

**AGENDA
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2020**

The Agricultural Service Board meeting of Clear Hills County will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2020, starting at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the County Administration Office, 313 Alberta Avenue, Worsley, Alberta.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA**
- 3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
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- 10. CONFIDENTIAL**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
 AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
 COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 November 19, 2019**

PRESENT

Brian Harcourt	Member
Baldur Ruecker	Member
Julie Watchorn	Member
David Janzen	Council Representative

IN ATTENDANCE

Audrey Bjorklund	Community Development Manager
Greg Coon	Agricultural Fieldman
Sarah Hayward	Community Development Clerk

ABSENT

Garry Candy	Member
MacKay Ross	Member

CALL TO ORDER

Community Development Manager (CDM) Bjorklund called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

AG163(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the November 19, 2019 Organizational Meeting. CARRIED.

VOTING
PROCEDURE

By resolution the Board shall determine if they wish to vote by secret ballot or show of hands, at the organizational meeting.

AG164(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board determine the voting of chairperson and deputy chairperson by show of hands. CARRIED.

ELECTION OF
CHAIR

As per Bylaw 246-19 annually at the first meeting following the Council Organizational Meeting, the Agricultural Service Board will appoint a Chairperson from among all voting members for the year.

A call will be made three times for nominations for the position of Chair. Following the third call, a request will be made for a motion for nominations to cease.

Audrey Bjorklund, CDM, called for nominations for Chair.

Member Ruecker nominated Member Harcourt
Member Harcourt accepted.

Audrey Bjorklund, CDM, called for nominations for Chair a second time.

Audrey Bjorklund, CDM, called for nominations for Chair a third and final time.

AG165(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that nominations for Chair cease. CARRIED.

Member Harcourt was declared Chair by acclamation.

Member Harcourt took the chair.

**ELECTION OF
DEPUTY CHAIR**

Agricultural Service Board Administration Procedure 6301-01, states that the Agricultural Service Board annually, at the first meeting following the Council Organizational Meeting, appoint a Deputy Chairperson from among all voting members for the year.

A call will be made three times for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair. Following the third call, a request will be made for a motion for nominations to cease.

Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chair.

Councillor Janzen nominated Member Ruecker.
Member Ruecker accepted.

Chair Harcourt called for nominations for Deputy Chair a second time.

Chair Harcourt called for nominations for Deputy Chair a third and final time.

AG166(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that nominations for Deputy Chair cease. CARRIED.

Member Ruecker was declared Deputy Chair by acclamation.

**APPOINTMENT OF
VOTING MEMBERS**

As per Agricultural Service Board Administration Procedure 6301-01, annually, at the first meeting following the Council Organizational Meeting, the Agricultural Service Board selects voting delegates for the annual Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference.

AG167(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board appoint Chair Harcourt and Councillor Janzen as voting members and Deputy Chair Ruecker as the alternate voting member for the Agricultural Service Board Provincial and Regional Conferences. CARRIED.

Signing Authorities

As per Agricultural Service Board Administration Procedure 6301-01(2.4) annually at the first meeting, following the Council

**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
November 19, 2019**

AG168(11/19/19)

**DATE, TIME AND
PLACE OF BOARD
MEETINGS**

Organizational Meeting, the Agricultural Service Board will appoint signing authority for grant applications.

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board appoint Chair Harcourt and Councillor Janzen as the Agricultural Service Board grant signing authorities for 2019/2020. CARRIED.

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) currently meets every second Monday except May when the meeting will be held on the first Monday of the month and there are no meetings held in April or September. All members of the board must be present when setting the day of the month and the commencement time for regular ASB meetings.

AG169(11/19/19)

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board set the Agricultural Service Board table the Date, Time and Place of Board meetings until all members are present. CARRIED.

Chair Harcourt adjourned the Agricultural Service Board Organizational meeting at 10:07 a.m.

CHAIR

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Worsley, Alberta
November 19, 2019**

PRESENT

Brian Harcourt	Chair
Baldur Ruecker	Deputy Chair Ruecker
Julie Watchorn	Member
David Janzen	Council Representative

ATTENDING

Allan Rowe	Chief Administrative Officer
Sarah Hayward	Community Development Clerk
Greg Coon	Agricultural Fieldman

ABSENT

Garry Candy	Member
MacKay Ross	Member

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harcourt called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

AGENDA

AG170(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the November 19, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting with the following addition:

a. Events: Unharvested Crops Town Hall Meeting **CARRIED.**

AG171(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the October 15, 2019 Agricultural Service Board Meeting as presented. **CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

The Board is presented with the Agricultural Service Board Activity Report.

AG172(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the November 19, 2019 Agricultural Service Board Activity Report as presented. **CARRIED.**

Board Reports

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports on meetings attended and other agricultural related topics.

AG173(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the November 19, 2019 Board members' written and verbal reports for information as presented. **CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Events

The Board is presented with events for their consideration.

AG174(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Councillor Janzen

AG175(11/19/19)

and Deputy Chair Ruecker to the Unharvested Crops Town Hall Meeting being held on November 20, 2019 at the Dunvegan Inn and Suites.

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board authorize Chair Harcourt to attend the Extended Grazing and Watering Tour being held on November 23, 2019 in RM AC144, Grande Prairie Regional College in Fairview, Alberta.

AG176(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board authorize Chair Harcourt, Councillor Janzen, Member Candy and Deputy Chair Ruecker to attend the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Provincial Conference being held on January 21-24, 2020 at the Fairmont Banff Springs. **CARRIED.**

January Agricultural Service Board Meeting

The January Agricultural Service Board meeting date conflicts with the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference and the Board is requested to select a difference meeting date.

AG177(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board reschedule the January Agricultural Service Board meeting to January 29, 2020. **CARRIED.**

Chair Harcourt recessed the meeting at 10:56 a.m.
Chair Harcourt reconvened the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Delegation
Alberta Fish and
Wildlife 11:00 a.m.

Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer, Dan Downie will be in attendance at 11:00 a.m. to present an update on livestock predation in Clear Hills County and general information on the program.

AG178(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the delegation from Fish and Wildlife Officer, Dan Downie, on livestock predation within Clear Hills County. **CARRIED.**

Chair Harcourt recessed for lunch at 11:58 a.m.
Chair Harcourt reconvened the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Agricultural Services
Policy Review

The Board is presented with the Agricultural Services Policies for review.

AG179(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board accept the review of the following Policies, as presented:

- Policy 6302 Agricultural Improvement Policy
- Policy 6303 Pest Control
- Policy 6304 Roadside Vegetation Control
- Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola

- Policy 6307 Wolf Management Incentive
- Policy 6309 Property Line Spray Program
- Policy 6310 Rental Equipment Policy
- Policy 6311 VSI Program
- Policy 6314 Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Testing Incentive Program
- Policy 6317 Biggest Vegetable Contest

CARRIED.

REPORTS

Agricultural Fieldman Report

At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.

AG180(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the November 19, 2019 Agricultural Fieldman's Report for information as presented. CARRIED.

Community Development Manager's Report

At this time the Community Development Manager will have the opportunity to report on matter of importance to the Board.

AG181(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the November 19, 2019 Community Development Manager's Report for information as presented. CARRIED.

Information & Correspondence

The Board is presented with correspondence for review.

1. VSI Services – letter – (63-10-40)
2. Agricultural Service Board Grant Program Review – Summary Report – (63-10-02)
3. Clubroot of Alberta – Map – (63-10-02)
4. Alberta Ag-Plastic – Article – (63-10-02)
5. The Pest Insider – Newsletter – (63-10-02)
6. Alberta Crop Report – Report – (63-10-02)

AG182(11/19/19)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board receives the Information and Correspondence as presented. CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Harcourt adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

CHAIR

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	ACTIVITY REPORT
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with the Agricultural Service Board Activity Report.

BACKGROUND:

The Activity report is helpful to administration and the board for tracking the status of resolutions and directions from the board. Items will stay on the report until they are completed. Items that are shaded indicate that they are completed and will be removed from the list once presented at the current Agricultural Service Board meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Agricultural Service Board Activity Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board (ASB) accepts the January 29, 2020 ASB Activity Report as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>ABJ</i> AgFieldman: <i>GC</i>
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Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

Activity Report for December 17, 2019 Page 1 of 2

Budget Items:

CAO = Chief Administrative Officer

DO= Development Officer

EA = Executive Assistant

Completed Items:

CSM = Corporate Services Manager

AF = Ag. Fieldman

CDM = Community Development Manager

MOTION DATE DESCRIPTION DEPT STATUS

REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS				
October 15, 2019				
AG153	(10/15/19)	RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council approve the Agricultural Service Board 2020 Operating Budget as presented.	CDM	C583-19 (11-26-19)
November 19, 2019 Organizational Meeting				
AG169	(11/19/19)	RESOLUTION by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board set the Agricultural Service Board table the Date, Time and Place of Board meetings until all members are present.		February RFD
November 19, 2019				
AG177	(11/19/19)	RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board reschedule the January Agricultural Service Board meeting to January 29, 2020.		
Items in Waiting				
AG133	(12/12/16)	RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board table the discussion around the CombCut Selective Mower and bring back information once the University of Saskatchewan field trial study is complete.		2020 OR 2021
AG21	(02/13/17)	RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board table motion AG109(10/17/16) regarding Glyphosate Tolerant Wheat until new information is available.		As of Nov 9 2018 no new info

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	Member Candy Authorization to be Absent
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Agricultural Service Board is requested to grant authorization for Member Candy's absence from today's meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Agricultural Service Board Act Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter A-10, Current as of November 1, 2020

Boards Established

3

(5) A person who is a member of a board ceases to be a member of the board if, without being authorized by a resolution of the board, the member is absent from 3 consecutive regular meetings of the board.

ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by...to authorize Member Candy's absence from the January 29, 2020 Agricultural Service Board Meeting.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:	AgFieldman:
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Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman Rental Equipment Report
File:	63-10-10

DESCRIPTION:

The Agricultural Service Board is provided with a report on the Rental Equipment fleet for their review and consideration.

BACKGROUND:

Annually the Board reviews the Rental Equipment fleet and provides recommendations to Council on disposal, replacement, additions, and deposit and rental rate changes, if any.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Analysis of Rental Equipment Fleet within Policy 6310 guidelines
- 5 year rental fleet summary
- Rental Fleet deposit and rental rates list
- Policy 6310

OPTIONS:

1. Recommend disposal or replacement of the following units:....
2. Recommend the following deposit or rental rate changes....
3. Table the report and request the following information be sourced and brought back to a future meeting....
4. Accept for information (no action).

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**

ABj

AgFieldman:

GC

Analysis of Rental Equipment Fleet within Policy 6310 guidelines

Policy 6310:

2.1 - Required occasionally & not economically feasible & not available for rent within Clear Hills County boundaries.

2.2 - Innovative

2.3 - Legislative (weed control act, ag pest act, soil conservation act)

Other - BBQ, Tradeshow, water for life

Doesn't fall within policy categories or Other

Valuations from Citywide TCA report

Definitions: TCA - tangible capital asset

Rental Equipment	Year Purchased	Purchase Price	Depreciation TCA	Current Value	Repairs	5 Years: Users	5 Years: Days
Bale Scale	2008	\$ 8,725.00	\$ 6,398.33	\$ 2,326.67	\$ 651.55	23	23
Grain Bag Roller	2014	\$ 9,700.00	\$ 3,233.33	\$ 6,466.67	\$ 584.19	75	85
Manure Spreader	2009	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 21,047.98	23	60
Tree Spade	2011	\$ 37,950.00	\$ 20,240.00	\$ 17,710.00	\$ 10,681.85	35	60
Wire Roller	2016	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 1,625.00	\$ -	\$ 199.04	18	29
Scare Cannon	2012	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	1	30
None		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Backpack Sprayer	2017	\$ 80.00	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ -	2	2
Eco-Bran Applicator	2008	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ -	\$ -	7	7
Hand Held Rope Wick	1990's	\$ 45.00	\$ -	\$ 45.00	\$ -	2	2
Pull/Push Roller Applicator	1990's	\$ 90.00	\$ -	\$ 90.00	\$ -	2	2
Quad Mounted Sprayer	1990's	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	18	19
Quad Pull Type Sprayer	1990's	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ -	13	13
Quad Mount Rope Wick	1990's	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0	0
Rotowiper	2009	\$ 5,700.96	\$ 3,423.96	\$ 2,277.00	\$ 584.19	6	10
Skidmount Sprayer	1990's on	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	12	12
Truck Mount Sprayer	2011	\$ 5,021.04	\$ 2,677.89	\$ 2,343.15	\$ -	8	8
BBQ Trailer	2015	\$ 17,192.22	\$ 3,561.35	\$ 13,630.87	\$ -	26	27
Chairs	2005 est.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	47	55
Community Centre	2004	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	53	71
Grills	2005	\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	28	61
Mulch Applicator	2012	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	3	3
Smoke Signs	asst.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	16	16
Steam Tables	mid 2000's	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0	0
Tables	2005 est	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	45	51
Toilets	1990's	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	17	27
Wash Station	2005	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -	15	21
Water Pump 1	1977	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 2,650.00	\$ -	\$ -		
Water Pump 2	1983	\$ 3,445.00	\$ 3,445.00	\$ -	\$ -	153	289
Corral Panels (w trailer)	2008	\$ 5,485.00	\$ -	\$ 5,485.00	\$ 619.34	31	42
Coyote Trap	2014	\$ 90.00	\$ -	\$ 90.00	\$ -	0	0
Grain Bagger	2014	\$ 40,900.00	\$ 13,633.33	\$ 27,266.67	\$ 1,522.22	11	31
Grain Bag Extractor	2014	\$ 39,900.00	\$ 13,300.00	\$ 26,600.00	\$ 7,011.71	29	41
Grain Vac	2014	\$ 24,240.00	\$ 8,080.00	\$ 16,160.00	\$ 9,594.83	151	169
Land Leveller	2012	\$ 19,330.00	\$ 8,284.29	\$ 11,045.71	\$ 2,300.28	25	43
Loading Chute	2009	\$ 4,762.00	\$ 3,174.67	\$ 1,587.33	\$ 821.58	71	74
Post Pounder	2014	\$ 12,950.00	\$ 4,316.67	\$ 8,633.33	\$ 999.35	104	132
Rock Picker	2014	\$ 24,890.00	\$ 8,296.67	\$ 16,593.33	\$ 2,266.63	10	22
Rock Rake	2014	\$ 18,810.00	\$ 6,270.00	\$ 12,540.00	\$ 2,007.60	7	20
Roller Mill	2014	\$ 2,675.00	\$ -	\$ 2,675.00	\$ -	16	22
Sickle Mower	2016	\$ 11,179.81	\$ 2,235.96	\$ 8,943.85	\$ 251.46	1	1
Totals:		\$ 333,336.03	\$ 137,046.45	\$ 196,289.58		1104	1580

