

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

**As Approved at the 2020 ANNUAL MEETING**

**OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

**FEBRUARY 25 - 26, 2020**

**1. Trade War Mitigation Program**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to work with farm organizations from trade exposed sectors to develop a trade war mitigation program that is:

- Federally funded;
- Compliant with Canada's international trade commitments;
- Equivalent to the demonstrated hurt caused by trade actions;
- Production neutral to prevent market distortions and influence on individual management decisions;
- Provided for the duration

**2. Canadian Federation of Agriculture Young Agricultural Producer Policy Advisory Group**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) establish a Young Agricultural Producer Policy Advisory Group that is representative of the CFA membership to guide CFA's future policy discussions and to be linked to the Canadian agricultural youth council of the federal government.

**3. Biofuel Mandates in Clean Fuel Standards**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) advocate for the Clean Fuel Standards to include a 5% mandate for low-carbon density diesel (biofuel) and 10% mandate for low-carbon-intensity gasoline (ethanol).

**4. Maximum Contamination Levels for Mycotoxins Within Feed Regulations**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to include maximum contamination levels for mycotoxins such as Deoxnivalenol (DON) and Ergot Alkaloids within the Feed Regulations to provide additional regulatory authority to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency over mycotoxin levels that exceed maximum allowable tolerances.

**5. Reserving Word Meat for Products Produced from Non-Lab Based Animal Products**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to be directed to enforce the requirements that cultured or manufactured protein products be labelled to reflect that they are simulated, contain no meat products and are not meat replacements.

**6. Country of Origin Labelling Exemption for All Canadian Livestock**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the federal government to have all livestock species removed from U.S. Country of Origin Labelling restrictions (COOL).

**7. Remove Carbon Tax from all Propane and Natural Gas Used for Grain Drying and Animal Production**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to exempt propane and natural gas, used on farm for the drying of grains and the production of animal agriculture, from the carbon tax and reimburse the tax incurred during the 2019 production year.

**8. Tree Planting Incentives**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA approach the federal departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture and Agri-Food in support of tree planting and to suggest that financial incentives be offered to agricultural producers to plant shelterbelts and other trees and for the maintenance of existing natural treed areas.

**9. Grain Drying**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA, with the assistance of AFA, petition the Government of Canada to exempt propane and natural gas used in grain drying from the carbon tax.

**10. Canadian Grain Commission (CGC)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA with the assistance of AFA campaigns to ensure that the updated Canada Grain Act clearly states the CGC mandate is to work in the interest of grain producers.

**11. Payment Protection Fund**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that CFA urge the CGC to establish a pool payment protection fund similar to that currently in place with the Alberta Farm Implement Board, such that all licensed grain traders pay an annual proportionate levy into the pool to ensure that producers are adequately protected against payment default of grain traders.

**12. Roll Over of Farm Assets**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA advocate for reforms to the tax system that would allow roll over of farm assets to extended family entrants.

**13. Food Awareness**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA works to ensure that the Canada Food Policy addresses food security, sustainability and sovereignty in terms of agricultural production, as well as food safety.

**14. Xylella Fastidiosa**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA request the CFIA to recognize Xylella fastidiosa as a threat and develop an action plan aimed at protecting Canada from the spread of said pathogen.

### **15. Access to Government Funding for Non-Food Producers**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada through AAFC to insist all agricultural producers in Canada, as deemed eligible under current AAFC criteria, have equal access to CAP funding, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if the Government of Canada is otherwise restricted in its implementation of equal access for all farmers due to provincial jurisdictions, the CFA insist an alternate emergency fund be created with accessibility granted to farmers excluded from current CAP funding within their province.

### **16. Canadian Equine Sector**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture work with the Equine industry to finalize the definition and recognition of Commercial Equine Farming in Canada;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CFA continue to work with the Canadian Equine industry and the federal government to advocate for the contributions of the sector and address the production limiting legislation effecting the sector.

### **17. Canadian Border Import and Biosecurity**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the proper authorities to step up the actions and increase the penalties to deter African Swine Fever and other serious infectious diseases from entering Canada.

### **18. Increased Cost of Prescription Drugs for Animal Use**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby Health Canada and the Canadian Veterinary Association to review and continue monitoring the veterinarian-client-patient relationship as it relates to the legislation on antimicrobial use in farmed animals.

### **19. Regaining the Chinese Market**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to resolve the Chinese canola market access issue as quickly as possible so the Canadian agricultural industry can begin the process of regaining lost agricultural markets in China.

