and the communities they serve, using the resources available to them.

In order to ensure students in Alberta receive the best education possible, our government established an independent curriculum advisory panel to provide a new vision for student learning, as well as recommendations on the direction for future Kindergarten to Grade 12 curriculum. The panel's report is available at open.alberta.ca/publications/curriculum-advisory-panel-recommendations-on-direction-for-curriculum, and a link to the draft vision for student learning is available at www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/educ-draft-ministerial-order.pdf.

The draft vision for student learning emphasizes the knowledge, skills and competencies that students should have when they finish high school. Establishing a new vision for student learning is an important first step in ensuring we take the right approach in updating the provincial curriculum.

Government has engaged with Albertans through an online survey to gather feedback on the panel's draft vision. This feedback, along with the recommendations from the curriculum advisory panel, will help guide our work as we move forward with updating the curriculum.

I hope this information is helpful, and I appreciate you taking the time to write.

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/curriculum-advisory-panel-recommendations-on-direction-for-curriculum>

ALBERTA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Thank you for providing the Alberta Teachers' Association with a copy of Resolution 9-20, Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom.

The Association is pleased to receive the resolution as information. However, Alberta Education, not the Association, establishes the curriculum and the resolution is best directed to the ministry for action. As the resolution notes, your advocacy is especially timely given that the ministry is currently updating the curriculum.

Once again, thank you for sharing the resolution.

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution response as Unsatisfactory as the response from the ministry did acknowledge the need for increased awareness of food and where it comes from, but did not commit to making Agriculture Education mandatory. There was no response to the request to add Canada Agriculture Day as an event in the school calendars. This response from the Ministry, the Alberta Teachers Association and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is consistent with past responses. The Committee will reach out to other organizations that are working to address this issue and see if there*

are other opportunities to have influence on this topic, and looks forward to hearing about activities funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Public Trust Youth Agriculture Education Grant.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 10-20: REINSTATE A SHELTERBELT PROGRAM

- WHEREAS:** The Government of Canada cancelled the Prairie Shelterbelt Program in 2013, a program which ran successfully from 1901-2013;
- WHEREAS:** Shelterbelts provide many direct benefits to landowners, including snow trapping, reducing soil erosion from wind, and acting as visual screens;
- WHEREAS:** Shelterbelts provide indirect benefits to all Canadians by providing ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, and pollinator habitat;
- WHEREAS:** Weather conditions and high levels of pest pressure has taken its toll on existing shelterbelts;
- WHEREAS:** Municipalities bear the extra cost of road maintenance (snow clearing, dust control) when shelterbelts start to die;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry implement a shelterbelt program

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

The Government of Alberta shelterbelt program closed in 1997, and the Government of Canada's Prairie Shelterbelt Program closed in 2013. The programs provided technical services and tree and shrub seedlings at no cost to eligible landowners. Municipalities also assisted with distribution of seedlings as well as access to planting and maintenance equipment.

We recognize that shelterbelts provide a variety of positive benefits, including decreased soil erosion, improved soil fertility and soil moisture retention, wildlife habitat, and carbon storage. While there is no government shelterbelt program currently being considered, a number of commercial nurseries have taken over the large-scale production of shelterbelt stock, and they make them available at low cost to bulk orders. Agriculture and Forestry believes the private sector can efficiently supply the need for shelterbelt stock in Alberta, while some Alberta counties still make planting and maintenance equipment available through their Agriculture Service Boards.

Shelterbelts and eco-buffers are eligible projects under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change - Producer program. The minimum shelterbelt length is 100 meters, and there is a maximum price per tree of \$5.00. Only native species of tree will be approved. Program details and applications can be accessed at:

https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/STEW_PROD

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA – Minister

The Government of Canada has a long history of working with provincial and territorial partners and industry stakeholders to help support and enhance the sustainability of Canada's agriculture sector. This has included researching the benefits of on-farm woodlots and shelterbelts, and encouraging their establishment on working lands. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is continuing to help producers to address soil and water conservation, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and adapt to climate change.

Under the Partnership, approximately \$430 million is available for FPT cost-shared programs that are designed to raise producer's awareness of environmental risks and accelerate the adoption of on-farm technologies and practices to reduce these risks, including the on-farm shelterbelts. These cost-shared programs are delivered by provinces and territories, enabling them to reflect the environmental priorities of the sector in each region, including identifying the practices and technologies eligible for incentives to producers.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) remains committed to collaborating with provinces, territories, and the sector to explore alternate approaches that support and encourage the adoption of innovation and nature-based climate solutions, such as establishing shelterbelts, as a way to address climate change and contribute toward Canada's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

PROPOSED GRADE: Accept in Principle

COMMENTS: *The committee graded this as Accept in Principle as it addresses the resolution in part, but does not meet the expectations of the resolution. It is clear from the response that the ministry feels that the funding provided to producers for native shelterbelt species under CAP and the programs offered by commercial nurseries are sufficient.*