5 Year Revenue \$ 154,506.50

5 Year Expenses \$ 214,552.27

5 Year Loss -\$ 60,045.77

Equipment	2019		2018		2017		2016		2015		5 years	
	Rental Deposits	Rental Rates	Total Users	Total Days	Total Users	Total Days	Total Users	Total Days	Total Users	Total Days	Total Users	Total Days
Backpack Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ 30.00	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Bale Scale	\$ 100.00	\$ 30.00	3	3	1	1	4	3	3	12	3	12
Chairs	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.5/Chair	13	17	10	10	8	9	11	7	11	7
Community Centre	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	14	14	16	16	11	18	5	6	7	17
Corral Panels	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	5	5	5	5	6	15	3	4	9	10
Eco-Brain Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	1	1	0	0	3	3	1	2	1	2
Grain Bag Roller	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	25	25	21	21	11	15	7	11	11	12
Grain Bag Extractor	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	2	7	4	4	2	5	3	3	3	0
Grain Bag	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	8	14	7	10	9	12	3	3	3	5
Grain Vac	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	40	47	35	37	26	30	25	26	25	29
Grill	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	5	5	5	5	5	9	3	11	10	16
Hand Held Rope Wick	\$ 50.00	\$ 10.00	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Lana Leveller	\$ 260.00	\$ 120.00	4	7	6	6	6	15	3	3	6	12
Loading Chute	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	8	8	9	9	21	23	17	18	17	17
Measure Spreader	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	2	7	8	8	4	2	8	7	20	20
Mulch Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Extra Hoses	\$ 50.00	\$ 1.00	4	4	4	4	12	2	2	2	2	3
Pest Pounder	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00	28	31	17	19	20	29	14	16	16	25
Push/roll Roller Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ -	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quad Mount Rope Wick	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quad Mounted Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	4	5	3	3	3	3	5	3	3	3
Quad Pull Type Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	3	3	3	3	2	4	2	4	1	1
Rock Picker	\$ 600.00	\$ 300.00	4	4	1	7	2	2	2	2	2	1
Rock Rake	\$ 600.00	\$ 300.00	2	6	1	7	1	1	2	2	2	10
Roller Mill	\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	5	6	6	9	3	4	1	2	1	1
Rotowiper	\$ 150.00	\$ 75.00	2	2	0	0	1	2	2	3	1	4
Scare Cannon #91060254	\$ 50.00	\$ -	5	5	2	2	2	2	1	1	6	6
Signs	\$ 60.00	\$ -	4	4	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	1
Skid Mount Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steam Tables	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	14	15	10	11	7	7	5	5	9	13
Tables	\$ 50.00	\$ 1.00/table	2	4	3	3	5	6	3	3	6	11
Tillers	\$ 100.00	\$ 40.00	8	8	8	14	6	16	7	8	6	8
Tree Spade	\$ 300.00	\$ 50.00	3	3	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truck Mount Sprayer	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	1	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	5	7
Wash Station	\$ 50.00	\$ 10.00	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	8
Water Pumps	\$100.00 (Summer) \$200 (Winter)	\$75.00(Summer) \$200 (Winter)	26	48	24	53	35	63	26	44	42	81
Zero Till Drill	\$ 300.00	\$300.00/20 feet	3	6	7	9	6	6	5	6	3	3
Wire Roller	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	4	8	5	8	3	4	6	9	Not purchased yet	Not purchased yet
Post Hole Auger	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	Not purchased yet	Not purchased yet
Stickle Mower	\$ 100.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	Not purchased yet	Not purchased yet
BBQ Trailer	\$ 100.00	\$ 50	8	8	6	6	9	10	3	3	Not purchased yet	Not purchased yet
			263	356	238	342	233	327	179	233	235	355
Revenue	\$ 33,953.50	\$ 34,281.00	Revenue	\$ 30,381.00	Revenue	\$ 21,729.50	Revenue	\$ 34,944.59	Revenue	\$ 35,236.50	Revenue	\$ 155,581.50
Expenses	\$ 47,425.57	\$ 41,239.74	Expenses	\$ 28,872.66	Expenses	\$ 34,944.59	Expenses	\$ 67,782.04	Expenses	\$ 220,264.60	Expenses	\$ 220,264.60
Loss	\$ (13,472.07)	\$ (6,956.74)	Loss	\$ 1,508.34	Loss	\$ (13,215.09)	Loss	\$ (32,545.54)	Loss	\$ (64,683.10)	Loss	\$ (64,683.10)

EQUIPMENT	DEPOSITS - Damage/Cleaning	STANDARD Per Day	COMMERCIAL Per Day	COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION Per Day	NOTES
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RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Definitions:

Standard – means personal use or primary agricultural producer use.

Commercial – means business entity that is not a primary agricultural producer.

AUDIO VIDEO & KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

Includes: 3 large coffee urns 2 orange juice jugs mini portable sound system*
 2 portable roasters portable projector (*rechargeable or power)

No Deposit and No Charge – MUST sign rental Agreement

CHEMICAL WIPE APPLICATORS

Quad mount rope wick	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	For spot application
Hand held rope wick	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	For spot application
Pull /push roller applicator	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Lawn application
Rotowiper (3) – pull type roller applicator (2" ball)	\$50.00 each	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	12V pump, 10' width, (45L)

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Community Room, Kitchen & Access to washrooms	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Includes use of 12 round, 12 rectangle tables & 154 folding chairs
Tables & Chairs (rented for off-site use)	\$50.00	\$1.00 per table \$0.50 per chair		No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	12 round 12 rectangle 31 wood rectangle 154 folding chairs

CORRAL PANELS

2 5/16" ball	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	21 Panels
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ECO BRAN APPLICATOR

EQUIPMENT	DEPOSITS - Damage/Cleaning	STANDARD Per Day	COMMERCIAL Per Day	COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION Per Day	NOTES
Fits in truck box 12V plugin	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	also used for broadcasting seed
GRAIN BAGGER & TRUCK UNLOADER					
Clevis or pintle hitch	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$700.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Minimum 65HP tractor 540 PTO
GRAIN BAG EXTRACTOR					
Tongue hitch	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$700.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Maximum 120HP tractor 540 PTO
GRAIN BAG ROLLER					
2 5/16" ball	\$50.00	No charge	No Charge	No Charge	Self powered, gas motor
GRAIN VAC					
single or double tongue hitch	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$400.00	No Charge	1000 PTO 85 hp tractor
GRILLS & BBQ/Grill Trailer – does not include propane tanks					
Portable grills (2 units available)	\$50.00	\$5.00	\$25.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	
BBQ/Grill Trailer 2 5/6 ball hitch	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	recommend ¾ ton to pull
HITCH 2" ball or 2 5/16" ball \$50.00 deposit. No deposit required if using to transport rental equipment					
MANURE SPREADER					
Minimum ¾ ton to pull Pintle hitch	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	125hp tractor & 1000 PTO
MULCH APPLICATOR for tree planting					
Tongue hitch	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	
MULCH Cost recovery for all users					

EQUIPMENT	DEPOSITS - Damage/Cleaning	STANDARD Per Day	COMMERCIAL Per Day	COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION Per Day	NOTES
PORTABLE LOADING CHUTE					
Requires – 2" ball	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Optional 4 heavy duty panels
POST HOLE AUGER					
One Man 3HP Post Hole Auger	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	3 horse power gas motor
POST POUNDER					
Single tongue hitch	\$250.00	\$125.00	\$250.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Self powered, gas motor
PULL TYPE GRADER aka LAND LEVELLER					
Tongue hitch	\$260.00	\$130.00	\$260.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply.	Tractor size 120- 400 HP 14 foot Hygrade with hydraulic lift, tilt, angle, offset rear steering
ROCK PICKER					
Tongue hitch	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$600.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	75HP Tractor Dual Hydraulics 540 PTO
ROCK RAKE					
Tongue hitch	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$600.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	40-80HP Tractor 540 PTO 14 feet
ROLLER MILL					
	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$40.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	110 volt, electric
SCALES					
Bale Spear Scale 2" ball	\$100.00	\$30.00	\$150.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Electric over hydraulic controls

EQUIPMENT	DEPOSITS - Damage/Cleaning	STANDARD Per Day	COMMERCIAL Per Day	COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION Per Day	NOTES
SCARE CANNON (for birds and large animals in crops)					
	\$50.00	No charge	\$50.00	No charge	
SICKLE MOWER – SELF POWERED- 7 Feet					
Pin hitch	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	
SIGNS c/w stand if required \$60 deposit No rental charge					
SPRAYERS					
Backpack	\$50.00	No Charge	No charge	No Charge	Hand pump
Quad Mount	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	12' boom & handgun (30L)
Quad - Pull type	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	Handgun & 12' boom (270L)
2 for truck bed – Skid Mount	\$50.00	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	12" Handgun, 12V pump, (270L tank)
Truck Mount: Optional: -29ft boom, or -30ft boomless	\$200.00	No Charge	No Charge	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Requires hitch receiver to mount boom. 300gal tank.
STEAM TABLES					
Steam Table	\$50.00	\$5.00	\$25.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	
TOILETS					
Both on same trailer 2" ball	\$100.00	\$40.00	\$100.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	
TREE SPADE					
Pintle hitch	\$300.00	\$50.00	\$300.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Self powered, gas motor
WASH STATION					
	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$25.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Two sinks with foot pump

EQUIPMENT	DEPOSITS - Damage/Cleaning	STANDARD Per Day	COMMERCIAL Per Day	COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION Per Day	NOTES
WATER PUMP					
4" PTO ½ mile hose ¾ ton or larger truck 2 5/16 " ball	\$100.00 ea (Summer Only) \$1,000.00 ea (Winter Only)	\$75.00 each \$200.00 each	\$300.00 each \$500.00 each	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	April 1– September 30 October 1–Mar 31
PTO Pump ONLY	\$100.00 ea (Summer Only) \$1,000.00 ea (Winter Only)	\$75.00 each \$200.00 each	\$300.00 each \$500.00 each	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	April 1– September 30 October 1–Mar 31
Extra Hose	Covered by pump deposit, \$50.00 if only renting hose.	\$1.00 per hose	\$5.00 per hose	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	If not renting a pump, hose deposit is a flat fee regardless of number of hoses being rented.
WIRE ROLLER					
Tongue hitch or receiver	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	Requires hydraulics to operate
ZERO TILL DRILLS					
Tongue hitch	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	No charge for first two days then Standard rates apply	20 feet 125-150 HP Tractor
OTHER:					
ADMINISTRATION FEE – sourcing replacement materials, parts and rental equipment due to loss or damage by renter: 15% of total replacement cost (plus GST)					
FREE HALF DAY RENT INCENTIVE Renters hauling rental equipment more than 50 kms from the pick up point will qualify for one half day of free rent. To qualify renters must provide mileage from their point of origin (home or worksite) to pick up point.					
SHOP RATE for cleaning and repair of rental equipment: \$50.00 per hour – minimum 1 hour					



Clear Hills County

Effective Date: September 10, 2019	Policy Number 6310
Title: RENTAL EQUIPMENT POLICY	

1. Policy Statement:

- 1.1. Clear Hills County recognizes the value of utilizing tax dollars to provide equipment available for rent to County residents, land managers and agricultural producers.

2. Purpose:

- 2.1. To supply equipment for rent that are only required occasionally or would not be economically feasible for individual agricultural producers or land managers to purchase and are not available for rent through other rental agents within the County's boundaries.
- 2.2. To provide innovative tools and equipment for local agricultural producers and land managers that promotes innovative agricultural management practices.
- 2.3. To provide tools and equipment that assist agricultural producers and land managers to comply with their legislative requirements under Alberta's Weed Control Act, Soil Conservation Act and Agricultural Pests Act.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1. The Agricultural Service Board will recommend to Council a list of rental equipment and a schedule of fees for equipment deposits and rental rates.
- 3.2. The Agricultural Service Board may recommend to Council to purchase, replace, or liquidate rental equipment based on the three purposes in section 2.
- 3.3. Agricultural Services will provide the Agricultural Service Board with a list of rental rates and deposits based on the following structure:
 - 3.3.1. Equipment purchased to fulfil subsection 2.1 and 2.2 will have a rental rate to recover maintenance costs only;
 - 3.3.2. Equipment purchased to fulfil subsection 2.3 will have a minimal rental rate to maximize the equipment use;
 - 3.3.3. Deposits greater than the designated minimum amount will be double the rental rate of that equipment.

