

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

As Approved at the 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 28-March 1, 2018

GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

1. Crop Value Model

BE IT RESOLVED regardless of what crop value creation model is adopted, that the CFA lobby that public research and varietal development be retained as a strong component of the model.

2. Crop Value Model

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby that producers who will be paying into any value creation model for varietal development will be able to retain the ability to direct a portion of the collected dollars to research in varietal characteristics of benefits to their farm productivity.

3. AG Transport Coalition Funding

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to continue funding the AG Transport Coalition.

4. Plant Breeding Innovation

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA strike a Committee to assess these respective government and industry initiatives and return recommendations to the Board on what CFA's position should be in respect of the ideas and proposals contained therein;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Committee should be formed and work commence in April 2018, with a view to completing an initial assessment and formulating initial recommendations to the Board for their consideration by the July 2018 CFA Summer Meetings, if not sooner.

5. Producer Representation on CGC Standards Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the CGC to accept two representatives from each of the prairie general farm organizations to serve as members of the Western Grains Standards Committee and its Subcommittees.

6. Representation on CGC Grading Review

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby that general farm organizations be provided representation to the Canadian Grain Commission review of Canada's grain grading system.

7. Disease Programs for Grains & Oilseeds Sector

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to work with provinces to immediately develop and fund surveillance and prevention programs for clubroot and other diseases that threaten the viability of the grains and oilseed sector.

RURAL POLICY

8. Vacant CRTC Commissioner Positions

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA call on the Government of Canada to fill the vacant Commissioner positions prior to proceeding further with decisions on broadband internet and voice service subsidies.

9. Large Scale Canadian Agricultural Water Infrastructure Projects

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby for large scale Canadian agricultural water infrastructure investments to be supported by low cost loans through the newly created Canada Infrastructure Bank.

BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT

10. Wildlife Damage Prevention and Compensation

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to provide more robust funding, focused objectives and clearer program parameters for wildlife damage prevention and compensation programs across Canada.

11. Financial Incentives

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA call on agencies such as crop insurance and farm lenders to examine ways of providing financial incentives to producers for their participation in farm management and risk management education programs.

12. Canadian Agricultural Partnership

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada:

- To demonstrate real openness to improving that agricultural income safety net by increasing the BRM budgets under the CAP in order to adequately meet the needs of Canadian Farmers;
- To stabilize agricultural incomes during both one-time events and extended periods of low prices by means of a program designed to respond to the actual production costs of the various sectors, in keeping with each province's reality;
- To include, in the comprehensive review of the BRM programs, the modernization of crop insurance, especially in light of climate changes and technological advances;
- To recognize investment programs and self-directed risk management programs as important levers for improving the BRM.

TAXATION

13. Regarding Federal Changes to Municipal Councilor Taxation on Income

BE IT RESOLVED the CFA lobby the Federal government to have one-third tax exemption for municipal councillors reinstated.

14. Incentive Program for Retiring Producers

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to develop incentive programs that encourage the sale of agricultural assets to young producers 40 years of age and under.

ANIMAL HEALTH

15. Antimicrobial Drugs

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA work with national commodity organizations to convene a meeting with Health Canada to identify and resolve challenges and complications arising from proposed amendments to the Food and Drugs Regulations to limit access to antimicrobial drugs before June 1st, 2018.

16. Contamination in Feed

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to ensure they are enforcing the requirements within the *Feeds Acts* and associated regulations that set maximum contaminant levels in feed produced and sold by commercial feed mills.

ENVIRONMENT

17. Measurement System for Soil Carbon Sink

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to develop a methodology to quantify the relationship and role of microbial activity with regards to carbon sequestration of agricultural soils.

18. Funding to Expand Water Supply Systems

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby to ensure that federal government programs support irrigation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to re-introduce an agency based on the previously successful Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Agency (PFRA) to ensure access to an affordable and reliable water supply.

19. Healthy Soils and Carbon Sequestration

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA encourage governments, universities, private industry, and farmers to research and develop model farms and BMPs which further foster and promote healthy soils and increase the sequestration of carbon into the soils.

20. Prairie Soil Carbon Balance Project

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government for increased financial support for the expansion of the Prairie Soil Carbon Balance Project to include test sites in Manitoba and Alberta and to include the measurement of crop rotations, forages, and grasslands.

21. Carbon Sequestration and Plant Breeding

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to invest in research programs for the development of crops varieties that would increase carbon sequestration through innovations such as enhanced root mass and increased photosynthetic efficiency.

22. Carbon Sinks

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal and provincial governments to increase research on quantifying the impact of increasing carbon inputs on our measurement of carbon sinks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA call on the Canadian Government to work with signatories of the Paris Agreement to accurately measure and recognize agricultural carbon sinks.

23. Voluntary Offset Programs

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support the development of a national carbon offset program that reflect the following principles:

- I. Offset protocols should be designed to provide meaningful recognition of agricultural activities that reduce carbon;
- II. The maintenance of existing carbon sinks like wetlands, forests and grasslands should be eligible for financial support;
- III. Verification systems must be effective and cost efficient;
- IV. Offset protocols must provide a fair price to producers for voluntary sequestration or emission reductions;
- V. Offset protocols must allow for the aggregation and stacking of credits;
- VI. Offset protocol programs must reflect the diversity of different agricultural sectors;
- VII. Offset protocol options should recognize the actions of farmers.

SUSTAINABILITY

24. Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Sustainability Initiative (CAAFSI)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture take a lead role in investigating and report back to the board on the establishment of a Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Sustainability Initiative (CAAFSI) that includes farmers, farm input suppliers, food manufacturers, food service providers and food retailers.