RESOLUTION 11-20: COMPENSATION TO PRODUCERS ON DENIED LAND ACCESS TO
HUNTERS

DEFEATED AT THE 2020 PROVINCIAL ASB CONFERENCE

- WHEREAS:** Damage to livestock fencing, stacked feed, green feed or silage pits has increased due to the growing deer and elk population;
- WHEREAS:** Damage caused by deer and elk may be reduced through best management practices including issuance of additional hunting tags;
- WHEREAS:** Controlled reduction of the ungulate population cannot be undertaken on lands where hunting is not permitted;
- WHEREAS:** No compensation should be paid to landowners for damage to fences, stacked feed, green feed losses or silage pits and tubes if land access to hunters is denied;
- WHEREAS:** Landowners can develop their own system to allow land access to hunters;

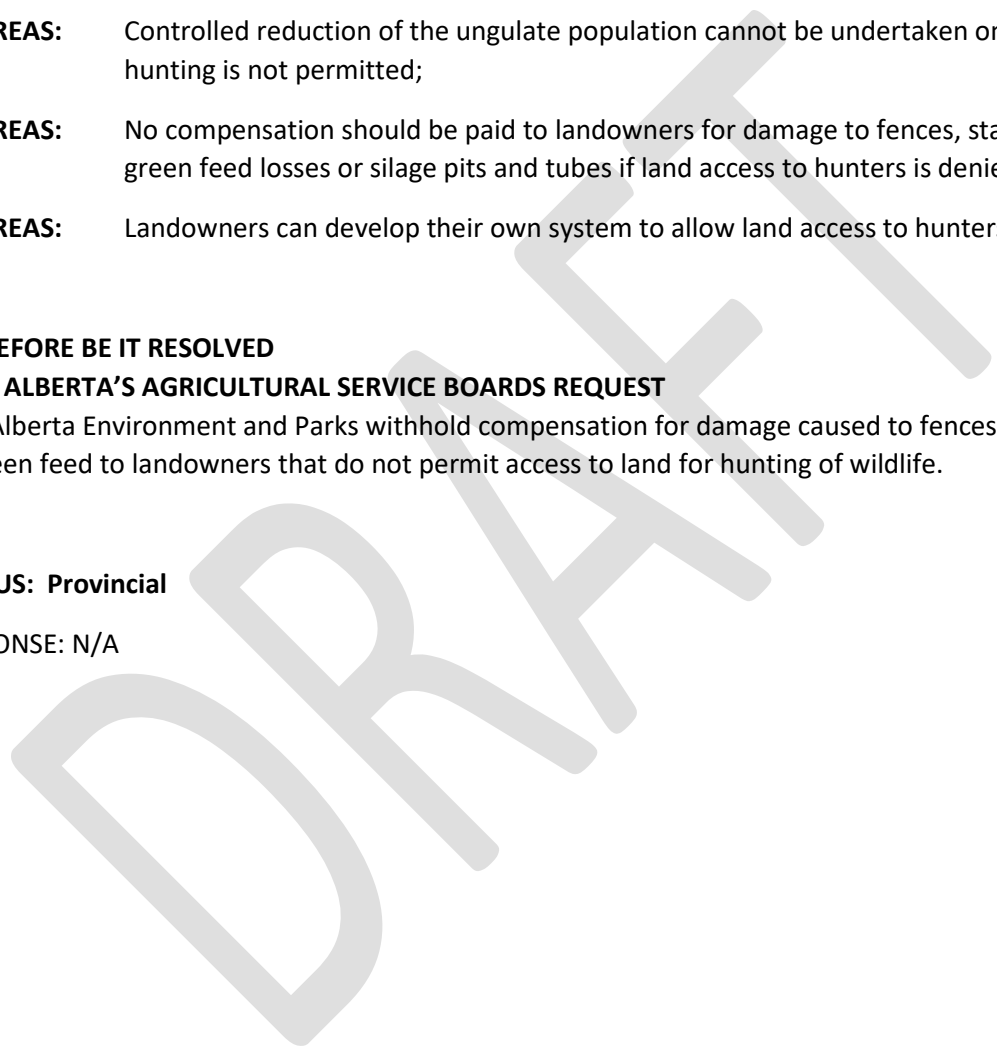
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Environment and Parks withhold compensation for damage caused to fences, stacked feed or green feed to landowners that do not permit access to land for hunting of wildlife.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE: N/A



RESOLUTION 12-20: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PART XV OF THE FEDERAL *HEALTH OF ANIMALS REGULATIONS*

- WHEREAS:** Under the authority of the Federal *Health of Animals Regulations*, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is proposing significant amendments to the reporting requirements regarding the movement of livestock in Canada;
- WHEREAS:** The “data requirements” as identified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency are exhaustive, unreasonable and seriously taxing to many livestock producers and farm operators;
- WHEREAS:** Dependable, long range, high frequency identification tags and consequent readers are not currently readily available;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency postpone their proposed amendments to the federal *Health of Animals Regulations* until such a time that the identified “data requirements” can be accurately collected by livestock producers and farm operators.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is proposing amendments to the Federal traceability regulations (Part XV of the Health of Animals Regulations, within the Health of Animals Act) that will expand the scope of requirements for identifying and reporting the movement of beef, bison, sheep and pigs, while introducing traceability requirements for goats and cervids.