- 3.4. County staff will have knowledge of each piece of equipment and will inform the renter of proper operating procedures and safety precautions.
- 3.5. Agriculture Services will conduct pre- and post-rental inspections of all equipment to ensure equipment is in good condition, will operate properly and is safe to use.
- 3.6. Renters will sign a rental agreement form and assume responsibility for all costs associated with equipment returned damaged or not properly cleaned.
- 3.7. County staff will consider rental of equipment to other municipalities on a case by case basis.
- 3.8. County staff will refuse to rent out equipment that is unfit and/or unsafe for use.
- 3.9. Agricultural Services will provide an annual report to the Agricultural Service Board for a program review in February of each year.

4. Reference to Legislation

- 4.1. Weed Control Act
- 4.2. Soil Conservation Act
- 4.3. Agricultural Pests Act

5. End of Policy

ADOPTED:

Resolution C170(02/22/10)

Date: February 22, 2011

Resolution C422-18 (09/11/18)

Date; September 18, 2018

Resolution C433-19 (09/10/19)

Date: September 10, 2019

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Audrey Bjorklund, CLGM, Community Development Manager
Title:	Elk population concerns
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

Following up on the Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer, Dan Downie delegation to the November 19, 2019 ASB meeting and Paul Hvenegaard Alberta Conservation Association delegation to the November 27, 2019 Council meeting the Board is presented with a letter Council has sent to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry with potential hunting license recommendations to reduce elk populations.

BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

- Letter from Clear Hills County to Minister of Ag & Forestry.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Accept for information the letter from Clear Hills County to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry with potential hunting license recommendations to reduce elk populations.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABj* AgFieldman: *GC*



CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

11-02-02

December 3, 2019

Honorable Minister Devin Dreeshen
Minister of Agriculture and Forestry
229 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Dear Minister, Devin Dreeshen:

Clear Hills County Council would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with us during the 2019 fall RMA Convention in Edmonton.

Council has concerns on the rising number of elk and deer (big game) in Clear Hills County. At present elk, whitetail and mule deer are above goal populations in several local wildlife management units. Hunting remains the most effective management tool to maintain a healthy big game population. Clear Hills County would like to see action and explore ideas on to help reduce the population.

Recently Clear Hills County Council and Agricultural Service Board met with both Fish and Wildlife as well as Alberta Conservation Association after discussion it was aware that these population issues are a well-known concern with both stakeholders.

After reviewing the Alberta hunting harvest surveys and reports for WMU 526 it appears that close to 100% of the tag quotas for elk in 2018 were awarded. The estimated hunter success rate was 23% leaving still well over 400 elk to repopulate in the area that should have been harvested. These numbers are concerning as the population grows the more damage agricultural producers are dealing with. Council believes access being granted to more hunting tags in areas where the elk/deer are a problem is an effective solution.

Increasing the quota of tag allocations on agricultural land – by allotting more tags for specific species will allow the population to be reduced until a suitable population has been achieved and controlled.

Clear Hills County would like to propose; a landowner may purchase multiple tags for problem agricultural areas to be used by the landowner or immediate family members to assist with overpopulation of that specific species on their titled land. These special tags will be active from the first official day of the hunting season to the last, rather than broken into specific seasons. Council recommends that these changes be instated for the 2020 season.

Box 240, Worsley, Alberta T0H 3W0 Telephone 780/685-3925 Fax 780/ 685-3960 Email info@clearhillscounty.ab.ca

"Clearly an Area of Opportunity"



CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

Currently it is understood that the introduction of an Antlerless Elk Season in many of the Wildlife Management Units (WMU), was to control increasing elk populations. Presently, landowners are required to apply in the draw process if they wish to obtain an Antlerless Elk License. If they are unsuccessful in the draw, they may apply as a person named on title on a parcel of 160 acres or more.

Applicants who were unsuccessful in either the Antlerless Elk Special license draw or Antlered Elk Special License draw may apply for a Landowner Antlerless Elk Special License. This license is only useable on the titled land and during the season applied for. With multiple hunting seasons available in many WMU's, the Landowner Special License should be valid during any identified season. Currently there is a limit of one Landowner Special License application per Certificate of Title (or current Tax Notice) and may not obtain more than one of the six landowner special licenses per year.

Following are some models from other geographically similar areas experiencing related concerns;

The Government of Montana implemented a shoulder seasons before and after regular season (only on private land) - The Shoulder season typically occurs outside the regular archery or rifle seasons and focus on antlerless elk harvest on private land and are not intended to replace or reduce harvest during the existing general archery or five-week firearms seasons, a few are meant to address problematic distribution of elk.

Landowner programs - Issuing controlled hunt tags on their property. In Colorado deeded landowners who registers with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, may be eligible for landowner tags if the property is used primarily for agricultural purposes, is inhabited by the species applied for, and they own a contiguous parcel of at least 160 acres. In addition, based on the number of deeded acres registered, the landowner may be eligible for multiple tags. Tags are issued based upon the population of each specific animal in a landowner's game management unit and tags will not be issued unless it is deemed that there is enough of that species to warrant a tag. Colorado also has a voucher system that allows a landowner to transfer a tag to a third party.

In Kansas, "Hunt-On-Your-Own-Land Permits" are available to residents. Permits on properties owned by a legal entity are available only to tenants who either farm at least 80 acres or manage an 80 acre or larger farm that produces an agricultural commodity such as crops or cattle. Special hunt-own-land deer permits may be issued to a landowner's or tenant's siblings and lineal ascendants or descendants, or their spouses, whether or not a Kansas resident. These tags are not transferable.



CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

We appreciate the opportunity to express our concerns and look forward to an open dialogue to discuss some more effective alternatives for reducing the number and to maintain a successful harvest.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Allan Rowe, Chief Administrative Officer for Clear Hills County at (780) 685-3925.

Sincerely,

Miron Croy,
Reeve

MC/bm

Cc: MLA for Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley, Todd Loewen

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	VSI and Bees Followup
File:	63-10-40

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with the minutes from the annual VSI Annual General Meeting that was held on November 8, 2019.

BACKGROUND:

Northern Sunrise County put forward a request to add beekeepers to the eligible producers list under VSI and were seeking support for their request. At the June 19th ASB meeting a resolution was passed to not support the request. The request was discussed at the VSI AGM on November 8th and it was moved that the item be taken back to individual councils for discussion and then brought back to the next AGM (November 2020).

AG95(06/19/19) RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board to not support Northern Sunrise County's request to add beekeepers to the list of eligible producers under the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI). CARRIED.

g) Bees as an eligible species

proposition was put forward by a municipality to include bees as an eligible species. Due to the VCPR requirement they now require veterinary support for medication.

Discussion followed

**Moved by Gerald Manzulenکو that this item will be taken back to the individual Councils
CARRIED**

ATTACHMENTS:

VSI Minutes Nov 8, 2019

OPTIONS:

1. Rescind resolution AG95(06/19/19) and send a letter of support to Northern Sunrise County.
2. Accept for information the VSI minutes of November 8, 2019.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by...

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>ABJ</i> AgFieldman: <i>AC</i>
--

**Minutes
Annual General Meeting
VSI Services (1980) Ltd
November 8, 2019**

Attendees

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>
Dale McQueen	Woodlands County
Dale Smith	MD of Greenview #16
Gerald Manzulenko	Birch Hills County
Brian Harcourt	Clear Hills County
Terry Ungarian	County of Northern Lights
Walter Sarapuk	Mackenzie County
Mike Krywiak	MD of Bonnyville #87
Sandra Melzer	MD of Lesser Slave River #124
Norm Boulet	MD of Smoky River #130
Ken Herlinveaux	MD of Peace #135
Peggy Johnson*	MD of Fairview #136
Tara Guglich	Mighty Peace Veterinary Clinic (Grimshaw)
Rik Vandekerkhove	VSI Manager

Note: * indicates new Director for the Municipality

REGRETS

Evan Lowe	Emmerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd.
Darlen Beniuk *	Lac La Biche County
Ed Armagost	Saddle Hills County
Dessa Dawn Nicholson	Saddle Hills County
David Marx	Big Lakes County

OTHERS

Janice Boden	MD of Bonnyville #87 – assistant ag field man
Sheila Kaut	Big Lakes County
Sebastian Dutrisac	Northern Sunrise County
Zoe Ross	Dawson Creek Veterinary Clinic
Kathrin Langlois	Birch Hills County -Assistant Ag fieldman

TELECONFERENCE - Courtesy of Mosaik Veterinary Partners

Wendy Quist	Frontier Veterinary Services Ltd
Jocelyn Gibson	High Prairie Veterinary Clinic
JM Pozniak (partly reg appeal)	Greenview Veterinary Clinic

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Terry Ungarian at 10.00 a.m.

2. Introductions

3. Additions to Agenda

- k) non-following of the contract
- l) items from the floor

4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Walter Sarapuk that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

5. Minutes of last AGM – November 9, 2018

Minutes were presented for review

Moved by Dale McQueen that the minutes of the November 9, 2018 Annual General Meeting be approved

CARRIED

6. Business arising from the minutes

Noted that the initial minutes draft would be forwarded to CAO and AG Fieldman / contact for MD in the next few weeks

7. Manager's Report

Dr. Vandekerkhove presented the managers' report

- Q: By Dale Smith regarding email- contact with clinics – counties is it working.
- R.: While not always ideal, it does work within the current confines

Moved by Gerald Manzulenko that the Manager's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

A copy of Dr. Vandekerkhove's report will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

8. VSI Update (Round Table Discussion)

Dale Smith

MD of Greenview will stay with the current 50/50 split

Dale McQueen

Woodlands County will remain with the current 50/50 split and conditions – 20 bulls, 400 preg checks

Walter Sarapuk

Mackenzie County will stay with the current 50/50 split – also has individual support agreement with the local veterinary Clinic in Fort Vermilion

Gerald Manzulenko

Birch Hills County will remain with current 50/50 split

Norm Boulet

MD of Smoky River will maintain current 50/50 split with overall limit of \$2,500 per client per year

Mike Krywiak

Md of Bonnyville will maintain the current 50/50 split, limit of 20 bulls

Sebatian Dutrisac

Northern Sunrise County will remain with the 50/50 split

Ken Herlinveaux

MD of Peace will maintain the 50/50 split with a \$1,800 cap per producer

Sandra Melzer

MD of Lesser Slave River Stay with the 60/40 split with limit of 8 bull semen tests and 200 preg checks

Peggy Johnson

MD of Fairview will be changing to a 60/40 Split from the current 70/30 split in place

Brian Harcourt

Clear Hills County will remain with the 50/50 split

Terry Ungarian

County of Northern Lights

Maintaining the 50/50 split currently in place

Sheila Kaus

Big lakes County will continue with the 50/50 split and the limits induced this year of 10 Bull Semen Tests per producer per year and 200 preg checks.

Other issues

Dale Smith brought up the issues of trying to deal with dead stock other than the current landowners' options of disposal on site.

No trucking available in most of the areas

Sandra Melzer brought up that in the Westlock area there was possibility of pick up for \$72/ animal, but only in a certain mileage range

Brian Harcourt Support for VCPR – is being provided with limit on time actively supported

Terry Ungarian this year they were faced with the threat of evacuation due to forest fires – the livestock side was ill prepared for this eventuality
Country of Northern lights host is hosting an open house on November 21, 2019

9. Approval of New Members

The following veterinarians have applied for VSI membership

Dr. Eric Burow	Peace River Veterinary Clinic
Dr. Charlotte Corbett	Dawson Creek Veterinary Clinic
Dr. Danielle Gutter	Fairview Veterinary Clinic Ltd.
Dr. Kayleigh Mahony	Hilltop Veterinary Clinic
Dr. Carmen Schneider	Dawson Creek Veterinary Clinic

It was moved by Peggy Johnson that Drs. Burow, Corbett, Gutter, Mahony, and Schneider be approved as V.S.I. members.

CARRIED

10. Deletions from Membership list

Drs. Kelli Haggett, Amy Hery, Trevor Jackson, Mira Kelada, Chris Kiepal, Richard Mc Watt, Emily Wilson, & Bogdan Zydalgo did not sign a 2019 VSI contract thus are no longer eligible to be members of VSI. Sadly Dr. Faintuk passed away so his membership will also be retired

Dale Smith moved that Drs. Haggett, Hery, Jackson, Kelada, Kiepal, Mc.Watt, Wilson, Zydalgo, & Faintuk be removed from the VSI membership list.

CARRIED

As of this date there are fifty-two (52) veterinary members out of the seventy- six (76) that signed a 2019 contract. Two veterinarians are in the process of signing on. We are down four (4) – likely to become two (2) veterinarians from 2018 and our membership has increased by 1 in overall numbers

Dr. Zoe: These numbers may mask a bit the underlying issue of a declining number of veterinarians in rural practices. There are more ads out for Veterinarians and Veterinary assistants than ever before. Where it used to be more single practitioner clinics in rural areas, it now includes multi- vet facilities, even into the cities. Burn-out and mental health issues are at a higher level than in other professions. Reason are multiple, but limitation to funding of Veterinarians colleges does not help the situation.

