



CFA 2023 RESOLUTIONS

1. Aquaculture development mandate at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC):

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to designate AAFC as the lead department responsible for supporting the sustainable growth of aquaculture in Canada and be given all aquaculture sector development responsibilities.

2. Reimbursement of the 35% tariff on fertilizers from Russia:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to return the funds generated by agricultural businesses because of the 35% tariff on fertilizer from Russian to the primary agriculture sector.

3. Climate emergency and agriculture:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to:

- a) Recognize the strategic importance of the agricultural sector in a context of climate changes, prioritize and channel investments in favour of structuring initiatives that will ensure the sustainability and resilience of our agriculture and our businesses, and take concrete action to strengthen our food autonomy and counteract food insecurity, both nationally and internationally;
- b) Support the required investments in water catchment and retention facilities so as to secure the water supply required for agriculture and to help minimize the risk of conflicts of use;
- c) Enhance the income support programs to more adequately protect agricultural producers from the financial risks of extreme weather events and to adequately support them in their efforts to adapt to climate changes.

4. Improving the Advanced Payment Program (APP): BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) lobby AAFC (AAFC) to make the temporary increase in the interest-free limit under the Advanced Payment Program (APP) permanent prior to the 2024 program year; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby AAFC to remove the APP's proof of sales requirement; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby AAFC to allow APP administrators to advance 60% of the loan amount to APP borrowers on November 1st and the remaining 40% on April 1st; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby AAFC to thoroughly review the APP program and remove all unnecessary red tape and complexity to make the program more efficient and easier to access for farmers.

5. Underused Housing Tax (UHT):

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture lobby the Canadian Department of Finance to exempt farm private corporations and partnerships from the requirement to file an Underused Housing Tax (UHT) return and that the exemption be granted before the filing date at the end of April 2023.

6. Recognizing the Historical Provision of Environmental Goods and Services by Canadian Farmers:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby AAFC to ensure farmers who have adopted a beneficial management practice prior to the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) implementation date are eligible for financial support.

7. Increase Fertilizer Production in Eastern Canada:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the Federal government to provide financial support and incentives to encourage more fertilizer production in eastern Canada.

8. Drone Application of Pesticides:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA encourage the Federal government to expedite the approval of drone application of pesticides by harmonizing labelling procedures respecting drone applications where the pesticide involved is already approved for ground and aircraft application in Canada and where drone application is already permitted by the Environmental Protection Agency in the United States.

9. Fertilizer Emissions Reduction:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to provide further information on how producers will meet agricultural export targets while achieving the 30% reduction in nitrous oxide emissions from fertilizer.

10. Federal Carbon Tax:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to make the carbon tax, and the associated GST, visible on all receipts and invoices involving petroleum products.

11. Bill C-21:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA work with relevant stakeholders to ensure that Bill C-21 does not negatively impact a producer's ability to access and possess certain rifles and shotguns for the purpose of pest control.

12. Farm Family Succession:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to eliminate the policy of 'deeming fair market value' for non-arm's length family farm succession transactions; and be it further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to expand current family farm succession provisions that would include other kin relations where a family farm working relationship can be proven; and be it further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to ensure the capital gains exemption be intended for retiring or succeeding family farms.

13. Investment in Practical and Useable Net Zero BMPs:

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to invest more into researching, logical, easy-to-use, scalable and cost-effective technologies that would assist farmers in being financially sustainable when striving towards the Canadian goal of clean growth and net zero by 2050.

14. Cow/Calf Production Insurance:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on the federal government to work with farm organizations to examine and support the development of national cost-shared insurance programming for livestock, including the potential development of a cow/calf production insurance program.

15. Certified Rangeland and Forage Agronomists:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on the federal government to help improve access to trained agronomists specializing in forage agronomy, grazing, and rangeland management.

16. Electronic Log Mandate Exemption for Livestock:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA strongly advocate for a livestock exemption from the federal Electronic Logging Device (ELD) mandate that took effect on January 1, 2023, based on the need for humane treatment of livestock.

17. Access to Lambda-cyhalothrin or Equivalent:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA strongly urge the Pest Management Regulatory Agency to work closely with product registrants to expedite reviews and consider the use of emergency exemptions to provide access to Lambda-cyhalothrin or an equally effective alternative in a timely manner.

18. Increase to the Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA advocate that the Government of Canada increase the Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption (LCGE) from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

19. Farm Corporations' Access to the Capital Gains Exemption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA advocate for changes to the Income Tax Act to provide shareholders in a farm company the ability to transfer their personal Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption, in whole or in part, to the small business corporation when selling land.

