

**RESOLUTIONS to the
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE – STANDING POLICY**

As Approved at the 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 22-23, 2017

PROGRAM FUNDING

1. Next Policy Framework Funding

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal, provincial, and territorial ministries of agriculture to increase the funding envelope for the Next Policy Framework and AgriStability coverage in order to keep up with inflation and cover the costs of the expanding range of agricultural programs.

2. National Fostering Business Development Program Funding

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA support and advocate for increased funding to the national farm fostering business development program under the next policy framework.

3. Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to return the administration of the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP) to the provincial organizations.

4. “Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) – Aid to Publishers” Assistance Program (A)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask the Government of Canada to keep intact the financial assistance program “Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) – Aid to Publishers”;

5. “Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) – Aid to Publishers” Assistance Program (B)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask the Government of Canada to invest the funds needed to increase digital development and the documentation of regional digital needs, especially high-speed Internet access.

BRM PROGRAM DESIGN

6. Cash Advance Repayments

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support policy changes to ensure grain elevator companies making a cash advance repayment on behalf of producers provide repayment in a timely manner well in advance of payment deadlines.

7. Advance Payment Limits

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to provide mixed farms with separate Advanced Payment Program limits for grains and livestock products.

8. Agri-Invest Commodity Purchases

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to allow producers to exclude those chemical costs and technology use agreement costs bundled with seed purchases when reporting their allowable commodity purchases for Agri-Invest purposes.

9. Agri-Invest Allowable Net Sales

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support an Agri-invest program that would increase the level of government matching contributions for producers reporting lower allowable net sales.

TAXATION

10. CRA Farm Equipment Depreciation Rates

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Federal Government to allow Canadian Farmers to claim depreciation of 100% for farm machinery in the first year.

11. Small Business Tax changes implemented 2017

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the federal government to provide relief for Canadian farms and other rural small businesses in regard to recent changes that unduly limit their access to the Small Business Tax Deduction.

DATA

12. Canadian Industry Statistics

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to move *food manufacturing* (subheading 311 under the North American Industry Classification System) from *manufacturing* (subheading 300) to *agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing* (heading 11) in the Canadian Industry Statistics releases; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to separate food production and processing from forestry and logging in the Canadian Industry Statistics releases.

13. Census of Agriculture

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to change the time of the census of Agriculture from May to a time between November and February.

14. Farm Data Collection and Privacy

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to give farmers the right to manage the business data collected by companies who are using cloud based and any other data-collection technologies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to require that all Agriculture Technology Providers operating in Canada sign an agreement similar to the “Privacy and Security Principles for Farm Data” agreement developed by the American Farm Bureau

15. Statistics Canada Agricultural Reporting System

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to require Statistics Canada to implement a timelier, updated and improved online crop data collection and reporting system.

ENVIRONMENT

16. Exemption to the Carbon Pricing

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the government to protect all primary agricultural production from the negative effects of carbon pricing.

17. Carbon Sequestration in Agricultural Landscapes

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to increase support for research into carbon sequestration potential of native pastures, tame forage crops, all other crops and their practices, forested lands and wetlands.

FOOD SAFETY/ SPS

18. Canadian Food Inspection Agency

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, through the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the Federal Government to develop better emergency crisis protocols, procedures and communication in the event of a livestock disease outbreak to ensure that affected parties are kept fully informed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that livestock producers be reimbursed for all the additional costs incurred during the period their livestock are quarantined.

19. Research on Fungal Diseases

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on the federal governments to prioritize publicly funded research on fungal crop diseases such as fusarium.

20. Monitoring of Wild Ungulates

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to ensure that managed herds of wild ungulates on federal Crown lands are monitored for infectious diseases, such as Bovine Tuberculosis and Chronic Wasting Disease.

21. Avoiding Unreasonable, Unscientific Food Safety Requirements by Canadian Retailers

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA urgently request that the CFIA, Industry, Science and Economic Development Canada and AAFC seek to have Canadian retailers recognize the CFIA-reviewed Canadian On-Farm Food Safety programs (or recognized equivalents) as the sole food safety program that is required in Canada, and

BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED that the CFA advocate for legislation to implement a broad-based retailer code of practice to avoid further abuse of the dominant market position of highly concentrated retailers.

GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

22. Grain Transportation

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture request that the Canadian Transportation Agency conduct a cost-benefit analysis of who should have ownership of and do the maintenance of rail cars dedicated for grain transportation.

