



Resolutions Passed at 2024 Annual General Meeting Canadian Federation of Agriculture

RESOLUTIONS AMENDING STANDING POLICY

1. Improving the Advance Payments Program

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask AAFC to improve the APP by permanently increasing the program's interest-free portion to \$350,000 and by updating the program's eligibility criteria in consultation with the producer groups using the program.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

2. Drones and Agriculture Research

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Pest Management Regulatory Agency to amend the Pest Control Products Regulations which would allow for greater flexibility, timeliness and simplicity for the application of pesticides using drones for research purposes.

3. Support Programs for agriculture and research and AgriScience

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask AAFC to re-establish a funding ratio of 70% from government and 30% from the private sector for all research activities initiated by agricultural producers and funded under the AgriScience program and to ensure that this ratio applies even to projects that do not have clear GHG-reduction objectives.

ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE

4. Inclusion of Biogas and Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) in Market-Based Biofuels Policies

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA advocate that the government support the development of biogas and RNG through an Investment Tax Credit equivalent to what is currently available to clean hydrogen (refundable at up to 40%, based on carbon intensity).

5. Agricultural Land Protection and Preservation

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the federal government to ensure that the government funding to support reforestation are not used to the detriment of cultivated land.



6. Water Withdrawal

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask AAFC to set up investment assistance programs for implementing measures that will secure and optimize water supplies for agricultural operations and minimize the risk of water-use conflicts in the context of adapting to climate change.

7. Carbon footprint of agricultural businesses

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to establish, in collaboration with agricultural producers, a clear and precise methodology for harmonizing the calculation of the carbon footprints on farms, which will take into account the climate and soil conditions of the provinces and the particularities of each crop and animal production.

8. Incentive programs for soil health and soil carbon sequestration

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to work with provinces and territories to develop additional financial incentive programs focused on improving soil health and increasing organic matter content in soils to enhance its carbon capture abilities and build capacity to adapt to a changing climate, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to provide additional federal government funding in the current and successor agricultural policy framework agreements to the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership for financial incentive programs focused on improving soil health and increasing organic matter content in soils.

9. International movement of Bombus (Bumblebee) queens

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture advocate to the CFIA to re-approve the application for the international movement of Bombus queens.

10. Payment for Carbon Sequestration on Livestock Grazing Land

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby to ensure agricultural producers receive direct compensation from the federal government for the carbon that they are sequestering in their grasslands and grazing lands.

11. Renewable Diesel

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to incentivize the use of renewable diesel as an alternative fuel source for agriculture, letting us be one step closer to net zero.

BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT

12. Ensuring Responsive BRM Programs



BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA continue its advocacy on BRM programs, and request that the government provide additional financial support to improve resilience against extreme natural disasters and work closely with producers and their associations to begin the revision of BRM programs, particularly AgriRecovery and AgriStability, to ensure that they are more flexible, timely, responsive, and predictable in the face of increasing disaster-related events caused by climate change.

13. Fully Funded Yield Cushioning

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request the federal government to work with provincial crop insurance agencies to fully fund a crop insurance yield cushioning policy to ensure that any previous years' yields used to calculate producers' production guarantees are capped at 70% of their Individual Long-term Average.

TRANSPORTATION

14. Railway Company Private Grade Crossing Agreements

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, along with relevant stakeholders, lobby Transport Canada to advise the railway companies that they should not require a new private crossing agreement from landowners where an existing private crossing already exists.

15. Grade Crossings – Amendments to the Canada Transportation Act and renewal of the Rail Safety Improvement Program

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Department of Transport (Transport Canada) to amend the *Canada Transportation Act* (S.C. 1966, c. 10) such that the costs associated with the construction, modification and maintenance of new and existing grade and railway crossings on agricultural and forestry land be assumed in full by the railway companies and, pending adoption of the requested regulatory amendments, to promptly renew the Rail Safety Improvement Program to fully cover the costs associated with the upgrading, maintenance, modification and closure of private grade crossings used to connect sections of agricultural and forestry land.

16. Canada Transportation Agency Investigative Authority

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby Transport Canada to provide the Canada Transportation Agency the authority and resources to monitor the rail transportation system, proactively collect information from shippers about rail service, investigate issues as they arise, apply penalties, and make orders to ensure compliance with service standards and obligations set out in the *Canada Transportation Act*.

17. Railway Carbon Surcharges

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request the federal government to ensure that carbon taxes on railway fuel and other inputs are not passed onto shippers in increased freight charges;



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any carbon taxes collected from rail transportation be made available in a separate fund for railways to invest in projects to reduce their emissions and improve efficiency in Canada's rail transportation sector.

FOOD SAFETY

18. Specified Risk Material (SRM) Removal Requirements

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, along with relevant stakeholders, lobby the Federal government for regulatory changes to reduce the burden and costs associated with Specified Risk Material removal in Canada; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture with relevant stakeholders lobby the Federal government to create harmonization of Specified Risk Material removal requirements with the standards in the United States.

19. Federally inspected slaughter plants – remote inspection and delegation of veterinary procedures

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to implement regulations that would alleviate the shortage of professional resources needed to inspect federally inspected slaughter plants by allowing the use of remote inspection or the delegation of certain acts to animal health technicians or food safety technicians in slaughter plants.