### **20. Media Campaign to Promote Agriculture**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA work with other farm organizations and commodity groups across Canada to launch a media campaign to promote a positive image of Canadian farmers from all sectors.

### **21. Tax Rebate for Renting Land to Young Farmers**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA work with the Department of Finance Canada to develop a program that would allow a landowner to be eligible for a full tax rebate on land rental income earned from renting land and/or selling land to a young farmer whose eligibility in the program would be defined under specific parameters.

## **22. Falling Number Used in Grain Contracts**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Canadian Grain Commission and the Western Grain Elevator Association to investigate methods to standardize and increase precision and speed of the determination of falling number.

## **23. Subject to Inspector's Grade and Dockage Sample Size and Timelines**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Canadian Grain Commission to adjust the 'Subject to Inspector's Grade and Dockage' program to require elevator companies to keep 1000g samples until time of settlement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Canadian Grain Commission to allow producers to initiate the 'Subject to Inspector's Grade and Dockage' process at any time from delivery until cheque settlement.

## **24. Rebate for Shelterbelts**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to offer rebates for shelterbelts being planted on farms in order to combat salinity, improve ground water quality and sequester carbon.

## **25. Farmers Need to get Credit when Enhanced Efficiency Fertilizers are used**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada to reduce GHG emission estimates in the annual National Inventory Report (NIR) on GHGs for the Agriculture sector based on the sales of enhanced efficiency fertilizer use in Canada, for which farmers are currently not being credited for in the NIR.

## **26. Agriculture Sector GHG Emission Balance**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA use sector-based numbers when discussing both GHG emissions and carbon capture in products leaving the sector, as well as lifecycle assessments. Canada's National Inventory Report on GHGs (NIR) estimates emission numbers that are sector-based; comparing these numbers to lifecycle assessments shows incorrect conclusions.; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby for the agriculture sector to be recognized for its short-term carbon capture in the products we grow, in the same way that fertilizer manufacturers are able to reduce their overall emissions by the amount of short-term carbon capture in the products they produce; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CFA promote the agriculture sector in Canada, as net-zero emissions, with an additional excess net capture of CO<sub>2</sub>e. Promoting the excess capture of carbon by the Ag sector as a valuable service that Canadian farmers provide to help to offset end user emissions, like biofuel in the energy sector.

## **27. Farmers Need to get Credit for Soil Carbon Sink**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada, to include Cropland-LULUCF (-7 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e) in the agriculture sector of the annual National Inventory Report on GHGs (NIR) to offset Ag GHG emissions of 60Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e, rather than omitting it from national totals (See: Note 1 Table ES-2 2019 NIR). This will reflect the carbon that agriculture is sequestering each year in the soil through good practices, already in practice.

### **28. Agriculture Land Donation Program**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA lobby the Federal Government to establish a pilot project on the implementation of a program comparable to the EcoGifts program dedicated to agriculture land in consultation with Canada's Agriculture Industry. The benefit of such a program would be to remove development rights from agriculture land thus reducing the land value and the cost of purchasing the land.

### **29. Animal Activism**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby to improve and enforce federal legislation to address animal activist actions and protect farmers, their families, their employees, their animals and farm-related industries.

### **30. Advanced Payment Program**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby, with the assistance of PEIFA, the Federal Government to allow individual farm production operations involved in joint ventures, to receive Advanced Payment through the APP program, based on the amount of production operations and not the joint venture itself.

### **31. AgriCompetitiveness Program**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA support and advocate for increased funding for the AgriCompetitiveness program and lobby to ensure that the provincial organizations may be eligible for the program.

### **32. Reusable Plastic Containers**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask:

- The federal government to:
  - o Work with the CFIA to carry out a comprehensive scientific study to examine the potential biosecurity hazards, including plant pathogenicity, in order to determine if reusable plastic containers pose a threat to crop production and to make recommendations concerning the management, handling and use of these containers to eliminate these hazards and threats.
  - o Ensure that single-use agricultural plastics not be banned until a viable solution exists
  - o Define recycling standards and best practices, including expanded collection and recycling responsibilities for companies that manufacture plastic products or that sell plastic-wrapped products.

