

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

As Approved at the 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

MARCH 2-3, 2022

1. Trade and Market Development Programs

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to ensure federal trade and market development programs meet the needs of smaller acre crops and niche commodities through program changes that provide:

- Funding for domestic market development, including activities to promote the health benefits of agriculture and agri-food products to Canadians;
- Financial assistance to help sectors resolve emerging non-tariff trade restrictions, including technical and political barriers to trade in overseas markets; and
- Flexible funding agreements for commodity associations that are unable to meet existing cost-shared funding ratio requirements.

2. Supply Management

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada:

- To exclude supply-managed products from all other trade agreements;
- To fully, fairly and directly compensate all producers for losses resulting from the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA);
- To table a bill based on Bill C-216, as tabled on February 24th, 2020, to exclude supply management from future trade agreements, which was abandoned when the federal election was called.

3. Market Access

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the federal government:

- To allocate the necessary resources and authority to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to ensure that imported agricultural and forestry products and foods are produced according to the same production and processing standards as those in force in Canada, 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; and
- To maintain if not improve access to the markets of our trading partners and remove all trade barriers concerning export-oriented agri-food products.

4. Chinese Market Access

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the federal government to obtain concrete commitments China to allow Canadian slaughterhouses and producers of canola or other potentially affected products, to deliver their products to the Chinese market.

5. Negotiate an exemption for private-forest lumber in the future agreement on lumber exports to the US

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to negotiate an exemption from countervailing and anti-dumping duties for private-forest lumber in the future agreement on softwood lumber exports to the United States.

6. Canada/US agency equivalency in trade selections

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA urgently request the appropriate Canadian trade negotiating agencies be included with CFIA in any future trade-sensitive discussions to better ensure the CFIA has, at the very least, the equivalent expertise, including science and trade, in those discussions to ensure reciprocity in both countries' testing regimes and regulations, as well as having a Canada-focused trade lens applied to any discussions with trade partners.

7. Lifting Canada's trade restrictions on the export of fresh PEI potatoes

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA call upon the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to immediately begin certifying for export table stock potatoes from Prince Edward Island that are washed, brushed and sprout inhibited, and further, the Minister uses all available means to ensure the United States continues to allow the import of washed, brushed and sprout inhibited table stock potatoes from Prince Edward Island.

8. Standardized Grain Contracts

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to obtain approval and amend Section 29 of the Regulations, which currently pierces a contract and obligates Licensees' contracts to address a delivery period, to expand Canada Grain Commission rule-making power to cover contract standards and remedies for outlier contracts.

9. Noxious Weed – Amaranthus Palmeri

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to have *Amaranthus palmeri* added as a prohibited noxious weed seed under the Weed Seeds Order.

10. Funding for Breeding Programs

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to protect the viability of public crop breeding programs by ensuring that AgriScience Clusters provide funding for all crops breeding activities necessary to bring a new crop variety to market, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada that a minimum 70:30 (government-producer) cost share funding ratio is reinstated for smaller acre crops that cannot afford to meet the full cost share ratio.

11. Pest Management Regulatory Agency

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to ensure that the independent scientific findings to be produced by the PMRA are taken into account in government decisions and recommendations.

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 0.01 PPM for imported products when these active ingredients are subject to complete removal in Canada;
- That any MRLs applicable to unregistered active ingredients set by the Canadian Department of Health for imported products apply to products originating 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.
- Ask the Government of Canada to work with the U.S. Government to harmonize the MRL to 0.01 PPM for active ingredients that are no longer registered

13. Farm Animal Veterinarians

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with members and other stakeholders to address the issues with accessing farm animal veterinarians.

14. CFA-led industry review of CFIA

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA engage its member commodity groups, which are subject to CFIA oversight, in a coordinated effort to: 1) identify industry concerns with the interpretation and enforcement of CFIA regulations; 2) assess CFIA's consultation and dialogue protocol with impacted industry members and sectors; 3) identify industry recommendations on how to best address these concerns.

15. Approval of safe-use alternative antimicrobials

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA work with agricultural stakeholders to lobby Health Canada to facilitate the swift approval of alternative antimicrobials with a history of safe use in other jurisdictions.

16. Reserving animal-based imagery for animal products

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby for stricter and more proactive enforcement of existing labelling regulations and legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada to reserve to animal-based products the use of images of animals as well as any names/words commonly used to describe such products.