The goal of the proposed amendments is to address gaps in Canada's traceability system, identified during consultations in 2013 and 2015, to ensure a robust system and ability to trace livestock in the event of a disease outbreak or natural disaster event.

As a result of the consultations, the CFIA revised several elements of the regulatory proposal and ensured alignment with the Cattle Implementation Plan supported by the beef cattle sector.

Alberta supports and will continue to work with industry and our federal and provincial partners on an integrated national traceability program. Alberta also remains committed to maintaining its Premises Identification (PID) system and increasing PID registrations (with over 50,000 active accounts in its PID system, Alberta has the highest level of PID registrations in the country).

In addition, Alberta is looking at ways to use current livestock movement reporting tools/systems (e.g. livestock movement manifests) to report traceability information both provincially and federally. The use of existing provincial movement reporting processes will simplify the process for Alberta users and reduce duplication.

Alberta has also developed a "Locate Premises" application (accessible online or through a mobile device), which will allow producers and other livestock industry stakeholders to easily look up PID Numbers for entry on livestock manifests. The URL address for the Locate Premises application is <https://lp.aqric.qov.ab.ca>.

Finally, we encourage producers and other livestock industry stakeholders to express their concerns to CFIA during the Canada Gazette 1 comment period. The proposed amendments were expected to be published in spring 2020 at the earliest; however, due to COVID-19, only urgent items are being published in the Canada Gazette at this time. Following the publication, stakeholders will have 75 days to review and provide comment.

CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY – PRESIDENT Siddika Mithani, PhD

As detailed in Dr. Jaspinder Komal's response to Mr. Lawson's letter of July 22, 2019, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is considering advancing proposed regulations to strengthen the traceability system in order to enable effective and timely disease control investigations, better manage animal health, and help improve Canada's capacity to maintain market access as well as consumer confidence.

With respect to resolution 12-20 of the Alberta Agricultural Service Board, I wanted to take this opportunity to note that the current and proposed livestock traceability regulations are outcome-based; in that there is no prescribed method or technology by which regulated data is provided to the administrators of the program or by which the identification numbers of tags must be read and reported. CFIA encourages industry to innovate and explore effective technology that allows for the introduction of effective identification tags and readers.

CFIA is having ongoing dialogue with industry sectors on the proposed requirements and open to feedback. All stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide comments during the formal consultation period upon publication in Canada Gazette, Part I.

I appreciate you forwarding the resolution, which will be taken into consideration as CFIA further develops the regulatory proposal.

Thank you for writing about this important matter

CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY – Chief Veterinary Officer

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA - Minister

PROPOSED GRADE: Accept in Principle

COMMENTS: *The committee graded this resolution as Accept in Principle as there is still an opportunity to participate in CFIA consultations through the federal government Gazette, and the resolution is being taken under advisement by the CFIA. The referred to regulations were not published in this spring's Part 1 of the Gazette so the Committee will watch for consultation opportunities in future Gazettes. It is clear that the issue of long-range tag reading technology was not addressed or a concern to the CFIA or AF, however the changes are being made in consultation with industry.*

RESOLUTION 13-20: **CANADIAN PRODUCT AND CANADIAN MADE**

- WHEREAS:** The guidelines for "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada" claims promote compliance with subsection 5(1) of the Food and Drugs Act and subsection 6(1) of the Safe Food for Canadians Act, which prohibit false and misleading claims;
- WHEREAS:** A food product may use the claim "Product of Canada" when all or virtually all major ingredients, processing, and labour used to make the food product are Canadian;
- WHEREAS:** A "Made in Canada" claim with a qualifying statement can be used on a food product when the last substantial transformation of the product occurred in Canada, even if some ingredients are from other countries;
- WHEREAS:** Products will qualify for a "Made in Canada" when at least 51% of the total direct cost of producing or manufacturing the good must have occurred in Canada;
- WHEREAS:** Some of our "Made in Canada" raw products such as honey could be mixed with up to 30% of imported honey which is misleading to the Canadian consumers;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That Canadian Food Inspection Agency amend the Guidelines for "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada" claims to not include pure products such as honey.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Agriculture and Forestry supports and advocates for food labelling requirements that are modern, consistent, and relevant to meet the needs of industry and consumers.