### **33. Rigour, scope and revision of the Canadian Organic Standards**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask:

- The federal government to:
  - o Ensure that the rigour of the COS and the regulations governing them are strengthened so as to guarantee the added value of organic products based on the fundamental principles of organic agriculture;
  - o Reject any proposal that would lead to denaturing the mode of organic production in Canada, thus ensuring respect for natural cycles and the principle of organic soil as a complex ecosystem that produces nutrients from organic matter;
  - o Assure Canadian consumers that imported organic products meet the requirements imposed on domestic businesses, particularly the ones related to animal access to the outdoors and to the substances permitted by the Canadian Organic Standards;
  - o Thoroughly investigate the critical variances between the Canada Organic Regime, the existing systems, and their application abroad when negotiating equivalency agreements for organic products, and subsequently enforce these variances through rigorous border controls;
  - o Ensure long-term, permanent funding for the revision and maintenance of the Canadian Organic Standards by introducing a specific program that provides the CGSB with a sufficient budget to carry out the revision work

**34. Greater price transparency, a fair income for agricultural and forestry producers, and better identification of food products**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to promote the adoption of market-price reference tools or information disclosure tools that producers can use when organizing their marketing.

**35. Support for Research and Innovation**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to increase public investment in research and development by guaranteeing adequate five-year funding for the various support programs, such as the AgriScience and AgriInnovation programs, among others.

**36. Enhancement of the Risk Management Programs of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) ask:

- The AAFC to:
  - o Rapidly enhance the Business Risk Management (BRM) programs of the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) as follows:
    - AgriStability – offer 85% coverage of the reference margin;
    - AgriInvest – increase the government contribution and return the action level to \$75;
  - o Set up a program to address the risks associated with sanitary crises, with funds earmarked for that purpose;
- The Canada Revenue Agency to:
  - o Exempt from taxation drawdowns from the AgriInvest program used to improve business productivity;
- The federal government to:
  - o Adjust the AAFC's budget to cover the additional costs of enhancing the BRM programs

- o Implement a real income support program.

### **37. “Canadian Periodical Fund – Aid to Publishers” assistance program**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to maintain the “Canada Periodical Fund – Aid to Publishers” assistance program in its entirety.

### **38. International Trade**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to:

- o Maintain the compensation program for dairy producers that it announced on August 16, 2019 (\$1.75 billion over 8 years) for the CETA and the CPTPP, in the form of direct payments;
- o Respond equally to the mitigative measures requested by the other producers under supply management and by sheep, goat and buffalo producers;
- o Fully and fairly compensate all producers for losses resulting from the CUSMA;
- o Limit the impact of the concessions granted and stronger border measures to prevent illegal milk from entering the country (labelling rules, distribution of tariff quotas, etc.);
- o Exclude supply-managed products from all other trade agreements;
- o Allocate the necessary resources and authority to the CFIA to ensure that imported foods are produced according to the production and processing standards required of producers in Canada, means which could be used to set up a monitoring office for imported products along with measurement and control tools in collaboration with the Canada Border Services Agency.

### **39. Aeronautics Act**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government (federal Minister of Transport) to:

- o Amend the *Aeronautics Act* to recognize the constitutional powers of provincial legislatures in matters of land use planning, land protection and agricultural activities.
- o Invoke section 4.32 of the *Aeronautics Act* when a proposed development of an aerodrome or landing strip is not in the public interest or does not meet the criteria of social acceptability.

### **40. Application Simplification**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to: Simplify the applications to the TFWP from an administrative standpoint (reduce the number of programs, abolish the agricultural commodity list) and shorten the timeframes prior to the arrival of the workers.

### **41. Housing Deduction**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to index the amount of the housing deduction to reflect the various cost increases borne by employers.

### **42. Impact of the Propane Crisis**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to:

- o Make the necessary legislative changes such that the rail transportation of propane be deemed essential services;
- o Improve the agricultural sector's access to natural gas at a reasonable cost;
- o Support research and farm investment aids targeting the use of energy sources other than propane.

#### **43. Complimentary Financial Assistance in the Event of Trade or Diplomatic Disputes**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA ask the federal government to:

- o Institute financial assistance that complements current risk management programs to help farm businesses affected by these disputes so that the level of intervention of all available programs is comparable to what is offered to American and European producers to maintain the competitiveness of the agricultural sector;
- o Support the agricultural sectors and businesses affected by the trade disputes through budgets and compensation programs tailored to the situation.

### ***REAFFIRMATIONS/RENEWALS***

#### **44. 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.

#### **45. Excise Tax Escalator**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CFA agree to support the ongoing campaign to eliminate the federal government of Canada's 2017 budget implementation of an automatic annual escalator tax mechanism on beer, wine and spirits sales.

#### **46. 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.

#### **47. 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.

#### **48. 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.

#### **49. 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.



## **50. 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.

## **51. 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.

## **52. 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

## **53. 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 FURTHER 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.

## **54. CFA 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.