17. Support for additional sustainability tools, technologies and practices

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby government to ensure effective and targeted funding to support the development and implementation of additional sustainability tools, technologies, and practices on farms, such as: ecological goods and services programming, infrastructure supporting renewable energy, standardized tools and technologies to measure greenhouse gas emissions on-farm, and research towards on-farm green technologies.

18. Maintenance Funding for Weather Radar Stations

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Federal Government to ensure Environment Canada has the direction and resources to ensure that radar stations are kept functioning in a consistent and reliable manner.

19. Canadian Agriculture Competitiveness

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Federal Government to focus on supporting those strategies that will result in the largest emissions mitigation effects (i.e. methane and nitrogen oxides), including methane inhibitors for both feedlot and cow-calf operations, manure management, fertilizer management, etc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Federal Government to ensure that agriculture is not penalized where there are no feasible alternatives, as the past has shown with conservation tillage that agriculture will adopt better practices when able, and to recognize and address climate policies that, while necessary for other industries, negatively affect Canada's agricultural competitiveness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Federal Government so that when realistic alternatives are identified, transition and implementation plans for agricultural businesses are also supported (backgrounder, follow-up, etc.)

20. Mandatory Entry Level Training for Truck Drivers

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with the Federal government to establish license reciprocity for Class 1 Drivers both in Canada and with the U.S to increase the availability of drivers for the sector and for improved inter-provincial and international transport,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Federal Government to invest in the training of Class 1 Drivers to help reduce the financial burden on agriculture producers and reduce the shortage of truck drivers available.

21. Private Grade Crossings in Agricultural and Forestry Areas

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask Transport Canada to make the necessary representations to the relevant authorities to ensure that:

- All private grade crossings that connect agricultural or forestry (wooded) land be automatically considered "low risk" crossings;
- Railway companies be compelled to carry out construction, modification and maintenance work on grade crossings quickly and at no cost to agricultural and forestry producers;
- Real rights-of-way and maintenance easements in favour of the land belonging to agricultural and forestry producers, whose property is affected by the construction of a railway line, be granted to ensure the continuation of agricultural and forestry activities.

22. Trucking Industry

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA works with its members and contacts to minimize the barriers, although not standards, to new commercial truck drivers entering the industry.

23. Right to Repair

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to pass legislation that will guarantee a farmer's right to repair the electronic components in farm machinery.

24. Legislative measures to prohibit unauthorized entry into agricultural businesses and food-processing sites

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada:

- To table and adopt a bill based on Bill C-205, as tabled on February 18, 2020, making it a punishable offence to enter a place where animals are present without authorization or lawful excuse while creating a risk of contamination, which was abandoned when the federal election was called, and
- which will include plants as well as animals.

25. Water Infrastructure Funding

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA advocate for enhancements to federal water infrastructure and water supply programming, including;

1. Infrastructure programs which mandate consideration and recognition of financial, organizational and technical challenges faced by rural and remote communities,
2. A review of program design to identify solutions to the challenges in accessing public funding by rural communities and agricultural producers,
3. The adoption of the principle that programs providing public funding for infrastructure should provide benefits to all citizens in the region, urban and rural, and that proponents demonstrate the consideration of regional water needs.
4. The adoption of the principle that connections to publicly funded water infrastructure projects be accessible to neighbouring communities at a reasonable cost.
5. That the Federal government work with the Provinces to develop programs to assist rural and remote communities with the ability to build local capacity in planning, developing, and implementing water projects to meet local needs and enhance future resilience.

26. The Barton Report

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Canadian Government to implement the initiatives outlined in the Barton Report including: 1) Attracting the talent Canada needs through immigration, 2) Positioning Canada as a Global Trading Hub, 3) Unlocking innovation to drive sales and growth, thus increasing agriculture's contributions to Canada's GDP.

27. Livestock Tax Deferral

BE IT RESOLVED That CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to implement changes to 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; and
- That all classes and types of livestock are provided a deferral when AgriRecovery is triggered.

28. Agricultural Policy Framework 2023-2028: Risk Management

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to maintain all current BRM programs and enhance them to make them more responsive to current and emerging risks, including:

- Increasing the flexibility of the AgriInsurance program so that it can adequately cover new climate risks; and
- Improving the AgriRecovery framework so that it can respond more dynamically to emerging risks.