20. Elimination of Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement Program's \$2 million gross sales limit for farm businesses

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request the federal government eliminate the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement's \$2 million gross revenue limit.

21. CBSA-CFIA Training Programs:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to ensure CBSA and CFIA should receive funding for commodity-specific training programs so that they are better positioned to monitor and enforce Canada's commodity-specific regulations and standards for agri-food products.

22. Protecting Canada's High Standards for Animal Welfare:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to ensure they maintain Canada's sole discretion to set, direct, and improve its own robust model for the protection and improvement of animal welfare here at home by not entertaining any discussions on the inclusion of animal welfare provisions in any current or future trade negotiations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government and the FPT Agriculture Ministers to implement third party recognition of animal welfare/care programs to strengthen the programs industry already has in place.

23. Access to Anti-Microbials and Alternatives:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to set a goal to increase the availability of veterinary health management products and alternatives in the Canadian market and that initiatives be prioritized to keep veterinary health management products accessible and prompt new products to enter the Canadian market.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA encourage the government to work with stakeholders from the agricultural, pharmaceutical, and veterinary sectors to explore a pull incentive model to support antimicrobial access and innovation in the Canadian market.

24. Vaccine Bank for Foot and Mouth Disease:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support Canadian livestock associations by encouraging the federal government to make a fully funded Canadian FMD Vaccine Bank an urgent priority.

25. CFIA Decision-making:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government to ensure CFIA adheres to its values of making science-based decisions and meeting international standards (i.e., International Plant Protection Conventional standards for pest-free areas).

26. 2023 Canadian Equine Sector - Recognition and Support for Active Equines and Active Equine Facilities for the purpose of accessing Government agriculture and farming programs:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA work with the Equine Industry and Federal Government departments and agencies to recognize Active Equines and Active Equine Facilities and their significant contribution to the Canadian agriculture sector and the economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFA continue to work with the Canadian Equine industry and the Federal Government departments and agencies to advocate for improved recognition, programs and benefits for Active Equines and Active Equine Facilities currently limited by legislation which is uniquely and adversely affecting the Canadian equine sector.

CFA 2023 RESOLUTION REAFFIRMATIONS

27. Reaffirmations

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA adopt all resolutions brought forward for reaffirmation.

28. 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; and
- Provided for the duration.

29. 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.

30. 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.

31. Enhancement of the Risk Management Programs of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership:

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

- AAFC to:
 - 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;
 - Set up a program to address the risks associated with sanitary crises, with funds earmarked for that purpose;
- The Canada Revenue Agency to:
 - Exempt from taxation drawdowns from the AgriInvest program used to improve business productivity;
- The federal government to:
 - Adjust the AAFC's budget to cover the additional costs of enhancing the BRM programs
 - Implement a real income support program.

32. Complimentary Financial Assistance in the Event of Trade of Diplomatic Disputes:

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

- 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;
- Support the agricultural sectors and businesses affected by the trade disputes through budgets and compensation programs tailored to the situation.

33. Reusable Plastic Containers:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask:

- The federal government to: 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.
- Ensure that single-use agricultural plastics not be banned until a viable solution exists

- Define recycling standards and best practices, including expanded collection and recycling responsibilities for companies that manufacture plastic products or that sell plastic-wrapped products.

34. 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.

35. 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.

36. 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.

37. CRA 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.

38. 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.

39. Canadian Grain Commission:

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.

40. 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.

41. 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.

42. 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.

43. 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.

44. 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.

45. Application Simplification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the federal government to simplify the applications to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program 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.

46. Housing Deduction:

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

47. 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.

48. Impact of the Propane Crisis:

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

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

49. 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.

50. Maximum Contamination Levels for Mycotoxins Within Feed Regulations:

BE IT RESOLVED That the Government of Canada include maximum contamination levels for mycotoxins such as Deoxynivalenol (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.

51. Reserving Word Meat for Products Produced from Non-Lab Based Animal Products:

BE IT RESOLVED That the Canadian Food Inspection Agency 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.

52. Rigour, scope and revision of the Canadian Organics Standards:

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask:

- The federal government to:
 - 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;
 - 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;
 - 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;
 - 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;
 - 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

53. 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.

54. 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.

55. “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.

56. Aeronautics Act:

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

- Amend the Aeronautics Act to recognize the constitutional powers of provincial legislatures in matters of land use planning, land protection and agricultural activities.
- 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.