Agriculture and Forestry does not have jurisdiction on product claims or labelling guidelines for food products. All food labelling requirements, including "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada", are enforced by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as per their Guidelines for "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada" Claims. As per the guidelines, the "Product of Canada" label can be used when 98 per cent or more of the major ingredients, processing, and labour used to make the food product are Canadian in origin. The "Made in Canada" label can be used when the last substantial transformation of the product occurred in Canada, with a qualifying statement to indicate that the food product is made from imported ingredients or a combination of imported and domestic ingredients.

The federal government conducted industry and public consultation on potential changes to these guidelines in 2019. Some of the feedback they received to increase the number of products eligible to use the claims, to promote Canadian products, recognizes investment, economic growth in Canada (labour and manufacturing), to respond to consumer interest in knowing where their food is coming from, and to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions.

CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY- President

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA- Minister

I recognize that industry has raised concerns that the current “Product of Canada” and “Made in Canada” guidelines are overly restrictive and inconsistent with some provincial requirements. Recommendations to revise these guidelines were included in the Agri-Food Economic Strategy Table Report. In response to these recommendations, CFIA and AAFC committed to review the guidelines as part of the Agri-Food and Aquaculture Regulatory Roadmap.

The review sought to encourage increased use of the claims on food labels. AAFC consulted with industry in March 2019 on a proposal to lower the 98 percent threshold for “Product of Canada” claims to 85 percent, and to allow more flexibility for “Made in Canada” claims. CFIA’s survey of Canadians in June 2019 sought to verify that any proposed changes continue to provide valuable information for making purchasing decisions. These consultations generated a number of comments from consumers and industry, including some similar to those outlined in your resolution 13-20. These comments are being taken into consideration as the Government considers next steps. The Government of Canada will communicate any changes that are made to the guidelines to industry stakeholders and Canadians.

The 51 percent Canadian content requirement quoted in your resolution comes from a previous policy. Currently, the use of the “Made in Canada” claim applies to food products whose substantial transformation has occurred in Canada. You can find more details on CFIA’s current guidelines for these claims at www.inspection.gc.ca/food-label-requirements/labelling/industry/origin-claims-on-food-labels/eng/139362222140/1393622515592?chap=5#s1c5.

You may also be interested to know that, regarding honey, the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations require any blended varieties to state the country or countries of origin on the label. Any changes to “Product of Canada” and “Made in Canada” guidelines would not alter this requirement. You can view the guidance on labelling blended honey at www.inspection.gc.ca/food-labelrequirements/labelling/industry/honey/eng/1392907854578/1392907941975?chap=6.

PROPOSED GRADE: Incomplete

COMMENTS: *A response from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency was not received. The Agriculture and Agrifood Canada response was received after the initial grading but will be reviewed in the final report card.*

RESOLUTION E1-20: REVIEW OF BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

- WHEREAS:** Current Business Risk Management Programs do not currently reflect the rising cost of agriculture;
- WHEREAS:** Western Canadian agricultural producers are in dire straits following this past year's cropping issues and marketing issues, both of which are from forces beyond their control;
- WHEREAS:** The current suite of programs available to farmers are insufficient to address the crisis facing many agricultural producers; either new programs need to be developed or increased competition in existing programs needs to occur;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada immediately begin a review of all Business Risk Management Programs involving all stakeholders, including producers, to explore potential new programs or amendments to current programs.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada look to increase competition by allowing private industry access to cost shared subsidies through programs like AgriInsurance to prevent certain companies from having a monopoly on government subsidies.

STATUS: Provincial**RESPONSE:**ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

In 2018, the Canadian and provincial governments committed to a review of BRM programs. An external panel, drawn from producers from across the country, was created to review the existing programs and make recommendations to the ministers. At the ministers' meeting in July 2019, the external panel made several recommendations to improve the BRM suite. Recommendations included reviewing the AgriStability program, examining its complexity, timeliness and predictability. Since the external panel's recommendations, federal and provincial officials have been working on possible options to improve the program.

In December 2019, the ministers made an announcement that AgriStability would exclude private-sector, producer-paid insurance payments as eligible AgriStability eligible income. This change will allow AgriStability to provide more coverage in times of severe losses with private insurance options (such as hail insurance, Global Ag Risk Solutions) complementing AgriStability, bringing the producer back to a higher support level.

At the same December meeting, ministers extended their commitment to the BRM review by challenging federal and provincial officials to evaluate the BRM programs against specific objectives and start to explore possible alternative approaches to BRM programming in Canada. Ministers are aware of industry's ask to remove the Reference Margin Limit and return the AgriStability trigger to 85 per cent of a producer's historical support level.