TAXATION

20. Specific Tax Credit for Food Donations made by Producers

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the federal government to implement a refundable tax credit for food donations made by all types of agricultural businesses and to ensure that donations to local food banks are recognized.

21. HST/GST as Eligible Input Tax Credit for On-Farm Housing

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture advocates to the federal government to consider HST/GST on the construction, maintenance, and furnishing of housing for seasonal agricultural and temporary foreign workers as a commercial activity, which would result in those HST/GST costs being treated as an eligible input tax credit.

GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

22. Grain Contracts

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA partners with relevant Canadian stakeholders in their pursuit to make grain contracts clearer and more balanced, and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CFA call on the Canadian Grain Commission to bring producers and grain companies together and provide oversight to a collaborative approach in restructuring grain contracts that are clear and fair for both the grain company and the producer.

23. Canada Grain Act Review

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada recommence the *Canada Grain Act* review to address key areas of concern to producers while reaffirming the Canadian Grain Commission's mandate to maintain standards and regulate grain handling in the interests of grain producers.

MISCELLANEOUS

24. Development of the Organic Production Sector

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask AAFC to adopt a government action plan to support the organic production sector, in particular for developing organic pest controls and organic seeds, among other developments.

25. Grocery Prices

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, along with relevant stakeholders, lobby the Federal Government to be included in conversations regarding grocery prices and the impact the food chain infrastructure has on them.

26. Funding for the Grocery Code Adjudicator Office

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA ask the Government of Canada to fund the start-up and initial years of the Grocery Code Adjudication Office to ensure its sustainability and viability, and to enable its internal resources to concentrate their efforts on their mission.

27. Support for Indigenous Engagement

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to provide federal government funding that supports efforts by industry associations to engage with Indigenous Peoples on policy development and program design.

28. Funding for Colleges of Veterinary Medicine

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on the federal government to invest in the expansion and enhancement of the Canadian colleges of veterinary medicine to support the recruitment and accreditation of foreign-trained veterinarians.

29. Bring CFIA back under AAFC



BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture advocate for the return of CFIA to direct AAFC oversight.

30. Producer Majority on the Western Grain Standards Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA request the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) fill its four discretionary positions to Western Grain Standards Committee with producer representatives.

REAFFIRMATIONS

31. TRQ Administration

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA advocate that the Canadian government use all measures necessary to protect its sovereign right to determine and administer its own domestic policies, including the allocation of TRQs in ways that minimize the impacts on farming sectors.

32. Compensation for poultry flocks depopulated due to plant closures

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA lobby the federal government that support will be available to cover the value of the birds in the event of a depopulation of flocks due to a processing plant closure or significant reduction in capacity.

33. Standards, regulations and Canadian market access for imported products

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask the government of Canada and AAFC

- to ensure that all legal and regulatory measures as well as structures needed to ensure the monitoring and enforcement of Canadian standards are in place and allocated the appropriate resources;
- to introduce financial compensation programs to ensure that our farm businesses remain competitive when they are held to more stringent requirements than foreign farm businesses.

34. Inspection of Imported Products

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA call on the Canadian government to ensure CFIA and CBSA are provided with the additional resources and training needed to adequately enforce regulations and production standards on products that cross the border and production standards, including conducting inspections to validate these products, and audits of foreign farms and processing plants.

35. 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.

36. Fisheries Act exemption for agriculture drainage and irrigation infrastructure



BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the federal government to amend the *Fisheries Act* to exclude man-made infrastructures that were built to support agricultural activities, such as soil drainage and crop irrigation, from what is considered to be fish habitat for the purposes of the Act, and that the death of any fish in these man-made, agriculturally-purposed infrastructures as a result of the normal operation and/or maintenance of these infrastructures not be prohibited.

37. 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.

38. 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.

39. Sandhill Crane Hunt

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.

40. 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.

41. 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.

42. Tracking and Reporting of Exports

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada for mandatory reporting of import and export sales of all agricultural commodities, to be made available on a weekly basis.

43. Weather Radar Stations

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

44. Federal Escalator Tax on Alcohol



BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to remove the escalator tax on alcohol in Canada.

45. Regulation of Grain Assessment

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA, in consultation with the prairie grain commissions, prairie general farm organizations and the Canadian Grain Commission, work towards a national standard of assessment procedures to protect producers' interests with respect to grain assessment.

46. 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.

47. Pregnancy Detection Services by Ultrasound Technicians

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association to allow ultrasound technicians to offer pregnancy detection services.

48. Access to high-performance cellular services and high-speed Internet networks

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA ask

The federal government:

- to recognize that efficient cellular and broadband Internet services (at current and future speed of commerce standards) are essential services;
- to ensure that reliable, efficient and secure cellular and Internet services are available everywhere in rural areas;
- to ensure that efficient high-speed Internet services are offered to all agricultural and forestry producers by more than one service provider, at competitive prices;

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission:

- to force cellular and Internet service providers to cover all of rural Canada, despite the low profitability of certain areas.

49. Increased Funding for Public Research

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Government of Canada to increase its funding for public agricultural research in Canada.

50. 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.

51. Ag Literacy for All

BE IT RESOLVED that CFA lobby the Federal Government continue to support and champion Ag in the classroom, and continue to challenge provincial governments to support and collaborate with provincial Ag In The Classroom Branches.

52. Voluntary Offset Programs

BE IT RESOLVED that the CFA support the development of voluntary carbon offset programs 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.

53. 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.