11. Nomination of Veterinary Directors

Last year Drs. Guglich and Lowe were the veterinarian Directors. They are the first line of support for the manager regarding veterinarian interpretation. Dr. Evan Lowe asked me to pass on his regrets to not being able to make the meeting but has indicated his willingness to serve again.

Dr. Tara Guglich indicated she would also be willing to serve again.

Dr. Ross and Dr. Quist declined at this time

Dr. Tara Guglich was nominated by Ken Herlinveaux

Dr. Evan Lowe was nominated by Sandra Melzer

Dale McQueen moved that nominations cease.

Moved by Walter Sarapuk that the Drs. Guglich &

Lowe be recommended for appointment to the Board of Directors.

CARRIED

12. Other Business

a) Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR)

Overall the impact from the VCPR addition to the schedule has been limited. At the same time, that is not necessary the case for individual municipalities. Four municipalities have seen impact on their budgets as a result.

On an individual base the impact for the current year ranges from 5% over 3.1% to 2.4% for the municipalities affected, for others it was below 1.1% to non-existing.

For the present veterinarians, new clients were required to have VCPR. For existing clients this mostly was based on a continuous relationship, without additional specific VCPR charges

Moved by Dale McQueen to recommend to the board that current VCPR support level stays in place.

CARRIED

b) contract issues

There has been this year some issue with the extra fees. In the contract description for these is under item 10 i)

“ All additional fees including but not restricted to travel (kilometer) fees, after hours fees, waiting time, etc. and such additional fees shall not exceed the amounts prescribed in the most recent AB.VMA suggested fee schedule.”

In the past limited to no close verification has been done on this as most clinics adhered to this. This year it became an issue and so there may be a need to revise this portion of the contract.

As a background the reason for this is that our schedule A compensation is based on the ABVMA suggested fee schedule. In the past it was looked upon that if we support the farmers in their veterinary costs, the veterinary cost should be based upon (not copy) the ABVMA suggested fee schedule. While VSI does not actively support these fees, VSI considered it prudent to include this link in other areas such as extra fees. Part of this was the impression higher fees for non-supported fees would give third parties. It may be looked upon then as just a support for veterinarians, not affecting the overall cost to farmers – thus negating the support to them. This would make VSI as an entity more susceptible to political and financial considerations on the funding level.

i) Mileage

ABVMA suggests per km one way, or zone approach

Discussion followed with the counter arguments based on the following
-Since VSI does not support it, so should not necessarily impede the individual decisions to set their own non-supported fees.

-Driving is a much less productive use of available time for the veterinarian, and takes him away from the clinic where other clients may also be looking for services.

-Prevents in certain cases maximum use of clinic facilities.

-Local costs and comparable rates in other professions

Consensus was reached that mileage fee restrictions be removed. Client-vet agreement.

ii) After hours

ABVMA suggests an after-hour rate past 8 pm, and on other times the clinic is closed. VSI has allowed this to be applied outside of business hours.

Discussion followed

Consensus was reached that the after-hours restriction would be removed

iii.) dispensing fees vs drug costing.

VSI does not allow a dispensing fee to be added to dispensed medication, even if this medication is for an additional animal that is not presented. In the past drug prices have been checked by both Jim and myself on the basis of the normal applied drug mark-up applied by the clinics. Recently I noticed one clinic that routinely has a much greater mark-up on used medication. As the contract is mute on the exact allowed mark-up for drugs, I have not continued my push to keep mark-ups within the most used range. This is now creating a divergence of measures on drug prices. Also to be considered is the new rules regarding dispensing of medication, which creates a bigger administrative burden on the veterinarian to dispense for this not seen animal. Do we need a firmer drug cost wording in the contract or do we want to re-consider the dispensing fee for not seen animals?

Consensus was to allow a dispensing fee for medication for additional animals. No change in the contract regarding drug mark-up.

Moved by Mike Krywiak that the contract be amended by removing section 10 i), as well as allow a dispensing fee on medication dispensed for additional not-seen animals.

CARRIED

c) In house lab costs

There has been an increase in in house lab charges applied to claims. Some of them, as a skin smear in clinic, have been considered part of the general exam. Up until now I have dealt with most of these as lab costs, which are excluded under our contract. The ABVMA has a fee schedule for in house lab charges, but it includes interpretation, where we considered that to be part of the exam.

Moved by Sandra Melzer to accept for info only

CARRIED

d) Coding in combination with flat fees

There currently is the provision in schedule A that in combination with flat fee procedures with cost equal or greater than that of a code #50 (examination) an additional animal will be considered as an extra animal – code #51- with a reduced fee. There is also the rule that more than 2 exams need to be coded under

code#25 – professional fee per hour. A third rule is that if in combination with a flat fee a second animal examined requires both these exams to be charged under a code #25. It would appear no veterinarian ever read the last rule. I would suggest that we allow a second animal to be also coded under the code #51. Three or more extra exams would be still need to be charged under code #25.

Moved by Sandra Melzer that we recommend to the board to allow a second extra exam under code #51 in combination with (a) flat fee(s) of equal or greater cost than a general exam (code#5) cost. When more than two (2) claims are made using any combination of codes 50, 51, 52 & 55 they will be claimed under code #25

CARRIED

e) Extensive herd treatment

Last year there was a case where the veterinarian with a couple Tech's treated a whole herd due to the fact the owner was away for work. This resulted in a fair-sized support for what in most cases would be an owner's responsibility. At the same time, it still falls within our definition of herd health.

Moved by Gerald Manzulenko to accept for info only

CARRIED

f) Pot Belly pig classification.

The question was posed if pot belly pigs fall under VSI since it is a pig. Manager's decision was no, but he would want confirmation that is an appropriate stance

Moved by Sandra Melzer to accept for info only

CARRIED

g) Bees as an eligible species

proposition was put forward by a municipality to include bees as an eligible species. Due to the VCPR requirement they now require veterinary support for medication.

Discussion followed

Moved by Gerald Manzulenko that this item will be taken back to the individual Councils

CARRIED

h) Mileage to be added to schedule A

Proposition was put forward by a municipality to include mileage under schedule A, receiving support from VSI

Moved by Dale Smith to accept for info only

CARRIED

i) Preview of 2020 fee schedule

Over the past number of years V.S.I. has mostly supported increasing the fee schedule in the amount recommended by the AB.VMA. The AB.VMA told Dr. Vandekerkhove that council is going to request increasing their fees with 2.8 %. This increase is based on the Consumer Price Index for Alberta. The Food Animal Committee meeting will be held beginning of December, and they are likely to follow this request.

Moved by Dale Smith to recommend the board that 2020 year fee schedule be increased by 2.8 % from the current schedule

j) Compensation for Veterinary Directors

Last year it was suggested in the directors meeting to perhaps set an honorarium for the veterinary directors as they are the only ones not being paid for their time at the meeting or during the year. What is the opinion of the members?

Moved by Gerald Manzulenکو to recommend to the board that attending Veterinarian Directors would be paid an honorarium equal to an average of the councilors remuneration for this meeting plus mileage compensation based on the Alberta Provincial Compensation Guide. All veterinarians who attend in person may be eligible for a similar compensation but requiring a yearly confirmation vote in the AGM before application. Veterinarians attending the meeting by teleconference may be eligible for the honorarium portion only (no mileage) if approved in the yearly confirmation vote in the AGM.

CARRIED

k). non compliance to contract

Last year we had a clinic not follow the rule that VSI clients cannot be charged more than non-VSI clients for the same service. The clinic was made aware of this, and remedies were implemented as per contract. An additional request was made for them to provide us with their 2019 charge list for both VSI

and non-VSI clients, as proof this was remedied for this year. This request was also made during previous encounters of this breach of contract with other veterinarians/clinics, and to my knowledge was always complied with. There was reluctance to comply, so the request was repeated after every claim submission, with no results till the last quarter. However, only a non-VSI client equivalent of the submitted claims was provided, not the requested full listing of their charges. In those comparison there was once again a higher charge for VSI clients on one recurring code (Clinic fee). It also showed an item at a much higher rate for the non-VSI client. That particular item was capped at the maximum VSI fee for the VSI client as per contract. Previously in discussion with one of the veterinarians it was indicted that the charges were not under the veterinarian's control. No promise could be made by that person that they would comply with the request to provide a list, as the financial aspect was not under veterinarian control. The contract provides the possibility to not renew the contract for veterinarians that do not follow the VSI versus non VSI client charge rule.

Recommended by Sandra that letter be send indicating the need to comply and be given a date by which compliance has to be adhered to in order to get renewal offer.

13. Adjournment

Brian Harcourt moved for adjournment at 12:40 pm.

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	2020 ASB Conference Followup
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with information from the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Conference that was held on January 21-24, 2020 in Banff.

BACKGROUND:

Fourteen resolutions were put to the floor at the resolution sessions.

ATTACHMENTS:

2020 resolutions

1. Alberta Agriculture Website
2. Ropin' the Web
3. West and Pest Surveillance and Monitoring Technology Grant
4. Clubroot Pathotype Testing
5. Education Campaign for Cleanliness of Equipment for Industry Sectors
6. AFSC Assist in Preventing the Spread of Regulated Crop Pests
7. Beehive Depredation
8. Agricultural Related Lease Dispositions
9. Emergency Livestock Removal
10. Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom
11. Reinstate a Shelterbelt Program
12. Compensation to Producers on Denied Land Access to Hunters
13. Proposed Amendments to Part XV of the Federal Health of Animals Regulations
14. Canadian Product and Canadian Made

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by...to accept for information the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Conference follow-up that was held on January 21-24, 2020 at the Fairmont in Banff.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *GC* AgFieldman: *GC*

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE WEBSITE

WHEREAS: The former Alberta Agriculture Website “Ropin the Web” was easy to use and navigate for farmers and those involved in agriculture;

WHEREAS: Many farmers and people working in the agriculture sector appreciate web-based learning, information sources, and web-based tools;

WHEREAS: The current revised Alberta Agriculture Website is difficult to navigate and with some of the useful extension material no longer available;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

the Government of Alberta review its Agriculture section of the website ensuring that extension material, online courses and other useful items are easy to find and access for farmers and those in the agriculture industry and reintroduce the general store.

SPONSORED BY: Cypress County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

The former Alberta Agriculture website “Ropin’ the Web” is no longer available. The new Alberta Agriculture website is no longer user friendly, has many broken links, and useful materials are no longer available.

Examples of resources no longer available:

- General Stores – within a few clicks you could access a list of books available;
 - Tools and calculators;
 - The food safety course for farmers market vendors;
 - The list of available Agdex
 - The Hort Snacks newsletter
 - Links for Associations involved in agriculture (i.e., Alberta Farm Fresh Producers Association and the Alberta Farmers Market Association)
-

ROPIN' THE WEB

- WHEREAS:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is responsible for the policies, legislation, regulations, programs, and services that enable Alberta's agriculture, food, and forest sectors to grow, prosper, and diversify;
- WHEREAS:** The Ministry of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Ropin' the Web provided relevant and reliable information from knowledgeable specialists and experts and a general store for agricultural and forestry related supplies and services;
- WHEREAS:** Rural businesses and organizations were provided opportunities to facilitate business networks with assistance from the Ministry through the Ministry website Ropin' the Web;
- WHEREAS:** As part of a larger Government of Alberta web consolidation project, Agriculture and Forestry's web presence, including Ropin' the Web, moved to Alberta.ca and by March 31, 2019, online government directories and some relevant agricultural information was no longer available;
- WHEREAS:** The intent of the consolidation of the various Alberta Government websites on Alberta.ca to provide a one-stop shop for government information and services that is useable and accessible to all Albertans, is no longer providing a valuable services and information for Alberta's farmers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry ensure all information and services previously provided through Ropin' The Web be reinstated with easy accessibility on the Alberta.ca website.

SPONSORED BY: Mountain View County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

In 1999 there were 1.32 million user sessions on the Ropin' the Web Department website. User feedback was very positive and constructive for the information and service channel.¹

The Ministry Internet website, Ropin' the Web was independently classed as pre-eminent among provincial government web sites and was recognized as one of the best educational sources on the web. The average usage of the site has increased from 1.3 to 1.7 million sessions per month. Over 100 marketing websites, gathered from the North American Farmers Direct Marketing Conference, were tested for website address accuracy, book marked and added to the Direct Market Web Page on Ropin' the Web.²

The 2001 – 2002 annual report identified that Ropin' the Web was rated the best Alberta Government web site for the third consecutive year by an independent survey, and usage increased by 47 per cent to 2.5 million visitors a year.³

In 2003 when the Province confirmed that a single cow had tested positive for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) the public was directed to the Ministry's Ropin' the Web site for information on the status of this situation.⁴

Ropin' the Web became the trusted website for data and information to support producers, agricultural and agri-food related businesses and their networks. The site contained risk management decision making tools, opportunities, services and programs in the primary and value-added agricultural sectors.

The Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development Annual Reports in 2008-2009⁵ and 2009-2010⁶ identified that rural businesses and organizations are provided opportunities to facilitate business networks with assistance from the Ministry. The General Store provided a platform for allowed rural businesses, custom operators, farmers, rural residents and the general public to easily access agricultural related projects and services. This provided opportunities to assist producers in growing their businesses by increasing marketing opportunities. The General Store offered buy and sell listings for Alberta Hay and Pasture, Wood Biomass, Custom Services Listings, Livestock, Manure and Compost Directory and Food Processing Equipment.