Federal and provincial ministers also acknowledged there are changing risks in the agriculture sector, with climate and international trade highlighted as specific risks. Similarly, following the last federal election, the federal mandate letter specifies that the BRM review should seek to "draw on lessons from trade disputes" and emphasize "faster and better adapted support". Federal and provincial officials are considering various options as potential replacements for AgriStability as part of a longer-term approach to refreshing the BRM suite. On a parallel track, work on short-term changes to AgriStability will continue.

For the past two years, AFSC has been meeting with producers at Input Advisory Group meetings to seek input on how to improve AgriStability's simplicity, timeliness and predictability. AFSC is currently engaged in province-wide Input Advisory Group meetings to facilitate producer discussions on the way forward for our BRM programs. A summary of their findings will be made available as soon as possible.

AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION ALBERTA

(Same as above)

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA - Minister

Federal, provincial, and territorial (FPT) officials are continuing to examine ways to improve business risk management (BRM) programs. In December 2019, FPT ministers agreed to conduct an assessment of the BRM programs to help guide the ongoing work to develop approaches to better meet the needs of producers and make programs more effective, agile, timely, and equitable for producers. We continue to work with our provincial and territorial partners to ensure that the suite of programs is meeting new and evolving risks in the sector.

Under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, FPT governments continue to provide support to producers through BRM programs, as well as strategic initiative programs. This includes \$2 billion in FPT cost-shared strategic initiatives and \$1 billion in federal activities and programs aimed at growing trade and expanding markets, fostering innovative and sustainable growth in the sector, and supporting diversity in a dynamic, evolving sector. Over the Growing Forward 2 period (2012-2017), FPT governments provided producers across Canada with over \$8 billion in support.

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this resolution as Unsatisfactory as the response from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry did not address trade relations and they have not committed to doing anything to address the resolution. The Agriculture and Agrifood Canada response was received after the initial grading but will be reviewed in the final report card. The Committee will draft letters to the respective ministries relaying the grade and the reasons.*

RESOLUTION E2-20: INITIATE AGRIRECOVERY FRAMEWORK

- WHEREAS:** AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial disaster relief framework intended to work together with the core Business Risk Management Programs to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters and the extraordinary costs producers must take on to recover from disasters;
- WHEREAS:** Numerous municipalities have declared an agricultural disaster due to drought, fire, flood, early frost, disease and excessive moisture;
- WHEREAS:** These producers accrued exorbitant costs to even attempt harvest or put up feed, manage tough grain, feed shortages and the rehabilitation of land in the coming years;
- WHEREAS:** The current agriculture and economic climates is plagued by lower commodity prices from trade restrictions and poor relations leading to lower profits and decreased cash flow;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry work together to initiate the AgriRecovery disaster framework and begin an immediate analysis of impact for additional financial support to assist field rehabilitation, costs accrued to attempt harvest and manage tough grain, feed shortages, losses incurred from lower commodity prices due to trade wars and any other out of the ordinary accrued expenses upon assessment.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada immediately work to resolve trade restrictions and improve relations with countries like China and India to improve movement and commodity prices.

STATUS: Provincial**RESPONSE:**ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

The Government of Alberta appreciates that harsh weather conditions experienced by Alberta producers in 2019 have created challenges, and have resulted in the declaration of a State of Agricultural Disaster by several municipalities. Many of the expenses identified as part of these weather events are covered within the full suite of BRM programs, which include AgriStability, AgriInsurance, and AgriInvest. These programs are designed to cover severe margin declines and production declines in perennial and annual crops, and they also provide self-directed saving accounts for investments.

Part of this suite is the AgriRecovery framework. AgriRecovery works in conjunction with the existing programs to help producers recover from natural disasters. The focus of AgriRecovery is

the extraordinary costs producers face to recover from natural disasters like disease, pests, or weather-related events, such a large-scale flooding or tornadoes. The AgriRecovery framework provides a method for officials to determine if an AgriRecovery initiative should be pursued. This is a two-stage process that includes a preliminary assessment and a secondary, or full, AgriRecovery assessment.

The preliminary assessment evaluates each disaster event individually. This is done to determine the size and scope of a situation by looking at specific criteria that answer the following questions: Is it a recurring event (has it happened before)? Is it an abnormal event (how often has it happened)? And are there significant, extraordinary costs that threaten the viability of an operation?

While the situation farmers currently face is difficult, it is unlikely this year's situation would pass the preliminary AgriRecovery assessment. There have been challenging harvests in the past, including snowed under acres, and an AgriRecovery program has not been declared.

The secondary, or full assessment, would evaluate each of the extraordinary costs identified and whether those costs would be covered by existing programs, insurance or other initiatives-such as the Livestock Tax Deferral Program. There are some items that would not be eligible for compensation under the AgriRecovery framework. These include costs such as taxes, machinery costs, repairs or alterations, or the sale of agricultural commodities. The secondary assessment also looks at what programs were/are available to producers and determines how well the existing programs respond to the identified extraordinary expenses.