29. Agricultural Policy Framework 2023-2028 : AgriStability

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to increase AgriStability program coverage to 85% of the reference margin, without requiring the agreement of all the provinces.

30. Agricultural Policy Framework 2023-2028: AgriInvest

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to enhance the AgriInvest program by increasing the government's contribution to the program and by providing a tax exemption on withdrawals used to improve farm business productivity.

31. Agricultural Policy Framework 2023-2028: Investment

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask the Government of Canada to increase the overall budget for the agricultural sector in order to close the gap with the European Union so that public investment in agriculture is consistent with the size and strategic importance of this sector within the Canadian economy, while reducing the administrative burden on agricultural producers.

32. Agriculture Policy Framework 2023-2028: Agri-environmental

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

- To introduce a new program, called Agri-Green, to remunerate producers who will comply with certain environmental requirements or implement certain practices;
- To offer a dedicated support and guidance program for all the adjustments required of agricultural enterprises enabling them to cope with climate changes and make greater use of existing advisory services; and

- To increase funding for agronomic research and innovation as well as for strategic agro-environmental initiatives (e.g., Living Laboratory Initiative, coaching, training, knowledge transfer, etc.).

33. Code of conduct for distribution chains

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to institute a mandatory, enforceable code of conduct for large food retailers, along with an independent dispute resolution mechanism, and this done in collaboration with various producer associations.

34. Insurance

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA work with members to identify insurance barriers and gaps and work with stakeholders to address these gaps.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA work with the Federal Government and its members to create a publicly (government) owned farm insurance company to underwrite, issue and manage for the farming industry in Canada.

35. Fair compensation for PEI potato farmers

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Canada properly compensate potato farmers and the affected provincial governments adequately for losses caused by all actions taken by the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food against PEI potatoes, including the ministerial order restricting interprovincial trade, the decision to stop certifying PEI potatoes for export to the United States, and any future impacts to demand for potatoes caused by irrevocable harm to the 'PEI Potatoes' sterling brand caused by actions taken by CFIA and the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government of Canada be asked to re-evaluate if the AgriStability program is an effective vehicle to provide meaningful compensation during unforeseen market closures.

36. Access to Government Funding for All Agricultural Producers

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Government of Canada through AAFC to insist that the program parameters and priorities of the Next Policy Framework are jointly developed and applied by the federal, provincial and territorial governments to ALL agricultural producers, 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.

37. Business Risk Management 1

BE IT RESOLVED that when improvements to business risk management programs are proposed by the federal government, provinces can individually select whether or not to adopt the program, without the current requirement of a 'strong majority'.

38. Business Risk Management 2

BE IT RESOLVED that should the Federal government allow individual provinces to opt into proposed improvements to risk management programs negating the requirement of a 'strong majority' of provinces, CFA lobby Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to allow individual producers in those provinces that do not opt in to access the federal portion of funding improvements proposed by the federal government.

39. Temporary Foreign Worker Program

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

40. Temporary Foreign Worker Program: Processing

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada:

- To provide simplified and accelerated administrative processing for employers and TFWs who have been using the program for several years; and
- To ensure that access to TFWs is prioritized in both the agri-food processing sector and the agricultural production sector.

41. Temporary Foreign Worker Program : Housing

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada:

- In the event that new TFW housing standards are introduced, to preserve the competitiveness of the agricultural sector with, among other things, adequate government financial support and an adequate timeframe for their implementation; and
- To extend the time limits for housing inspections to a minimum of 12 months.

42. Temporary Foreign Worker Program: Impartial Support

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to provide support to employers, TFWs and community organizations throughout the employment relationship in a neutral and impartial manner.

43. Temporary Foreign Worker Program: Mandatory Isolation Support

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to take steps to ensure that quarantine assistance is maintained for as long as arriving TFWs are required to be quarantined, and ensure this measure applies retroactively to June 15, 2021.

REAFFIRMATIONS/RENEWALS

44. 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.

45. 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.

46. 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.

47. Harmonizing 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.

48. 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 Safe Food for Canadian Regulations (SFCR) standards, including labelling;
- To strengthen the capacity of agricultural businesses to adapt specifically to the SFCR 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.

49. 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.

50. Regional Allowances

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

51. 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 the 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.

52. Plant Breeders' Rights and 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

53. Regulation of Strychnine

BE IT RESOLVED that the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) of Health Canada 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.

54. 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.