In 2011 Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development information management division created a designated posting and search function for Certified Weed Free Hay on the Alberta Hay and Pasture Directory on the Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development Ropin' The Web. This is the promoted method to purchase Certified Weed Free Hay as per the Alberta Weed Free Hay Program.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is responsible for:

- policies, legislation, regulations and services necessary for Alberta's agriculture, food and forest sectors to grow, prosper and diversify

- inspiring public confidence in wildfire and forest management and the quality and safety of food
- supporting environmentally sustainable resource management practices
- leading collaboration that enables safe and resilient rural communities

“We also have a clear mandate to help job-creators create jobs and increase investment and economic activity for the province.”⁶

Municipalities continue to hear from producers that the loss of the Ropin’ the Web site is a major challenge for their continued operations. As eluded above, the site provided a variety of valuable services to producers that cannot be replicated by the new direction to use Kijiji or Facebook Marketplace.

Resources

1. Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. (2000, September 7). *1999-2000 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development* (pp. 26). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/61751a19-69d1-4ce1-b430-80bc435950a9/resource/fbe68d78-7589-470c-93dd-3b10224b6ab6/download/21952171999-2000.pdf>
2. Deputy Premier and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. (2001, September 12). *2000-2001 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development* (pp. 22-27). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/61751a19-69d1-4ce1-b430-80bc435950a9/resource/51f07f03-02d9-4ac1-bf80-cdf29d67bfa1/download/21952172000-2001.pdf>
3. Deputy Premier and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. (2002, August 29). *2001-2002 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development* (pp. 41). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/61751a19-69d1-4ce1-b430-80bc435950a9/resource/3f30233c-e43d-4f6e-a7ad-a2b49241bf75/download/21952172001-2002.pdf>
4. Deputy Premier and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. (2003, September 2). *2002-2003 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development* (pp. 23). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/61751a19-69d1-4ce1-b430-80bc435950a9/resource/eb952b8b-94c5-49c0-85dc-23a5a08e08a3/download/21952172002-2003.pdf>
5. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. (2009, September 8). *Agriculture and Rural Development Annual Report 2008-2009* (pp. 60). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/b36f8f34-1ca0-448b-8777-fe7d3ffebd4e/resource/a2f19ef9-49bc-43ef-aa29-d95fcd2f5fd0/download/6849045-2008-2009-ARD-Annual-Report.pdf>

6. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. (2010, September 8). *Agriculture and Rural Development Annual Report 2009-2010* (pp. 31). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/b36f8f34-1ca0-448b-8777-fe7d3ffebd4e/resource/308d6606-ae95-42e4-adc9-d9dbb97f90b9/download/6849045-2009-2010-ARD-Annual-Report.pdf>

7. Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. (2019, June 28). *Agriculture and Forestry Annual Report 2019-2019* (pp. 4). Retrieved from <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/3bd2d2b9-6ccd-4d8d-a8a2-a5c15da00c2a/resource/bda692e4-785d-4864-9acc-c0263ffd2813/download/agriculture-and-forestry-annual-report-2018-2019-web.pdf>

WEED AND PEST SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING TECHNOLOGY GRANT

- WHEREAS:** Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) advise on and help organize direct weed and pest control;
- WHEREAS:** ASBs promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer;
- WHEREAS:** ASBs promote and develop agricultural policies to meet the needs of the municipality;
- WHEREAS:** All ASBs must report weed and pest monitoring and surveillance as part of their grant requirement;
- WHEREAS:** The compilation of data collected from the 69 different Agricultural Service Boards requires extensive labour and time on the part of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and municipalities;
- WHEREAS:** The information received may be for up to 2 growing seasons and has become dated for municipal and provincial use;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry provide a technology grant and personnel resources to assist municipalities in establishing a provincial pest and weed surveillance and monitoring system to improve timely access to data for all the Agricultural stakeholders.

SPONSORED BY: Woodlands County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

A Provincial/Municipal Pest and Weed Software initiative would reduce administration cost and also give the Province an “up to date” view of what is going on in the province. Considering the current process for 2019, the files will be gathered and sent to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF) in spring of 2020 then compiled and released by mid to late summer. This becomes difficult for the municipalities, producers, and industry partners to make informed decisions and secure market access when pest and weed data is dated and up to two growing seasons old.

Many counties and municipalities are using various software or methods to track weeds and pests for their ASB operations. The software provides data information including maps, data sets, and other attributes that can greatly help for surveillance and monitoring activities and help make decisions based on actual field data. Currently, many counties and municipalities do not possess GIS software to track weeds and pests as it is cost-prohibitive. The use of hard-copy county maps and excel tables to track activities is common in these municipalities. Tracking software can range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for initial setup fees and additionally involve an annual subscription fee of \$10,000. If each municipality were able to obtain a uniform and compatible software system, the entire province would be able to collect cumulative data that can be used for various surveillance and monitoring purposes (e.g. rate of spreading of weeds or disease, pinpoint specific area in case of outbreak, etc.). This uniform software would provide full assurance for the industry for market access and strengthen surveillance and monitoring activities while at the same time assisting decision makers regarding policies and management activities to reduce the cost of their operation of controlling weeds and pests.

Sharing this data would also reduce municipal and provincial administrative duties as the access to limited information could be regularly and perhaps automatically shared. ASB's in turn, could monitor situations locally, regionally and provincially with more ease.

This would allow for identification of trends and concerns so the local ASBs could more effectively as per the ***Agricultural Service Board Act Section (2) a,b,d,e***

- *act as an advisory body and to assist the council and the Minister, in matters of mutual concern, (with both parties having the same information)*
- *advise on and to help organize and direct weed and pest control,*
- *promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer, and*
- *promote and develop agricultural policies to meet the needs of the municipality*

Concerning privacy protection, access to information would be limited to broader, less focused details. This information could be uploaded or accessed remotely by AAF quite easily and still provide privacy protection. The sharing of information would have no bearing on how a municipality would address any infestation for Pest or Noxious Weeds. One municipality could

still issue notices while the neighboring municipality could have a different communication strategy, program and policy.

Providing grant support for the purchase and maintenance of a uniform and Provincially compatible monitoring software system would increase bargaining power for municipalities in accessing the system. Such a system would be mutually beneficial for both municipalities and the Government of Alberta with increased accuracy, timely data delivery, decreased workload and reliable data for secure market access.

CLUBROOT PATHOTYPE TESTING

- WHEREAS:** Canola production generates over \$7 billion in revenues in the Province of Alberta annually, is adversely impacted by clubroot;
- WHEREAS:** Clubroot surveillance and pathotype testing completed by the University of Alberta Clubroot Research Team led by Dr. Strelkov is the only testing of its kind being done in Western Canada, and is used to inform the Industry, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and producers;
- WHEREAS:** The unbiased, world recognized testing conducted by the University of Alberta has been vital to the agricultural industry in breeding canola cultivars resistant to the ever-evolving number of pathotypes being found in Alberta agricultural fields;
-
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Agriculture and Forestry recently denied a Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Project funding application which would allow this extremely important research to continue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUES

the Province of Alberta commit to consistent and sustainable funding for the Clubroot Surveillance and Pathotype Monitoring conducted by the University of Alberta.

SPONSORED BY: Big Lakes County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Clubroot was first found infecting a canola crop in 2003 in Sturgeon County. Since that time, much has been learned about clubroot with a great deal of this knowledge coming from the efforts of the research team at the University of Alberta, led by Dr. Strelkov.

In 2009, the first clubroot resistant cultivar was released and by 2013, the resistance had been overcome by a new pathotype. “Pathotypic Shift”, selected for by the very resistance used to safeguard canola crops had been positively identified. The number of known pathotypes within Alberta fields ballooned from 8 to our present-day total of 22 separate pathotypes. A new Canadian Clubroot Differential set was developed, primarily by Dr. Strelkov and his team to allow for the differentiation of the new pathotypes.

In 2017, clubroot was positively identified in the Peace Region of Alberta for the first time. Big Lakes County was fortunate to be offered pathotype testing by the University of Alberta research team and sent 20 samples to their lab. Of those samples, 3 novel resistance breaking pathotypes were discovered.

Due to the “clubroot free” status enjoyed by Big Lakes County producers until 2017, clubroot resistant cultivars were not being deployed in the field in any great numbers. In 2018, that changed with over 95% of producers utilizing the technology. Big Lakes County was again invited to submit samples for pathotype testing to the University of Alberta. 2 novel resistance breaking pathotypes were discovered on the 5 submitted samples.

Clubroot is a quickly evolving pathogen that requires an integrated management approach to deal with. If no pathotype testing is available for these samples, Alberta Agriculture and Alberta Producers will only have part of the picture. To protect our canola industry and agriculture, pests must be taken seriously.

On October 18, 2019, Dr. Strelkov informed Big Lakes County that the University of Alberta Clubroot team would have to pause on pathotype testing as the Canadian Agricultural Partnership grant application they submitted jointly with Alberta Canola had been turned down. The reasoning given in the denial was that comprehensive networks already exist on the topic of clubroot. Currently, the University of Alberta Clubroot team is the only team conducting in depth, specific to Alberta research on this pathogens pathotypes. The research has informed agronomists, commissions, Alberta Agriculture and the World. The work being done at the University of Alberta is of vital importance to the future of the canola industry in Alberta and needs to continue, unimpeded.

Pathotype Classification CCD

Differential Host	3A	2B	8P	5X	5C	3D	8E	2F	5G	3H	5I	8J	5K	5L	6M	8N	3O	6S	8W	8Y	8Z	8AF	
	ECD 02	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	ECD 05	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
	ECD 06	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+
	ECD 08	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	ECD 09	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
	ECD 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
	ECD 11	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
	ECD 13	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
	Brutor	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
	Laurentian	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Mendel	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Westar	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	45H29	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+

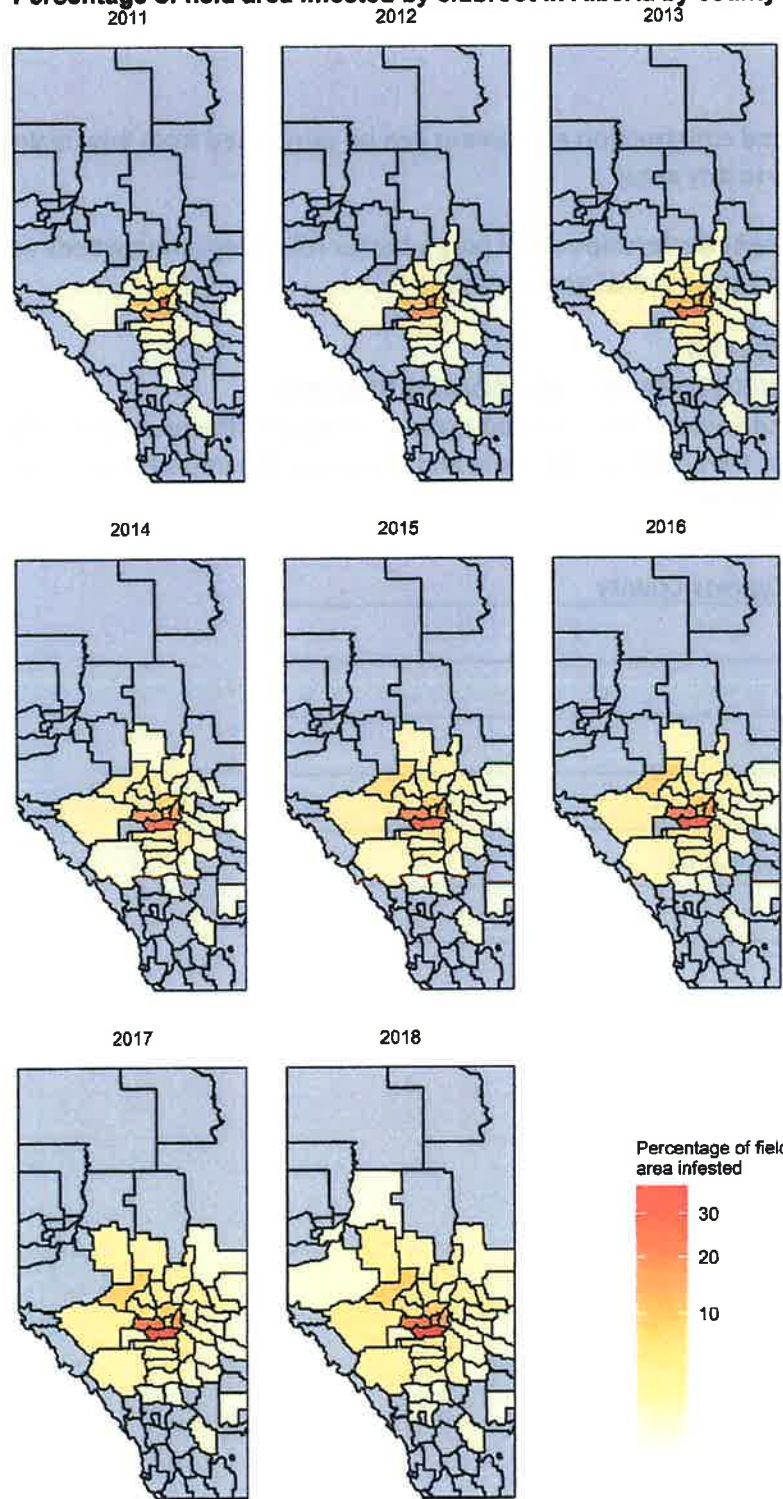
Resistance Breaking

New Pathotypes (BLC)

ECD 2	Turnip (<i>B. rapa</i>)
ECD 5	Chinese cabbage (<i>B. rapa</i> var. <i>pekinensis</i>) 'Graanaat'
ECD 6	The fodder rapes (<i>B. napus</i>) 'Nevin'
ECD 8	'Giant Rape' selection
ECD 9	New Zealand resistant rape
ECD 10	The rutabaga (<i>B. napus</i> var. <i>napobrassica</i>) 'Wilhemsburger'
ECD 11	Cabbage (<i>B. oleracea</i> var. <i>capitata</i>) 'Badger Shipper'
ECD 13	Cabbage 'Jersey Queen'
Brutor	Spring Oilseed rape
Laurentian	rutabaga
Mendel	Winter oilseed rape, CR cultivar (<i>B. napus</i>)
Westar	open pollinated spring canola (<i>B. napus</i>)
45H29	CR Hybrid Canola (<i>B. Napus</i>)

Testing completed and results compiled by Dr. Stephen Strelkov, Victor Manolli, Sheau-Fang Hwang and Keisha Hollman- 2019

Percentage of field area infested by clubroot in Alberta by county



**EDUCATION CAMPAIGN FOR CLEANLINESS OF EQUIPMENT FOR INDUSTRY
SECTORS**

WHEREAS: Farm and construction equipment can be purchased from any dealership and moved to any area;

WHEREAS: Equipment dealerships could play a better role in ensuring weeds and pests from one area stays out of another area;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry create an education campaign directed specifically at equipment dealerships that outlines their role and promotes the importance of moving clean, uncontaminated equipment.