The majority of costs accrued to harvest and manage tough grain or to purchase feed are eligible expenses under the AgriStability program. This program is designed to respond when there is a fluctuation in prices, be it from normal market fluctuations or trade restrictions put in place by other countries. In order to pass the secondary assessment, these costs would have to equate to a 30 per cent decline in a producer's program year margin compared to historical or the program reference margin. These estimates are done regardless of whether a producer is enrolled in the program, as it is support already available to producers.

AFSC is also monitoring the spring harvest conditions, as many of the producers in the province will try to harvest their crops this spring. Producers who are not able to harvest their crops and who have crop insurance coverage may be eligible for benefits under AgriInsurance.

At this time, there is a sense that the existing suite of programs should be able to address many of the challenges faced by producers, as the programs are designed based on an individual producer's situation. This individual design ensures producers that are impacted have access to support even if other producers or areas are impacted less by the specific events.

Under AgriStability, producers are eligible for compensation when their current year margin falls below 70 per cent of their historical level of support or reference margin. The program is designed to focus on helping producers experiencing severe margin declines, beyond normal risks or fluctuations. Producers participating in AgriStability may be able to receive an interim AgriStability advance, depending on their current situation, which may help with cash flow.

Also to assist with cash flow, impacted producers may want to consider applying for a cash advance through the Feeders Association of Alberta, Canadian Canola Growers Association, or the Alberta Wheat Commission. Eligible producers are able to access up to \$1 million, with the initial \$100,000 being interest free for eligible commodities.

AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION ALBERTA

Individual producers have access to a suite of Business Risk Management (BRM) programs – AgriStability, AgriInsurance, and AgriInvest. These programs are designed to cover severe margin declines and production declines in perennial and annual crops and also provide self-directed saving accounts for investments.

Part of this suite is the AgriRecovery framework. AgriRecovery works in conjunction with the existing programs to help producers recover from natural disasters. The focus of AgriRecovery is the extraordinary costs producers face to recover from natural disasters like disease, pest or weather-related events, such as a large-scale flooding or tornadoes.

The AgriRecovery framework provides a method for officials to determine if an AgriRecovery initiative should be pursued. This is a two-stage process that includes a preliminary assessment and a secondary, or full, AgriRecovery assessment.

The preliminary assessment evaluates each disaster event individually. This is done to determine the size and scope of a situation by looking at specific criteria that answer the following questions:

- Is it a recurring event (has it happened before)?
- Is it an abnormal event (how often has it happened)? and
- Are there significant, extraordinary costs that threaten the viability of an operation?

The secondary, or full assessment, would evaluate each of the extraordinary costs identified and whether those costs would be covered by existing programs, insurance or other initiatives— such as the Livestock Tax Deferral Program. There are some items that would not be eligible for compensation under the AgriRecovery framework. These include costs such as taxes, machinery costs, repairs or alterations or the sale of agricultural commodities. The secondary assessment also looks at what programs were/are available to producers and determines how well the existing programs respond to the identified extraordinary expenses.

Under AgriStability, producers are eligible for compensation when their current year margin falls below 70 per cent of their historical level of support or reference margin. The program is designed to focus on helping producers experiencing severe margin declines, beyond normal risks or fluctuations. Producers participating in AgriStability may be able to receive an interim AgriStability advance, depending on their current situation, which may help with cash flow.

Additionally, to help assist with cash flow, impacted producers may want to consider applying for a cash advance through the Feeders Association of Alberta, Canadian Canola Growers Association or the Alberta Wheat Commission. Eligible producers are able to access up to \$1 million, with the initial \$100,000 being interest free for eligible commodities.

Although the harsh weather conditions experienced by Alberta producers in 2019 have resulted in the declaration of a State of Agricultural Disaster by several municipalities, many of the expenses identified are covered within the full suite of BRM programs.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA – Minister

In addition, the recently announced national AgriRecovery initiative, of up to \$125 million in funding, will help producers faced with costs incurred by COVID-19. This includes a \$50-million set-aside program for cattle producers dealing with the consequences of market disruptions. I encourage your organization and industry groups across Canada to continue to work with provincial and territorial governments to initiate AgriRecovery assessments to provide support to producers facing extraordinary costs associated with recovering from a disaster.

