

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

As Approved at the 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 27 - 28, 2019

1. Indian Head Tree Nursery

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA continue to pressure the Federal Government to restore funding for a tree nursery program.

2. National Carbon Inventory

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the government of Canada to incorporate into the National Inventory the historic efforts of Canadian farmers in reducing carbon emissions and storing carbon by identifying and incorporating these incremental changes subsequent to 1990.

3. Grain Graders Training and Certification

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Federal government to require all grain graders to be appropriately trained, certified, and audited.

4. Standardized Grain Contracts

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby AAFC to develop a standardized grain contract that lays out discounts and penalties for non-performance of terms.

5. Arctic Gateway Corridor

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA work with the federal governments, its members, and provincial governments to advance the concept of using the Arctic Gateway corridor on the Hudson Bay railway to Churchill as an energy pipeline corridor for the export of Canadian products.

6. Business Risk Management Review

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on federal and provincial governments to continue their review of business risk management programs in close consultation with producers and farm organizations and ensure there is an adequate budget for these programs.

7. Funding for Disabled Farmers of Canada

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA assist the Disabled Farmers Association in obtaining full funding in order to continue providing services to farmers and farm families dealing with physical and mental health issues arising from injury.

8. Livestock Tax Deferral

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to work with farm organizations to conduct a comprehensive review of the Livestock Tax Deferral Program to ensure:

- all producers in need of a tax deferral due to drought or excessive moisture have access to the Livestock Tax Deferral program, irrespective of administrative boundaries;
- decisions regarding deferral eligibility are timely and in sync with the production season to allow for informed business decision-making and tax planning on the part of producers;
- that the program is utilizing new technology such as satellite vegetative mapping into their drought and excessive moisture assessment process;
- individual producers, when excluded from a designation, are afforded an appeal mechanism.

9. Regulation of Strychnine

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request Pest Management Agency (PMRA) to issue a decision to allow for continued use of Strychnine and its associated end-use products until viable alternatives are available; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to actively pursue research and development of viable, effective and economic alternatives to Strychnine.

10. Regional Allowances

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the PMRA and Health Canada to consider scientific data and make regional allowances for products based on the scientific data for that region.

11. Development of a Database for the Organic Products Industry

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Canadian Organics Trade Association ask the Government of Canada:

- To mandate the Market Access Secretariat, in collaboration with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Statistics Canada and other relevant government departments and agencies, to establish a reliable database similar to the USDA's Organic Integrity Database so that companies can have accurate information on organic-sector trade and market fluctuations (imports, exports, and interprovincial trade).

12. Revocation of the maximum residue limits for Imported Products when active ingredients are removed in Canada

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture:

- Meet with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Health Canada officials to inform them of the economic consequences and food safety implications of this situation;
- Ask the Government of Canada and the PMRA to set the MRL at 0 PPM for imported products when these active ingredients are subject to complete removal in Canada;
- Ask the Government of Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to block at the border any imported agricultural product presenting MRLs higher than those for Canadian products as a result of the PMRA's re-evaluation of a phytosanitary product.

13. Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask the CFIA:

- To promptly clarify various aspects of the CFSR, including the targeted businesses in the primary sector;
- To produce a new realistic plan for gradual implementation;
- To promptly revise many of the interactive tools on the CFIA website that present CFSR requirements and implementation timelines;
- To provide some flexibility in the implementation of the CFSR.

14. Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

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

- To provide an investment assistance program to support the purchase and installation of equipment required to comply with CFSR standards, including labelling;
- To strengthen the capacity of agricultural businesses to adapt specifically to the CFSR by means of financial support for the use of consulting services;
- To ensure that foreign suppliers are subject to the same regulatory requirements and to the same production standards as Canadian producers, with rigorous identification of their products.

15. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, and Canada-United States-Mexico Agreements: Compensation and Development Support for Affected Sectors

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in support of the national supply management sector, lobby the Government of Canada to:

- Fully and fairly compensate or mitigate the impacts of the CETA, CPTPP and CUSMA on the supply managed sectors, including the goat and sheep milk sectors, through mitigation strategies that include direct compensation for the dairy sector and an investment tax credit for poultry and egg sectors, in consultation with the producers' representatives;
- Provide to dairy producers and the dairy industry that all the collaboration needed to maintain efficient, profitable long-term marketing mechanisms for non-fat milk solids, and where appropriate, to compensate producers for the adverse financial impacts resulting from these mechanisms being made less effective by trade agreements;
- Prepare and adopt, in consultation with producer and industry representatives, a long-term policy for the development of the supply managed sectors, ensuring profitability all along their supply chains, and promoting their lasting contribution to the economic and social development of the Canada's regions and the food security of its citizens; this includes, but is not limited to:
 - Minimizing the adverse impacts of the additional concessions by administering the new tariff quotas in the least damaging manner;
 - Creating a market development fund for each of the supply managed sectors;
 - Introducing clear labelling rules identifying the origin of milk, milk ingredients, poultry and egg products sold at retail to enable consumers to make informed choices; and,
 - Ensuring that structures are in place to monitor and enforce Canadian standards at the border and to allocate the necessary resources for them.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture hold the Canadian government to its commitment to henceforth exclude the supply managed sectors from further market access commitments in all current and future trade negotiations.

16. Ongoing and Complete Funding for the Technical Review of the Canadian Organic Standards

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in conjunction with Canadian Organics Trade Association, ask Government of Canada:

- To provide ongoing, full funding for the technical review of Canadian Organic Standards (recurring budget allocations) beyond the current review to be completed in 2020.

17. Trade Wars and their Impact on Canada's Agriculture

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to:

- Commit to monitoring agricultural markets; and
- Support Canadian agriculture by means of budgets and compensation programs tailored to the needs of the farm businesses affected by these trade wars.