23. Grain Grading System

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) to revise its grading system to ensure Canadian grades align with the quality requirements now demanded by grain buyers.

24. Port of Churchill

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to facilitate the transition of the Port of Churchill and the Hudson Bay Railway to alternative ownership in a time frame that is sufficient to ensure the operation of the Port of Churchill for the 2017 grain shipping season.

25. Payment Protection Fund

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA investigate whether the CGC accumulated user fee surplus should be used to establish a payment protection fund to provide producers with transparent and cost effective protection against payment default.

TRADE

26. International Trade

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in its lobbying efforts with the Federal Government advance and undertake the following:

- Oppose any changes to NAFTA that would i) undermine the agricultural market access Canada negotiated under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (CUSTA) or NAFTA for Canada's export oriented commodities; or, ii) modify the size of any TRQs and/or the level of over-quota tariffs for dairy, poultry, and egg products;
- Work with and support the poultry, egg and dairy sectors to oppose any weakening of the three pillars of supply management, namely (1) import control; (2) production discipline; and, (3) fair prices to producers, at the WTO or in any other trade negotiations; and,
- Request that the Government of Canada provide transparency by holding regular and detailed briefings and consultations with general farm organizations and commodity groups as trade negotiations unfold.

TRANSPORTATION

27. Impact of Weight Limits for Transport of Agriculture Products within Canada

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with other likeminded provincial and national organizations to lobby appropriate federal and provincial departments to harmonize weight limits to the highest level established within Canada.

28. Analysis of Weight Limits for Transport of Agriculture Products in Canada and the United States

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with the RCC, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and Transport Canada to document the differences in weight limits for trucks hauling agriculture goods in Canada and in the United States, and to identify means of addressing the differences to support harmonizing weight limits to the highest level established within either country and to enable more efficient transportation on both sides of the border.

MISCELLANEOUS

29. Canadian Food Policy

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work collaboratively with AAFC, CAPI, the Centre of Food in Canada and others to consolidate the respective food strategies into a useable food policy.

30. Large-scale Mergers

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Competition Bureau, and the federal government, to fully examine the short and long term effects of large-scale mergers on farmers' operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby relevant officials and work with other stakeholders to create and maintain an environment of healthy competition up and down the entire agricultural value chain.

31. Ammonia Tank Construction

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby Transport Canada and the CSA to immediately enact a new standard for ammonia tank construction or reenact the former standard TC51.

32. Ammonia Tank Testing

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby Transport Canada and the CSA to return to 5 year testing intervals for ammonia tanks.

33. Aeronautics Act

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask the federal Minister of Transport:

- To ensure that aerodrome projects satisfy social acceptability criteria and comply with the current provincial laws and standards for land use and development, and to oppose the projects if this is not the case;
- To amend the *Aeronautics Act* to make public consultations mandatory, transparent and independent and to ensure that the concerns of citizens are taken into account;
- To amend the *Aeronautics Act* such that it recognizes the constitutional powers of provincial legislatures in matters of land use, land development, land protection and agricultural activities.

LABOUR

34. Expedited Application Process

BE IT RESOLVED that an expedited process be considered, a *trusted employer* class, for farms that have a specified history of good standing with the SAWP program.

35. Approval of a placement

BE IT RESOLVED that if a placement is approved by Service Canada but a worker is unable to complete the service, the employer will not need to reapply for the approved placement.

REAFFIRMATIONS/RENEWALS

36. Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program Funding

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the federal government to institute and support EFP funding in every province to meet demand.

37. Reusable Plastic Containers (RPCs)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to ensure that a full and comprehensive scientific study is carried out to examine the possible areas of biosecurity concern including plant pathogenicity to determine if there are possible risks to crop production, and to make recommendations on RPCs management, handling and use practices to eliminate these risks.

38. Deep Geothermal Energy

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with the federal government to initiate a pilot program to determine the feasibility of deep geothermal energy for Canadian agriculture.

39. Horses as Livestock

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) lobby the Federal government to consistently designate horses as livestock for the purposes of export, meat processing, taxation and capacity building initiatives.

40. Pipelines

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture put forward to the Federal Government, and more specifically, the National Energy Board, the costly implications to agriculture of delaying the building of oil pipelines such that much needed rail capacity is diverted away from grain.