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: *The Committee graded this response as Unsatisfactory as it does not address the resolution but rather lists in detail the programs currently available. The Agriculture and Agrifood Canada response was received after the initial grading but will be reviewed in the final report card. The Committee will draft letters to the respective ministries relaying the grade and the reasons.*

RESOLUTION E3-20: AGRINVEST AND AGRISTABILITY CHANGES

- WHEREAS:** Business Risk Management Programs such as AgriInvest are administered federally by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada;
- WHEREAS:** AgriInvest lowered the percentage of allowable net sales and does not keep up with the rising cost of farms production;
- WHEREAS:** Business Risk Management Programs such as AgriStability are administered through Agriculture Financial Services Corporation in Alberta;
- WHEREAS:** AgriStability recently lowered the reference margin and added reference margin limits;
- WHEREAS:** The purpose of AgriStability is to provide support for a large margin decline and the purpose of AgriInvest is to help manage small income declines;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, and Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) work collaboratively to adjust AgriStability to increase covered losses starting at 85 per cent of reference margins and for the removal of Reference Margin Limits.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and Canada Revenue Agency adjust AgriInvest to move the Allowable Net Sales under AgriInvest to 3 percent with maximum Allowable Net Sales of \$500,000.00.

STATUS: Provincial**RESPONSE:**ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, the federal and provincial governments committed to a review of BRM programming to ensure that producers were covered for severe losses. An external panel completed the review and provided recommendations to the federal and provincial governments on how to improve the current suite of BRM programs, while remaining cost neutral.

The review panel indicated they did not want to see AgriInvest maintained. At this time, there has been no commitment or desire to increase the maximum deposit to AgriInvest accounts from \$10,000 to \$15,000. There are currently over 23,600 producers in Alberta that have AgriInvest balances that average over \$27,500. Producers could use these account balances to help offset the costs associated with the difficult harvest conditions of 2019.

In response to the recommendations, AFSC conducted Input Advisory Group meetings at seven locations across Alberta, from north to south Alberta, to get producer input on possible programming changes. To date, the BRM review has been focused on improving the timeliness, predictability and simplicity of the AgriStability program. AFSC found most Alberta producers would like to see the program simplified, which, in turn, could make it more predictable. To simplify and improve the program responsiveness, all private-sector insurance payments have been removed as income for the program year margin for the 2020 AgriStability program year. This will allow producers to benefit from participating in private insurance programs without having their AgriStability payment reduced when receiving a payment from a private-sector insurance program, such as hail insurance or the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program.

Additionally, in response to the numerous requests received by industry, we have prioritized our efforts to explore the feasibility of removing the Reference Margin Limit. Removing the limit would increase the total liabilities covered by governments, which would translate into increased costs to the program. At this time, the costs to remove the limit is unknown, and as such, governments are not able to commit to seeking additional funding to pay for these costs.

Under the Growing Forward 2 and Canadian Agricultural Partnership agreements, governments developed a policy position stating that BRM programming should not cover normal losses, and should focus on severe or disaster situations. This is one of the reasons the AgriStability trigger was changed from 85 to 70 per cent of a producer's reference margin. This move was a shift away from the previous Agriculture Policy Framework and Growing Forward agreements that were more focused on providing income assurance. Returning to the 85 per cent trigger will require a review of how it conforms with our international trade obligations, as well as determining the costs to governments.

The federal and provincial governments have committed to continuing the BRM review. Some of the focus will continue to be on program design, although the review will also include program objectives. This includes a review of the fairness and accessibility of producers to BRM programming. For example, the AgriStability program is a whole-farm program, intended to provide coverage for all producers, in all sectors, regardless of their farm structure. As such, AgriStability provides coverage to areas within the agriculture sector that do not have access to, or have limited access to, crop insurance products.

With an understanding of the current trade, market, and production challenges faced by many producers, it is important that government and industry at the national, provincial, and regional levels work together to improve our suite of BRM programming.

AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION ALBERTA

Under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP), the federal and provincial governments committed to a review of BRM programming to ensure that producers were covered for more severe losses and not for what is considered normal risk. An external panel completed the review and provided recommendations to the federal and provincial governments on how to improve the current suite of BRM programs, while remaining cost neutral (no new funding).

In response to the recommendations, AFSC conducted Input Advisory Group meetings at seven locations across Alberta, from north to the south, to get Alberta producers' input on possible programming changes. To date, the BRM review has been focused on improving the timeliness, predictability and simplicity of the AgriStability program. AFSC found most Alberta producers would like to see the program simplified, which, in turn, could make it more predictable. To simplify and improve the program responsiveness, all private-sector insurance payments have been removed as income for the program year margin for the 2020 AgriStability program year. This will allow producers to benefit from participating in private insurance programs without having their AgriStability payment reduced when receiving a payment from a private-sector insurance program, such as hail insurance or the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program.

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Under the Growing Forward² and Canadian Agricultural Partnership agreements, governments developed a policy position, stating that BRM programming should not cover normal losses, and should focus on severe or disaster situations. This is one of the reasons the AgriStability trigger was changed from 85 to 70 per cent of a producer's reference margin. This move was a shift away from the previous Agriculture Policy Framework and Growing Forward agreements that were more focused on providing income assurance. Returning to the 85 per cent trigger will require a review of how it conforms with our international trade obligations, as well as determining the costs to governments.