SPONSORED BY: Cypress County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Through the Canadian Council of Invasive Species there is a current program called “PlayCleanGo” which is an initiative created to stop or slow down the spread of invasive species directed at the recreation industry.

This initiative is widely recognized and would be beneficial if there was education campaign created to target equipment dealerships specifically.

From the Canadian Council of Invasive Species website:
(<https://canadainvasives.ca/programs/playcleango/>)

“What is PlayCleanGo?”

PlayCleanGo started as a Minnesota State, education initiative to stop the spread of invasive species in parks and natural areas.

The goal is to encourage outdoor recreation while protecting valuable natural resources. The objective is to slow or stop the spread of terrestrial invasive species (those that occur on land) through changes in public behaviour.

The Canadian Council on Invasive Species entered into an agreement with Minnesota in late 2-16 that enabled Canadian Council on Invasive Species to adapt and implement PlayCleanGo: Stop Invasive Species in Your Tracks, as a national branded program across Canada.

Degradation of Our Natural Environment

Natural areas such as forests, prairies, wetlands and lakes provide many ecosystem services and benefits. Natural areas provide shelter and food for wildlife, remove pollutants from air and water, produce oxygen and provide valuable recreational and educational opportunities.

Invasive species threaten and can alter our natural environment and habitats and disrupt essential ecosystem functions. Invasive plants specifically displace native vegetation through competition for water, nutrients, and space. Once established, Invasive species can:

- *Reduce soil productivity*
- *Impact water quality and quantity*
- *Degrade range resources and wildlife habitat*
- *Threaten biodiversity*
- *Alter natural fire regimes*
- *Introduce diseases*

Invasive species threaten many rare and endangered species and now those species are at risk of extinction. Once established, invasive species become costly and difficult to eradicate. Often, the impacts are irreversible to the local ecosystem.

Impacts on Agriculture

Invasive plants can have a wide range of impacts on the agricultural industry. Invasive plants can act as new or additional hosts for new or existing crop diseases and crop pests, they can cause reductions in crop yields and may require increased use of pesticides to control them. This increases costs for farmers and reduces crop values. Estimated crop losses in BC agriculture industry of over \$50 million annually. Species such as knapweed infest rangelands and reduce forage quality. Many other species out-compete desired species in cultivated fields (Source: BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. 1998. Integrated weed management—an introductory manual). The estimated annual economic impact of invasive plants on Canadian agriculture is \$2.2 billion (Environment Canada, 2010).

Interference with Forest Productivity

Invasive species, specifically invasive plants, can interfere with forest regeneration and productivity through direct competition with tree seedlings, resulting in reduced density and slowed growth rate of tree saplings. Reduction in forest regeneration and productivity results in the loss of wildlife habitat, and decreases the diversity of a stand, making it more vulnerable to insects and disease.

Economic Impacts

*Invasive plants can have a large economic impact on individual landowners and municipalities. A recent study shows that property values for shoreline residences in Vermont affected with Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) were down as much as 16.4 % (OMNRF, 2012). Due to the explosion of leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), Manitoba has experienced a \$30 million reduction in land values (CFIA, 2008). Leafy spurge infests 340,000 acres of land in Manitoba, costing taxpayers an estimated \$19 million per year to protect grazing land, public land, and rights-of-way (CFIA, 2008). In Ontario, the MNRF has been involved with invasive *Phragmites* control pilot projects since 2007 and to date control costs range between \$865 and \$1,112 per hectare (OMNRF, 2012). Invasive species have an impact on approximately 20% of Species at Risk in Ontario (OMNRF, 2012).*

Invasive plants directly affect municipalities with reforestation projects and recreational trails. They increase management costs (e.g. project planning and monitoring) and they increase operational costs (e.g. mowing, pruning and hand pulling). They also complicate reforestation projects as they need to first be removed, and then the gaps created through removal must be addressed by using large, potted plant stock, or additional site maintenance to prevent the risk of re-invasion.

The economic impact of invasive species in Canada is significant. According to Environment Canada and Climate Change:

- *The estimated annual cumulative lost revenue caused by just 16 invasive species is between \$13 to \$35 billion.*

- *Invasive species that damage the agricultural and forestry industries results in an estimated \$7.5 billion of lost revenue annually.”*

The PlayCleanGo is a widely recognized and highly successful initiative. The PlayCleanGo website contains resources and relevant information targeted for the recreation industry but could also be applied for other industries as well. With a successful campaign like PlayCleanGo, there should be another campaign to target other industry sectors to remind them the role they play in the prevention or spreading invasive species and diseases.

AFSC ASSIST IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF REGULATED CROP PESTS

- WHEREAS:** Crop diseases are becoming more prevalent and wide spread in Alberta due to shortened crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** Disease resistance is breaking down more quickly due to shortened crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** Longer crop rotations can significantly decrease pest and disease infestations;
- WHEREAS:** Most crop producers carry crop insurance through the provincial crown corporation Agricultural Financial Services Corporation (AFSC);
- WHEREAS:** AFSC has the ability to promote better and longer crop rotations by declining or pricing insurance in a manner that discourages short crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** Other jurisdictions such as Saskatchewan use their provincial Crown corporations for crop insurance to promote recommended crop rotations;
- WHEREAS:** The Minister has the ability under the Agricultural Pests Act Section 3(d) to enter into an agreement with AFSC to prevent establishment of or control or destroy pests;
- WHEREAS:** During the 2015 ASB Provincial Conference Resolution #1 ADAPT CROP INSURANCE TO PROTECT CLUBROOT TOLERANT VARIETIES was passed. The resolution requested similar actions to be taken, the response report card deemed actions taken to be unsatisfactory;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Forestry per section 3(d) of the Agricultural Pests Act enter into an agreement with AFSC to decline insurance on canola acres under their program if canola has been planted back to back in rotation.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Forestry per section 3(d) of the Agricultural Pests Act enter into an agreement with AFSC to impose an insurance premium on land which has been planted to canola in contradiction to the Province's Clubroot Management Plan.

SPONSORED BY: Kneehill County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Kneehill County has recently confirmed clubroot in its borders, and in addition nearly all surrounding municipalities have also confirmed clubroot. As an Agricultural Service Board we constantly promote and emphasize the importance of good crop rotations to prevent yield loss due to disease, pests and other invasive species that are detrimental to crop production. Despite these efforts many producers have actually tightened rotations so much so that some are growing canola and other crops back to back. The introduction of resistant varieties has provided a false sense of security for many producers reducing their fear of contracting clubroot or other diseases.

In 2003, the first report of clubroot in a commercial canola field in Canada was identified near Edmonton. In April 2007 clubroot was declared a pest under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act and the province developed a Clubroot Management Plan to assist municipalities in dealing with this pest. In 2011 the first clubroot resistant varieties of canola were introduced in Alberta. However, due to continued poor rotational cropping practices, breakdown in resistance of these varieties occurred, which has led to the establishment of new pathotypes. In 2013 the first pathotypes were identified in two fields- this has since multiplied substantially to over 192 fields and 17 different pathotypes, 11 of which can break resistance as of December 2018.

Since 2003, clubroot has spread and is now found in over 3000 fields in this province affecting 40 counties plus the cities of Edmonton, Medicine Hat, and the Town of Stettler, and continues to spread at a rate of 20km/year. The map below shows where clubroot has been found and the color code indicates the number of fields that have been found in the affected municipalities.

AGRICULTURAL PESTS ACT - Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter A-8

Current as of November 1, 2014

Section 3

Powers of Minister

3(1) The Minister may

- (a) investigate any matter,
- (b) conduct surveys,
- (c) establish programs, or
- (d) enter into agreements with any person, local authority, agency or government,

for the purpose of preventing the establishment of, controlling or destroying a pest or nuisance and preventing or reducing damage caused by a pest or nuisance.

(2) The Minister may exempt any land from the operation of all or part of this Act.

1984cA-8.1 s3

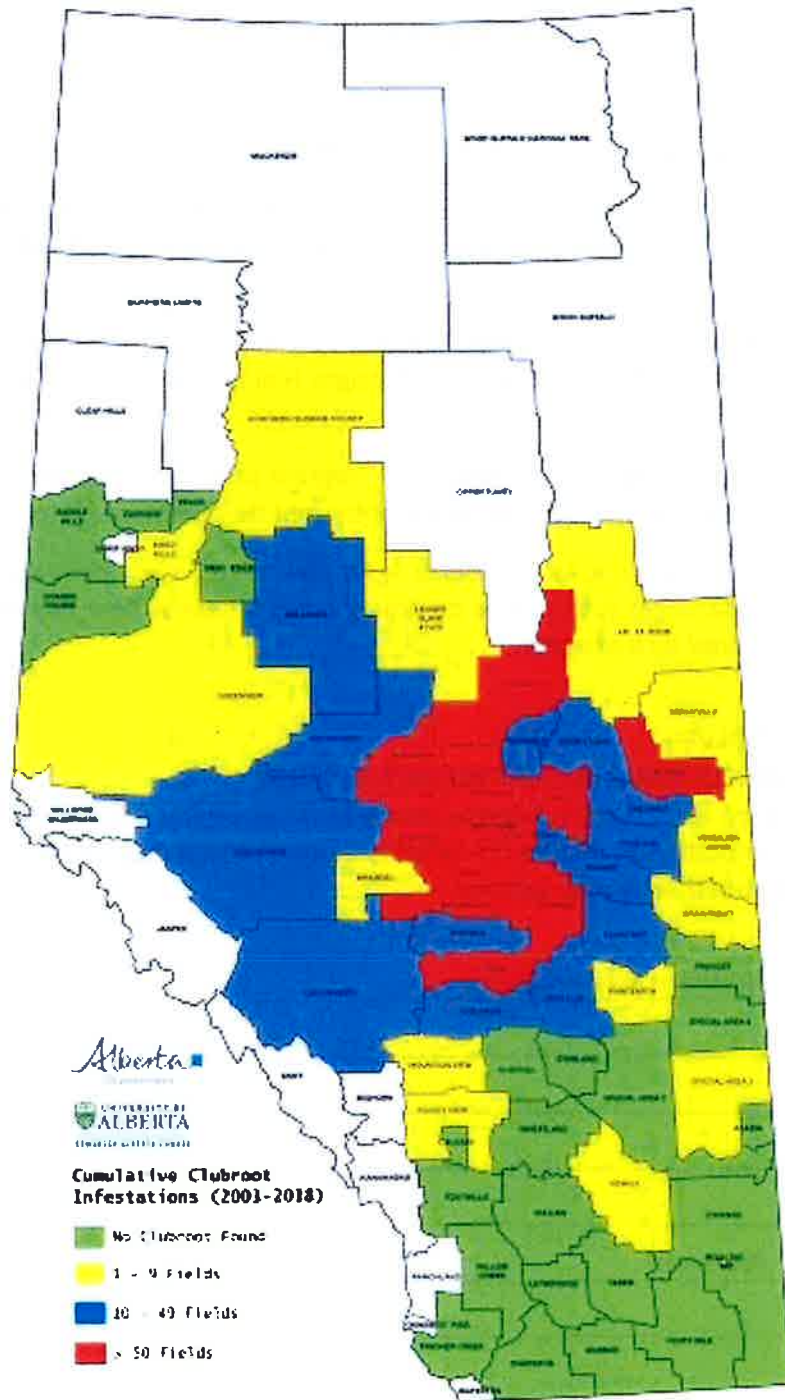


Figure 1. Alberta Clubroot Map: Cumulative clubroot infestations as of December 2018. Map courtesy of S.E. Strelkov, University of Alberta and M. Hartman, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development.