18. Grain Transportation Infrastructure

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada, railway companies and grain companies to work together to identify and fix the existing bottlenecks in the grain transportation system.

19. Short-Line Railway Support

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby Transport Canada and the Government of Canada to provide funding for infrastructure projects on short-line railroads.

20. Veterinary Health Products

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada for Health Canada not to allow the proposed fee increases as it will have serious consequences to the entire Canadian livestock industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA lobby Health Canada to reassess its current service fees and approval process to accept the research and data from other countries, so that more veterinary drugs can be registered in Canada for all commodity groups, especially smaller groups such as the sheep industry.

21. Plant Breeders' Rights

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada that if any new plant breeders' rights and seed royalty system is implemented, that it should include government oversight and a periodic system review to ensure that producers' interests are protected.

22. Dual Rail Lines

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the national railways to continue their efforts to provide dual rail lines where possible.

23. Supporting Rail Transportation

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA continue to work with the Government of Canada to make rail transportation a priority, ensuring financial assistance from the federal government is available to ensure our commodities can get to market.

24. Seed Research and Development

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby AAFC to continue to research, develop and finish wheat varieties that set the standards in the milling industry.

25. Support for Innovative Farming

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to provide more resources to help innovative farms and value-added enterprises to get established in Canada.

26. Plant Breeders' Rights & Funding for Varietal Research

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA not endorse the current End Point Royalty and farm-saved seed Trailing Royalty Contract models as presented at this time;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada and work with other industry stakeholders to support the development of alternative models, potentially including point of delivery check off systems;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada and work with other industry stakeholders to support models that address the following principles as it relates to plant breeding:

- Maintains and enhances public research, development and finishing of new varieties;
- Preserves or enhances current public funding;
- Is transparent with producer involvement;
- Maintains the privilege of farm saved seed;
- Systems that are administered in a fair and equitable manner; and
- Ensures producers can remain competitive in the world marketplace

27. Rural High-Speed Internet

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with the Minister of Rural Economic Development and the CRTC to have high-speed internet (at least 10 Mbps upload and 50 Mbps download) declared to be a service that is essential for all Canadian households and businesses with a plan to provide, within 18 months, a private-public sector partnership arrangement to secure affordable high-speed across all of rural Canada.

28. Canadian Food Policy

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture partner with like-minded organizations that have been engaged in food strategies and insist that AAFC publish a draft Canadian Food Policy.

29. Infrastructure Funding

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the government to implement long-term, predictable funding programs in relation to rural communities with flexibility to support capital priorities of local governments.

30. Agri-skills Development and Training

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA, in collaboration with CAHRC, work with the federal government to establish an agriculture and agri-food skills development and training program for in-demand upskilling and career opportunities, and that the program be available and promoted to citizens and new Canadians.

31. Exemption of Carbon Tax

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the government of Canada to grant agricultural producers exemptions to the carbon tax based on 2017 income tax fillings that have claimed farm income.

REAFFIRMATIONS/RENEWALS

32. Expansion of Weather Radar Network

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby Environment Canada to ensure the weather radar network provides radar coverage for all agricultural lands in Canada.

33. Infrastructure Funding for Climate Change Projects

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government that the federal infrastructure program for the private sector be used to promote water-saving and energy-saving technologies, both on-farm and in packing plants.

34. Credit for Carbon Sequestration

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lead farm organizations in exploring a common strategy to ensure that growers are recognized and rewarded for removal of carbon from the air and its storage in the soil.

35. PMRA

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the government of Canada to ensure that PMRA has the ability and mandate to quickly process comprehensive scientific assessments of pest control products to enable agriculture in Canada to remain sustainable.

36. Forage Research and Green Cover Program

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to support more research focused on using forages to combat rising salinity issues and for improving water use and soil holding capacity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to establish a new Green Cover Program to help Canadian farms overcome environmental extremes and improve the sustainability of livestock farmers.

37. Emission Offset Programming

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA investigate carbon sequestration and the potential impact it may have on Canadian farmers' incomes; as well, investigate a cap and trade system and the potential it may have as a source of income for Canadian farmers.

38. Harmonization of Pesticides

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in concert with other interested organizations petition the Privy Council Office, which is the body responsible in Canada for the Regulatory Cooperation Council, with a demand that all differences in the evaluation and registration of pesticides that are preventing harmonization between Canada and the USA be resolved.

39. Trans-Pacific Partnership

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask the federal government to:

- Definitively and permanently resolve, within the early months of its mandate, the tariff circumvention problems in the milk and poultry sectors in order to stop the unlimited non-tariff imports and use of these products;
- Ensure that compensation benefits fully compensate the producers under supply management for all losses resulting from trade agreements;
- Grant Canadian producers support that is at least equal to that offered to producers in other countries.

40. Local Labour Force

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the proper government agencies to provide changes to allow agricultural producers to access the local labour force without affecting their Guaranteed Income Supplement or incurring any penalties.

41. Temporary Foreign Worker Program

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture ask the federal government to:

- Include general farm organizations, Beekeepers' associations, and commodity associations in their stakeholder consultations regarding the cumulative duration provision for the Temporary Foreign Worker Program;
- Amend the temporary foreign agricultural worker programs to exempt agricultural workers from the cumulative duration-of-work limit of 48 months in Canada;

- Provide workers arriving under the agricultural component of the Temporary Foreign Worker program with a work permit enabling them to transfer easily and quickly from one employer to the next during the season;
- Revise the Temporary Foreign Worker program to eliminate the 10% limit of temporary foreign workers for a processing business whose operations are directly dependent on seasonal agricultural productions;
- Ease the administrative burden borne by businesses that have already filed an application under a temporary foreign worker hiring program.