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AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA – Minister

To enable AgriStability to help more producers manage the challenges of COVID-19, the enrollment deadline for the 2020 program year has been extended without penalty, from April 30 to July 3, 2020. Furthermore, interim payments have been increased from 50 to 75 percent in most jurisdictions, facilitating greater access to cash flow.

CANADA REVENUE AGENCY – Minister

PROPOSED GRADE: Unsatisfactory

COMMENTS: The Committee graded this resolution as Unsatisfactory as it did not address moving the Allowable Net Sales under AgriInvest to 3 percent with maximum Allowable Net Sales of \$500,000. *The*

Agriculture and Agrifood Canada response was received after the initial grading but will be reviewed in the final report card. The Committee will draft letters to the respective ministries relaying the grade and the reasons.

DRAFT

2020 Resolution Grading

How to Use:

1. Use dropdown menu to insert name of municipality in Box A24 (highlighted)
2. Use dropdown menu in column D to grade each resolution
3. Add comments that can assist the Committee in assigning final grade in Column E
4. Submit completed spreadsheet by **September 25** to Linda Hunt, Executive Assistant to the ASB Provincial Committee at: asbprovcommittee@gmail.com

Definitions:

Accept the Response

A response that has been graded as **Accept the Response** addresses the resolution as presented or meets the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee.

Accept in Principle

A response that is graded **Accept in Principle** addresses the resolution in part or contains information that indicates that further action is being considered.

Incomplete

A response that is graded as **Incomplete** does not provide enough information or does not completely address the resolution.

Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

Unsatisfactory

A response that is graded as **Unsatisfactory** does not address the resolution as presented or does not meet the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee

Municipality Name	Resolution Number	Resolution Name	Grade	Comments
Rocky View	1-20	Ropin' the Web	Accept the Response	
	2-20	Weed and Pest Surveillance and Monitoring Technology Grant	Accept the Response	
	3-20	Clubroot Pathotype Testing	Accept the Response	
	4-20	Education Campaign for Cleanliness of Equipment for Industry Sectors	Unsatisfactory	
	5-20	AFSC Assist in Preventing the Spread of Regulated Crop Pests	Unsatisfactory	
	6-20	Beehive Depredation	Accept in Principle	
	7-20	Agricultural Related Lease Dispositions	Accept in Principle	
	8-20	Emergency Livestock Removal	Accept in Principle	
	9-20	Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom	Accept in Principle	
	10-20	Reinstate a Shelterbelt Program	Accept in Principle	
	11-20	Compensation to Producers on Denied Land Access to Hunters		
	12-20	Proposed Amendments to Part XV of the Federal <i>Health of Animals Regulations</i>	Accept in Principle	
	13-20	Canadian Product and Canadian Made	Accept in Principle	
	E1-20	Review of Business Risk Management Programs	Accept in Principle	
	E2-20	Initiate Agri-Recovery Framework	Unsatisfactory	
	E3-20	Agri-Invest and Agri-Stability Changes	Unsatisfactory	



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: Agricultural Service Board
DATE: October 22, 2020 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: Upcoming Events

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The itemized upcoming events listed below include those hosted by Rocky View County Agricultural Services and others, and relate to production, marketing, sustainability and community.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the Upcoming Events Report be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

One of the recommendations within the Agriculture Master Plan is to foster capacity building for the agriculture community in areas of enhanced educational services and programs. The intent is to provide support and information resources to producers for specialized opportunities and diversification within the ag industry. ASB meetings provide the opportunity to learn of local and regional conferences and training sessions of interest.

DISCUSSION:

The events below are identified for the Board's and Council's information:

1. Beef Cattle Research Council: Free webinars kick-off October 28th with a session on combating invasive weeds. One webinar a month @7pm until March. More information and registration available [here](#).
2. Central Region ASB Virtual Conference: Hosted by Ponoka County, October 30th, 2020. More information and registration available soon.
3. Jumpingpound Creek Watershed Partnership's Fall Gathering: Online Workshop on November 16 or 17th. More information and registration available soon.
4. Green Industry Show & Conference (GISC): The conference component will be a mix of live and pre-recorded and on-demand content. November 19-20th, Edmonton, AB. More information and registration available [here](#).
5. Agriculture Update for Professionals: Online Seminar, Multiple Topics, November 26th. More information and registration available [here](#).
6. Farming Smarter Conference and Trade Show at the Lethbridge Exhibition Park, December 2-3rd in Lethbridge, AB. More information and registration available [here](#).

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

Administration Resources

Jeff Fleischer, Agricultural and Environmental Services



OPTIONS:

- Option #1 THAT the Upcoming Events Report be received as information.
- Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Matthew Chilakos”

“Jeff Fleischer”

Agricultural Services Officer

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services