BEEHIVE DEPREDATION

- WHEREAS:** Alberta agriculture has a spectrum of different farming and ranching operation;
- WHEREAS:** The Ungulate Damage Prevention Program, offers producers advice and assistance to prevent ungulates from spoiling stored feed and unharvested crops;
- WHEREAS:** All commercially grown cereal, oilseed, special and other crops that can be insured under the Production and Straight Hail Insurance programs are eligible for compensation;
- WHEREAS:** The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program provides compensation to ranchers whose livestock are killed or injured by wildlife predators;
-
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Beekeepers, as an Alberta Agricultural Producers, also experiences wildlife damages such as hive destruction every year by bear depredation but is not covered by a program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Alberta Environment and Parks work with Agriculture Financial Services Corporation to amend the Wildlife Compensation Program to include coverage for hive destruction by bear activity.

SPONSORED BY: Northern Sunrise County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Source: <https://afsc.ca/news/wildlife-damage-compensation-program-what-you-need-to-know/>

With the onset of harvest season, an intense effort by producers around the province is underway to ensure the crops are being taken off the field in a timely manner.

Circumstances surrounding harvest may not always be suitable for a swift completion of the effort. There might be some damage to crops stemming from the presence of wildlife in the area.

Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (WDCP), administered by AFSC in Alberta and funded completely by the federal and provincial governments, provides coverage for producers who suffer crop loss or degradation due to wildlife.

To benefit from this program, a producer does not have to have an insurance policy with AFSC, but it is important to know that not all crops are eligible under WDCP.

Here are some basic guidelines of how WDCP works:

- WDCP compensates agricultural producers for wildlife damage to eligible unharvested crops, wildlife excreta contaminated crops, silage or haylage in pits and tubes; and stacked hay.
- While producers pay no premium to be eligible for indemnity, a non-refundable \$25 appraisal fee per inspection is required for each section of land (or portion thereof) on which the damage has occurred with at least 10 per cent wildlife damage and a minimum of \$100 loss per crop must be assessed for payment eligibility.
- All commercially grown cereal, oilseed, special and other crops that can be insured under the Production and Straight Hail Insurance programs are eligible for compensation. Swath grazing, bale grazing and corn grazing are eligible for compensation only up to October 31.
- To initiate a wildlife claim on Stacked Hay and Silage or Haylage in pits and tubes, a producer must first contact a provincial Fish and Wildlife (FW) Officer who will provide the producer with appropriate recommendations to prevent further damage prior to a claim being paid.
- Crops under the following circumstances are not eligible: Crops in granaries, bins, stacks or bales left in the field (exception: silage in pits and tubes are eligible); crops seeded on land considered unsuitable for production; crops seeded too late in the season to produce a normal yield; volunteer crops; crops left exposed to wildlife damage due to management practices.

Source: <https://afsc.ca/crop-insurance/perennial-crop-insurance/wildlife-damage-compensation-program/>

The Wildlife Damage Compensation program compensates agricultural producers for damage to eligible unharvested hay crops that is caused by ungulates, upland game birds and waterfowl.

Producers wishing to participate in the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program are not required to have insurance to qualify for a claim. All costs for this program are paid by the federal and provincial governments; producers pay no premium or administration cost except for the appraisal fee. A non-refundable appraisal fee of \$25 per inspection type is required for each section of land or portion thereof on which the damage has occurred.

In order for a producer to be compensated under the program, there must be at least 10 per cent wildlife damage and a minimum of \$100 calculated loss per crop. Damaged hay crops must not be harvested until an AFSC inspector inspects them.

The following crops are not eligible: grazing land or native pasture; crops seeded on land considered unsuitable for production; crops left exposed to wildlife damage due to management practices.

For stacked and haylage in pits and tube, producers are responsible to notify Fish and Wildlife and AFSC as soon as possible after first noticing damage to request an inspection. A provincial Fish and Wildlife (FW) Officer will provide the producer with appropriate recommendations to prevent further damage prior to a claim being paid.

Source: <https://www.alberta.ca/wildlife-predator-compensation-program.aspx>

The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program provides compensation to ranchers whose livestock are killed or injured by wildlife predators.

Funding for the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program comes from dedicated revenue from the sale of recreational hunting and fishing licences in Alberta and from the federal government.

Compensation is paid only for	Compensation is not paid for
<p>Cattle, bison, sheep, swine and goats.</p>	<p>Any other animal, including horses, donkeys or exotic animals, such as llamas, alpacas or wild boar.</p>
<p>Attacks by wolves, grizzly bears, black bears, cougars and eagles.</p>	<p>Attacks by other types of predators, such as coyotes.</p>
<p>The costs of veterinary care and medication associated with the incident or the loss of an animal, up to the value of the animal based on the average for the type and class of livestock.</p>	<p>Incidents of feeding on livestock that had already died of disease or other causes not related to wildlife predation.</p>

AGRICULTURAL RELATED LEASE DISPOSITIONS

- WHEREAS:** Agricultural Lease Dispositions on Public Lands are an integral component of many livestock operations throughout the Province of Alberta;
- WHEREAS:** The demographics of the Province of Alberta's Agricultural Producers indicate that the sector is experiencing and will continue to experience the rapid succession of livestock operations for the foreseeable future;
- WHEREAS:** The sale and/or purchase of Agricultural Lease Dispositions represent the transfer of an asset and the capital used to develop that asset;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

a transfer of the management of Public Lands- Agricultural Related Lease Dispositions to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to streamline and/or provide increased resources to expedite the disposition of Agricultural Leases within the Province of Alberta.

SPONSORED BY: Big Lakes County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Grazing leases have existed in Alberta since 1881 and were created to encourage economic activity utilizing forage on Crown Lands, allowing producers to grow their herds by utilizing large swaths of Provincial grass resources. This system has been an integral component of the Alberta Livestock Industry's success.

Grazing Leases are managed by Alberta Environment and Parks and can be issued for terms not exceeding 20 years, though 10 years is the typical allotment. Once assigned, lease holders have exclusive rights to the use of the specified land(s) for grazing purposes. In Alberta, there are approximately 5,700 grazing leases utilizing approximately 8 million acres of range for livestock through various dispositions.

Once a grazing lease has been issued, the lease becomes an asset to the lease holder. The lease holder is responsible for fencing, necessary outbuildings and other capital expenditures. If a lease holder wishes to transfer a grazing lease to an arm's length entity through the sale of the lease rights, an "Application for General Assignment of Disposition" must be completed, all fees must be paid, and the completed package submitted to Alberta Environment and Parks, Operations Division. Fees for this process are dependent for the Zone the Grazing Lease is locate in. Zone C in the Northern portion of the Province of Alberta fees are \$5 per animal unit month (AUM). An AUM is defined within the Public Lands Act, RSA 2000 cP-40 s104;2009 cA-26.8 s91(49) as the forage required to sustain a cow of average weight with a calf at foot for the period of one month.

Approvals of a grazing lease had a wait time of 12-16 months for transfer to the arm's length entity in 2015. Livestock producers within Alberta have reported that final approval of grazing lease disposition transfers is taking more than 3 years to complete. This presents a challenge to producers as the sale of grazing lease rights represents a transfer of asset from one producer to another. While the final approval remains incomplete, the current lease holder cannot collect on the funds from the sale of the grazing lease disposition rights. These funds are held in trust until the disposition application is approved.

With the current demographics of Alberta Livestock Producers, this protracted process represents undue hardship for both the lease holder and the arm's length entity purchasing the rights to the grazing lease disposition. Succession of livestock operations is an ongoing process throughout the Province. Consolidation of these operations is also a very active concern. By protracting the period of completion of these transfers, the purchaser has no responsibility to improve or maintain the grazing lease and the lease holder is still responsible for payment of rent.

With an anticipated increase in pressure of multiple succession of operations over a short period of time and continued consolidation, coupled with almost 5,700 active leases that may require

transfer throughout the Province of Alberta, the current FTE for transfers of Grazing Lease Dispositions of 2.0 is inadequate.

Within the Public Lands Administration Regulations, 30 days are given for the Director to provide notice to the applicant that an application for formal disposition has been accepted or rejected and 1 year after this notice the Director is to issue a notice of the issuance of the disposition or refusal to issue. Currently the Crown is not complying with the Public Lands Administration Regulation.

EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK REMOVAL

- WHEREAS:** Maintaining livestock health, viability and profitability during emergency situations such as, but not limited to, disease, fire and flooding is a major priority to livestock producers;
- WHEREAS:** Livestock removal during emergency situations pose major challenges to producers' safety, livelihoods and animal welfare;
- WHEREAS:** Major challenges arise from transportation, acquiring pasture and red tape from various departments to access grazing reserves;
- WHEREAS:** These major challenges restrict the ability of these producers to evacuate rapidly and pose serious risk to life and property;
- WHEREAS:** Removal of red tape and rapid access to grazing reserves and/or created areas allotted for the use during emergency situations would improve the evacuation process, protect life and property;
- WHEREAS:** Currently Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and Forestry do not coordinate an effort to make livestock removal a priority under the Emergency Management Act in rural areas;
- WHEREAS:** The purpose of an Agricultural Service Board is to improve the economic welfare and safety of producers and by not having a provincial streamlined system to safely and effectively remove and rehome livestock; emergency situations will continue to plague the life and property of producers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD REQUEST

that Municipal Affairs, Agriculture and Forestry and Environment and Parks—Public Lands work together to improve access and provide all necessary resources to create separate allotments at grazing reserves and/or other created sites designated for livestock during emergency management situations and recognize livestock removal as an important part in the Emergency Management Act.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD REQUEST

that Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and Forestry work together to research and develop best practice procedures in the event livestock are to be left behind due to an Evacuation Order issued under the Emergency Management Act.

Sponsored by: County of Northern Lights

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Carried: _____

Defeated: _____

Status: Provincial

Department: _____

BACKGROUND

In May of 2019 we saw widespread fires and emergency situations erupt throughout Northern Alberta. One of many fires was the Battle Complex Fire (PWF 052), which led to an evacuation of the Northern half of the County of Northern Lights. It became apparent that the removal of livestock and willingness of livestock producers to leave would become a major challenge to emergency management staff at the County of Northern Lights as the County is not equipped to provide assistance in removal of livestock to increase the likelihood of producers evacuating.

Two reoccurring themes emerged from producers.

1. "Where could I even move my livestock if I wanted too?"
2. "I can't remove my livestock, what is the best practices if I have to leave them and get out?"

It would remove a major hurdle to livestock producers if it was public knowledge that they had a place to rehome livestock during emergencies, if they chose. The initiation of sound research and development of standard operating procedures regarding what to do if you cannot remove the livestock would reduce the stress for producers and first responders in the event of an evacuation.

Dealing with the immediate threat of the fire, the staff realized there was little they could do to help and few resources to offer in this situation other than reaching out to intermunicipal contacts and Alberta Environment and Parks to find pasture or reserves with space to rehome livestock. If areas were designated for emergency use provincially and producers were aware of these sites, they would act before immediate threat to life and property was posed. This would not only be beneficial to producers but also the brave emergency responders that work tirelessly to keep our community safe. Livestock producers who are under immediate threat of evacuation must be given viable options for their animals if we expect them to evacuate, by addressing this threat to life and property it allows emergency responders to perform their jobs more effectively and does not create another hazard of livestock running loose.

The County of Northern Lights would like to thank all the emergency responders that risked their lives to save our community. We would also like to thank all the volunteers for their time, resources and trucks to rehome livestock of affected producers. It's families like these that help to build strong, robust and vibrant communities but provincially we shouldn't have to rely solely on great volunteers. A structured and targeted Inter-Ministerial Provincial Plan on how to respond during an Agricultural Emergency needs to be created. That is why we need to make Emergency Livestock Removal a priority and provide the necessary funding and areas required to protect life and property.

MANDATORY AGRICULTURE EDUCATION IN THE CLASSROOM

- WHEREAS:** Agricultural production in Alberta has historically been and continues to be a major economic force and employer of workers;
- WHEREAS:** Generations ago, most Albertans grew up on the family farm and had an intimate knowledge about how livestock, crops, and other agricultural commodities were raised;
- WHEREAS:** Most Albertans now live in urban non -farm environments and do not have the same level of knowledge about how livestock, crops, and other agricultural commodities are being raised;
- WHEREAS:** The general public has historically had a high regard for agriculture and farmers as they put food on their table in Alberta, Canada, and the rest of the world;
- WHEREAS:** Modern agriculture in Alberta is being severely tested by concerns about how livestock, crops, and agricultural produce is being raised, especially regarding environmental impacts, animal cruelty, and farm safety;
- WHEREAS:** Many of these concerns stem from a lack of knowledge about agriculture in the general community;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Education is currently reviewing the teaching curriculum making it very timely to consider this resolution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta and Alberta Agriculture & Forestry work with other rural stakeholders, Alberta Education, and the Alberta Teachers' Association to request that mandatory agriculture education be implemented in the school curriculum in Alberta.

SPONSORED BY: Lac La Biche County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Lac La Biche County, like most Alberta rural municipalities, has a significant world – class agricultural sector that is a Canadian success story sometimes unknown to the community at large.

Grade 4 students in schools in Lac La Biche County, (public, Catholic, or Francophone) may be taught agriculture in the classroom so long as the school approves. The Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP) is a well-known and highly respected education program currently reaching over 20,000 Grade 4 Alberta students annually. Since its beginning, CAP has reached more than 570,000 Alberta youth.

CAP is about creating a broader understanding of the food we eat and where it comes from. Students start to understand the value and important of agriculture in Alberta, the vast opportunities, and the people and producers that drive this industry. Volunteers deliver the program through storytelling, engaging props and fun activities. With the support of Agriculture for Life, the program’s goal is to expand and reach 30,000 Alberta students annually over the next two years.

