

**RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED
AT THE CFA SEMI-ANNUAL
SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN
THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2007**

Growing Forward Resolutions Passed

FOOD SAFETY

1) Feedback On The Growing Forward Document:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA and its members work with the federal, provincial and territorial governments, regarding the “Growing Forward” document, to address the following gaps:

- the need for industry leadership in the area of On-farm food safety as a means for meeting and exceeding demands
- the need for provisions of transitional funding and policy directions
- the need for food safety to be an incentive based system (versus regulative)
- the fact that producers already deliver safe food and are developing/implementing food safety systems as a means for demonstrating due diligence to consumers
- the need to ensure Canadian agriculture is positioned as a solution provider to society’s needs of not only healthy and environmental responsive food but also as safe food
- strong need for inclusion of animal/plant health strategies
- governments need to ensure that imported products coming into Canada meet the same standards as those of Canadian products so as to ensure producers operate in a leveled playing field
- the fact that industry welcomes inclusion of traceability in the document and hopes for national system that is compatible with provincial as well as international systems (Food Safety Committee)

2) Incentive Based Food Safety Programs:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with the government on ensuring that food safety in the Next Generation of Agricultural Policy be an incentive based system (versus regulatory) to ensure producer uptake of programs as well as long term sustainability of programs (Food Safety Committee)

3) **Transitional Funding**

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with the government to ensure that transitional funding and policy direction for On-farm food safety programs are in place immediately so as to allow a “seamless transfer between frameworks” and to maintain program momentum. (Food Safety Committee)

4) **Industry involvement**

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with the government to ensure continued industry participation, leadership, involvement, decision-making and delivery of on farm food safety programs.

ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE

Resolutions from CFA Environment and Science Committee

In regards to a “sector that contributes to society’s objectives”:

- 5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA work with the Federal government to ensure the policy framework recognizes and engages agriculture as a provider of environmental goods and services and safe, healthy and nutritious food to all Canadians as well as food, fuel and fibre for the world.
- 6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA work with the Federal government to ensure the policy framework includes provisions for agriculture to deal with management and access of natural resources (water, air, land, and biodiversity) in the Next Generation of Agricultural policy.
- 7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA work with the Federal government to ensure the continuity of programs such as the EFP, immediately, so as to provide a seamless transition into the next generation of APF.
- 8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA work with the Federal Government to address, in a timely manner, the adaptation of farmers to a changing climate and to enable mitigation as well as develop a carbon credit trading system in a way that recognizes the positive contributions of agriculture.

STRATEGIC GROWTH

Resolutions from CFA Strategic Growth Committee

With regards to the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy and a “competitive and innovative sector”:

- 9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA engage the government that the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy develop specific programs and policies to improve the ability of young farmers and new entrants to enter the agricultural industry.

- 10) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA engage the government that the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy develop specific programs and policies to improve Canadian infrastructure (eg. water, energy, telecommunication and transportation) to facilitate the long term competitiveness and growth of Canadian agriculture.

- 11) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA work with the government to ensure the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy puts greater emphasis on competition and market power issues in Canadian agriculture, and develops specific programs and policies to strengthen agricultural cooperatives.

- 12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA work with the government to ensure the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy puts greater emphasis on human resource development, coordination with other government departments with respect to human resources and facilitates much improved agricultural access to labour.

- 13) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA work with the government to immediately develop and put in place federal/provincial government-producer Agricultural Regulatory Improvement Task Forces that will research, discuss and make recommendations for the continual improvement (evaluation, simplification, reduction and addition) of regulation (eg. food, health, environment and business) in Canada.

- 14) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA work with the government to ensure the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy improves the interactions of government departments to better coordinate research, policy and regulations, for the long-term improvement of Canada’s agricultural business environment.

- 15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA work with the government to ensure the Next Generation of Agriculture Policy makes clear it will seek out new producer program delivery options and ensure producer organization involvement in program delivery to ensure effectiveness, transparency and accountability.

SAFETY NETS

Resolutions from CFA SN Committee

In regards to a “sector that is proactive in managing risk”:

16) **Regional Flexibility**

BE IT RESOLVED CFA adopt the following definition of regional flexibility:

- a) Flexibility within new and existing national BRM and non-BRM programs for regional administration, delivery and allocation of funds;
- b) Flexibility to develop new programs, BRM and non-BRM, to address regional needs within broad, overarching national objectives, that are cost shared federally and provincially.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED CFA ask the Federal Minister to put aside a new set of funds to support cost-shared programs that would allow regional flexibility and equitable distribution of funds regionally.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED CFA ask the federal government to give provinces flexibility for administration, delivery and allocation of funds within the current envelope of funding to address regional needs.

17) **AgriStability Fee**

WHEREAS the new AgriInvest program requires producers to deposit funds to trigger government contributions.

BE IT RESOLVED that the current fee of 0.45% of Reference Margin for the AgriStability program be eliminated for the 2007 year and onwards.

18) **Negative Margins**

WHEREAS the eligibility requirement for AgriStability negative margin coverage is 2 out of 3 years and you must have a positive reference margin and there by disadvantaging some producers.

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA request the government eliminate the 2 out of 3 year provision for AgriStability negative margin coverage.

19) AgriStability Simplification

WHEREAS changes are being made to the AgriStability program, and there is still a need for predictability and bankability to be enhanced through simplifying the application to make it more producer friendly and accountability being put into the process and transparency in the documentation returned to producers for clearer understanding of the program.

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask the Federal government to simplify the application and ensure process deadlines are met and that there is transparency in the documentation returned to producers for a predictable & bankable AgriStability program.

20) Production Insurance Across all Commodities

WHEREAS under APF I, producers across Canada were promised workable and affordable Production Insurance for all commodities.

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with the Federal government to ensure completion of the promise to provide workable and affordable Production Insurance for all commodities before the expiry of APFI.

21) Linkages

WHEREAS if the AgriStability program is to have linkages to the AgrilInsurance program; and

WHEREAS some provincial AgrilInsurance programs aren't responsive in meeting the needs of producers as compared to programs in other provinces.

BE IT RESOLVED that the AgrilInsurance program be equitable and provide the same level of coverage for a competitive cost across all provinces and where by no province should receive a reduction in coverage.