TRADE

25. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA): Compensation for Dairy Market Losses

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Government of Canada:

- To honour the federal government's October 2015 commitments and institute a compensation program for the recurring income losses of Canadian dairy producers;

- To make available, in the short term, the full amount of the current Program's \$250 million for investments, and to provide additional funding to meet the needs of all the producers who will be submitting projects that satisfy the Program's objectives over the next five years;
- To be more transparent in the Program's administrative management and when following up with the producers whose projects have been received;
- To institute an additional program to meet the specific needs of sheep and goat dairy producers.

26. International Trade

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support a comprehensive federal strategy that includes domestic programs to address the outcomes of the CPTPP for the dairy, poultry and egg sectors;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA insist that the Canadian Government does not concede any additional access for the supply managed commodities in the renegotiations of NAFTA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA insist that the Government of Canada hold the position that the U.S. join the CPTPP if they want additional access to the Canadian dairy, poultry and egg markets.

27. North American Free Trade Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA express support for the continuation of a North American Free Trade Agreement that provides economic opportunities to agricultural producers and all Canadians.

TRANSPORTATION

28. Port of Churchill

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on the Government of Canada to ensure negotiations are concluded in sufficient time to allow the Port of Churchill and its rail line to be re-opened for the 2018 shipping season, and for these assets to be transitioned to ownership that supports the Port's long-term viability for grain exports.

29. Federal Transportation Policies

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Federal Government to ensure that changes to federal rail policies carbon emissions and road maintenance costs.

LABOUR

30. Timeliness of Access to Foreign Labour for Agriculture

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with national partners on the Labour Task Force (LTF), supported by the research of the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC), to lobby the Federal Government for a fair, efficient and transparent process for employers to access international agriculture and agri-food workers through an improvement in the speed and efficiency of the approvals of LMIA's for Agriculture and Agri-Food. In addition, that CFA request ESDC to determine what is required for Agriculture to be added to the LMIA priority processing stream.

31. Temporary Foreign Worker Program

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support the creation of a single office within the federal government dedicated to processing agricultural immigration applications and coordinating the promotion of Canadian agriculture and maple production as a source of employment for new immigrants.

32. Continued Access to Temporary Foreign Workers

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to improve administrative procedures for the temporary foreign worker programs.

PLANT HEALTH

33. Funding for Invasive Pests and the National Plant and Animal Health Strategy

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal and provincial governments to properly fund the monitoring and control of invasive pests.

AQUACULTURE

34. “Canadian Aquaculture Act”

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to table in Parliament, as soon as possible, a new “Canadian Aquaculture Act” that will modernize the legal framework for seafood farming in Canada, and specifically, identify a single department that will be responsible for support the strong and sustainable growth of aquaculture in Canada.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

35. Standards, Regulations and Canadian Market Access for Imported Products

BE IT RESOLVED the CFA ask Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Government of Canada:

- To promptly institute a support program for investments made to modernize slaughter-calf farms to address the unfair competition resulting from CETA;
- To ensure that all the legal and regulatory measures and structures needed for monitoring and enforcing Canadian standards are instituted and to allocate the resources they require;
- To institute financial compensation programs that ensure the competitiveness of farm businesses in Canada when the standards here are more stringent than those prevailing in other countries;
- To institute a certification protocol that ensure that veal from the European Union is produced in compliance with the regulatory requirements imposed on the Canadian slaughter calf industry, including the use of veterinary drugs;
- To mobilize a Canada-European Union working group to harmonize the regulations governing the use of veterinary drugs.

36. Laws Respecting Organic Products in Canada

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to maintain a Canada-wide certification and verification system for organic products based on the certification of the production mode and processing mode of products which does not include the product storage and transportation activities.

37. Industrial Hemp

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to amend regulations surrounding industrial hemp to expand allowable sales and processing to whole plants, and simplify licensing and seed testing requirements. This includes:

- 1) Amending the Industrial Hemp Regulations to allow for the harvest, sale and processing of whole plants;
- 2) Removing the requirement for a criminal record check to obtain a license; and
- 3) Formalizing the current requirement of seed level THC testing only;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to make changes to legislation affecting industrial hemp to clearly distinguish it from cannabis. This includes:

- 1) Listing hemp and hemp plant parts as item 5 under Schedule 2 “Exemptions” in Bill C-45 *The Cannabis Act*; and
- 2) Amending Schedule II of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to either carve “industrial hemp” out of the definition of *Cannabis* or carve out non-psychoactive cannabinoids from Cannabis containing less than 0.3% THC.

38. Mandatory Seed Purity Declarations

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to make it mandatory that seed purity declarations, stating weed seed content and species, be provided to producers prior to the purchase of pedigreed forage, cereal, pulse and other crop seed.

39. Weed Management – Federally Regulated Industries

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request the federal government to clarify the roles and responsibilities of federally regulated entities, such as railways and pipelines, in controlling weeds in their right of ways.

MISCELLANEOUS

40. Competition Bureau

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to make changes to the Competition Bureau requiring it to monitor corporate mergers after they are completed to make companies financially accountable to commitments they put forward while going through the merger process.

REAFFIRMATIONS/RENEWALS

41. Phragmites

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with the PMRA to ensure that herbicides that control phragmites are approved for use in “standing water” areas to enable municipalities and farmers to properly control phragmites.

42. Sandhill Cranes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the Canadian Wildlife Service to allow a managed hunt of Sandhill cranes in eastern Canada.