This initiative is endorsed by Alberta Education and Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development. “Agriculture is vital. We are getting further and further from the farm. It is imperative that people understand that their food comes from farms – not just the grocery store. That message can begin at school,” states CAP General Manager Don George. Lac La Biche County Council believes this message needs to be delivered to all schools in Alberta.

The Provincial ASB Committee is currently working on Resolution 3-17: Incorporating Agriculture and Agri-Food Education in the Classroom. This shows that Classroom agricultural education is very important to the entire province and to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board. This resolution seeks to emphasise the urgent need to actively implement agriculture education throughout classrooms in the province. Further, Alberta Education is currently reviewing all grade school and high school curriculum so it’s a perfect opportunity to have agriculture education incorporated as part of the overall curriculum.

REINSTATE A SHELTERBELT PROGRAM

- WHEREAS:** The Government of Canada cancelled the Prairie Shelterbelt Program in 2013, a program which ran successfully from 1901-2013;
- WHEREAS:** Shelterbelts provide many direct benefits to landowners, including snow trapping, reducing soil erosion from wind, and acting as visual screens;
- WHEREAS:** Shelterbelts provide indirect benefits to all Canadians by providing ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, and pollinator habitat;
- WHEREAS:** Weather conditions and high levels of pest pressure has taken its toll on existing shelterbelts;
- WHEREAS:** Municipalities bear the extra cost of road maintenance (snow clearing, dust control) when shelterbelts start to die;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry implement a shelterbelt program

SPONSORED BY: Brazeau County _____

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

Previously, the Government of Alberta provided trees and shrubs to Alberta farmers for shelterbelts. Various government departments managed the program over the years, but starting in 1951, the Department of Agriculture took over. In 1997 the nursery was privatised. It is estimated that over 60 million trees and shrubs were planted through the lifetime of the Alberta Shelterbelt Program.

The federal government also provided free tree seedlings to farmers from 1901-2013. The year the program was disbanded, it still distributed more than three million trees per year to 7000 clients. From 2000-2013 the federal program distributed 14.5 million trees and shrubs to Alberta's farmers. It is estimated that over the lifetime of the program they distributed over 600 million trees to prairie farmers.

While farming practises have improved and decreased soil erosion across the prairies, shelterbelts are not just for preventing the loss of soil. While traditionally thought of as rows of trees adjacent to a yard site or field, shelterbelts can be planted in many areas to attain different goals. Shelterbelts can be planted adjacent to riparian areas, livestock facilities, and dugouts.

Benefits of shelterbelts

- Carbon sequestration
- Reduction of soils erosion by wind
- Protects adjacent buildings, assisting in the reduction of energy consumption
- Increased soil moisture adjacent to the shelterbelt
- Wildlife habitat and shelter
- Pollinator habitat and shelter
- Snow trapping
- Improved soil moisture
- Improved winter safety and reduced cost of snow removal on adjacent roadways
- Rural landscape beautification
- Screens for odours and dust from farm operations
- Screens dust from road traffic into rural residences
- Increase bank stability in riparian areas
- Water filtration in run off areas

Many shelterbelts are reaching the end of their lifespan or are over mature. The former program provided incentive to plant new shelterbelts or replace dying ones. With government concerns over the climate and carbon capture, the prairie shelterbelt program would assist in those goals. While farmer's received direct benefits from the program, Canadians as a whole receive many indirect benefits from shelterbelts.

COMPENSATION TO PRODUCERS ON DENIED LAND ACCESS TO HUNTERS

- WHEREAS:** Damage to livestock fencing, stacked feed, green feed or silage pits has increased due to the growing deer and elk population;
- WHEREAS:** Damage caused by deer and elk may be reduced through best management practices including issuance of additional hunting tags;
- WHEREAS:** Controlled reduction of the ungulate population cannot be undertaken on lands where hunting is not permitted;
- WHEREAS:** No compensation should be paid to landowners for damage to fences, stacked feed, green feed losses or silage pits and tubes if land access to hunters is denied;
- ~~**WHEREAS:** Landowners can develop their own system to allow land access to hunters;~~

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Environment and Parks withhold compensation for damage caused to fences, stacked feed or green feed to landowners that do not permit access to land for hunting of wildlife.

- SPONSORED BY:** Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26
- MOVED BY:** _____
- SECONDED BY:** _____
- CARRIED:** _____
- DEFEATED:** _____
- STATUS:** Provincial
- DEPARTMENT:** _____

BACKGROUND

Over population of wildlife (deer and elk) causing destruction of crops and feed.

PREAMBLE

Producers incur additional expenses for damage to crops, silage and feed that is destroyed by deer and elk as well as fence repairs and replacement. In areas where the population of deer and elk has increased dramatically, Alberta Fish and Game has proposed to increase the number of cow elk tags issued to each hunter to control the population. Hunters that are drawn for cow elk will receive two tags instead of one. This will not increase the number of hunters, only the allotment of tags issued to them.

The intent is not to allow trespassing by anyone, permission will need to be granted by the landowner. The landowner is in control of when, who and how many hunters are allowed on their property at all times. Landowners must work with hunters to decrease the deer and elk population which in turn will provide relief from the damages done and the hazards of overpopulation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Landowners that deny access to any hunting on their lands also not qualify to receive compensation from any sources for damages or preventative measures due to the overpopulation of deer and elk in their area.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PART XV OF THE FEDERAL *HEALTH OF ANIMALS*
REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS: Under the authority of the Federal *Health of Animals Regulations*, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is proposing significant amendments to the reporting requirements regarding the movement of livestock in Canada;

WHEREAS: The “data requirements” as identified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency are exhaustive, unreasonable and seriously taxing to many livestock producers and farm operators;

WHEREAS: Dependable, long range, high frequency identification tags and consequent readers are not currently readily available;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency postpone their proposed amendments to the federal *Health of Animals Regulations* until such a time that the identified “data requirements” can be accurately collected by livestock producers and farm operators.

SPONSORED BY: Municipal District of Pincher Creek
MOVED BY: _____
SECONDED BY: _____
CARRIED: _____
DEFEATED: _____
STATUS: Provincial
DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is proposing amendments to federal traceability regulations which would require reporting of information referred to as “data requirements” any time an animal is moved from one premise to another. The proposed amendments are identified explicitly in the *Livestock Identification and Traceability Program (TRACE) – Regulatory Update. N° 5, June 1st, 2019.*



The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is dedicated to safeguarding food, animals and plants to enhance the health and well-being of Canadians, the environment and economy.

Livestock traceability is the ability to follow an animal or group of animals during all stages of its life. There are three main pillars to livestock traceability systems:

- Identification of livestock with an approved indicator;
- Identification of premises where livestock are kept, assembled or disposed of, and,
- Reporting events related to livestock such as movement of animals from one premises to another.

The goal of the livestock traceability system is to provide timely, accurate and relevant information to reduce the impacts of a disease outbreak, food safety issue or natural disasters originating from and/or affecting livestock.

The Livestock Identification and Traceability Program (TRACE) has been administered jointly by CFIA and industry since 2001. The program is regulated and enforced under Part XV of the *Health of Animals Regulations*, made under the authority of the *Health of Animals Act*.

Livestock Identification and Traceability Program (TRACE) – Regulatory Update. N° 5 June 1st, 2019

Topic: Reporting Animal Movements

The objective of the TRACE Newsletter is to provide an overview of progress on proposed amendments to Part XV of the federal *Health of Animals Regulations* (hereafter referred to the "Regulations") that pertains to livestock identification and traceability. This fifth edition focuses on one of the key elements of the regulatory proposal: reporting animal movements.

Why are amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations* being proposed?

The CFIA is proposing amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations* to strengthen Canada's livestock traceability system. The proposed federal traceability regulations would require, amongst other things, reporting the animal movement to a responsible administrator for a location where, for example an animal has been received or slaughtered.

Why is reporting animal movements important?

A traceability system with information on an animal's movements from one point to another throughout the supply chain will make it easier to control the spread of disease and minimize the impact on the industry. The proposed amendments are expected to strengthen Canada's ability in responding quickly to health threats and other emergencies.

What information related to the movement of animals and carcasses is important in managing health issues?

The information needed to manage health issues and that would be required to be reported are referred to the "data requirements"; these requirements are described in the table below.

Data requirements	Rationale for making this information available
Identification number on an approved indicator applied to the animal or carcass	Movement information associated with the identity of a specific animal or group of animals allows confirmation of which animals have been slaughtered, imported or exported or may have been impacted with a health issue;
Identification number of the premises (site) of departure and of destination	Provides a geographical representation of a health issue and enables identifying where the disease may have spread;
Date and time at which animals were loaded and unloaded from a vehicle	Enables time-stamping in conjunction with animal contact information which could be used to determine the sequence at which vehicles were used and consequently improve accuracy of which sites may have been impacted by a disease outbreak;
License plate number or other identification of the vehicle's non-motorized trailer.	Despite cleaning and disinfection measures, vehicles may serve as a disease vector. Knowing their usage serves assessing where the disease may have spread.



Definitions

Animals means a bison, cattle, caprine, cervid, pig or sheep

Caprine (Goat) means an animal, other than an embryo or fertilized egg, of the genus *Capra*.

Cervid (deer, elk) means an animal, other than an embryo or fertilized egg, of the family *Cervidae*.

Community pasture means a pasture that is managed by or leased from the Government of Canada, a provincial government or a municipality, or owned by, managed by or leased from a community pasture association, a grazing association or a grazing cooperative, and where animals from more than one operator of a farm are assembled and commingled.

Domestic means within Canada

Farm means land, and all buildings and other structures on that land, that is used under one management for breeding or raising animals, but does not include an artificial insemination unit.

Reporting means providing set information to a responsible administrator (i.e. Canadian Cattle Identification Agency, Canadian Pork Council or Agri-Traçabilité Québec)

Ruminant means a bison, cattle, caprine, cervid or sheep

What would be the proposed requirements specific to animal movement? (Data requirements outlined above)

Domestic movement of animals within a farm	The movement of ruminants would not be required to be reported The current movement reporting requirements for pigs would remain unchanged.
Domestic movement of animals to a farm	The operator of the farm would report the receipt of ruminants, with the exception of cervids, at their site, namely the data requirements, within seven days of receiving the animals. The current movement reporting requirements for pigs would remain unchanged.
Domestic movement of animals from a farm	The operator of the farm would report the departure of cervids from their site, namely the data requirements, within seven days of the departure of the cervids. The current movement reporting requirements for pigs would remain unchanged.
Domestic movement of animals to a fair, an exhibition hall, or a feedlot	The operator of the fair, exhibition hall or feedlot would report the receipt of animals at their site, namely the data requirements, within seven days of receiving the animals.
Domestic movement of animals to an auction market or an assembly yard	The operator of the auction market or assembly yard would report the receipt of animals at their site within seven days of receiving the animals, namely the data requirements with the exception that instead of reporting the identification number of an approved indicator applied to the animal or carcass, the operator would report the quantity of animals received and their species.
Domestic movement of animals to a community pasture	The operator of any site from where animals are moved (with or without being loaded into a vehicle) to a community pasture would report the departure of animals from their site within seven days of the animals' departure, namely the following information: the premises identification numbers of the departure site and of the community pasture; the date the animals departed from the departure site; the species of animals transported or moved and the number of animals of each species; and the licence plate number of the conveyance (if applicable). The operator of the community pasture would be exempt from reporting movement information.
Domestic movement of animals to an abattoir	The operator of an abattoir would report the slaughter of animals at their site, namely the data requirements, within seven days of slaughtering the animals.



Definitions

Animals means a bison, cattle, caprine, cervid, pig or sheep

Caprine (goat) means an animal, other than an embryo or fertilized egg, of the genus *Capra*.

Cervid (deer, elk) means an animal, other than an embryo or fertilized egg, of the family *Cervidae*.

Community pasture means a pasture that is managed by or leased from the Government of Canada, a provincial government or a municipality, or owned by, managed by or leased from a community pasture association, a grazing association or a grazing cooperative, and where animals from more than one operator of a farm are assembled and commingled.

Domestic means within Canada

Farm means land, and all buildings and other structures on that land, that is used under one management for breeding or raising animals, but does not include an artificial insemination unit.

Reporting means providing set information to a responsible administrator (i.e. Canadian Cattle Identification Agency, Canadian Pork Council or Agri-Traçabilité Québec)

Ruminant means a bison, cattle, goat, cervid or sheep

	<p>Moreover, the operator would be required to report the departure of live animals from the site, namely the data requirements, within seven days of the departure.</p> <p>These requirements would apply to all abattoirs (federal, provincial or municipal inspection, mobile abattoirs)</p>
Domestic movement of carcasses to a rendering plant or deadstock collection centre	<p>The operator of rendering plant or deadstock collection centre would report the receipt of carcasses at their site, namely the data requirements, within seven days of disposing the carcasses.</p> <p>The current movement reporting requirements for pig carcasses would remain.</p>
Import, export of animals	<p>Importers and exporters would report the import or export of animals, namely the data requirements, within seven days of importing or exporting the animals. However, instead of reporting the premises identification number of a foreign location where animals were imported from or exported to, the importer or exporter would report the country and sub-division of that country (e.g. State of the United States) from where the animals were imported or exported. Date and time of loading in a vehicle at a location outside Canada would not be required to be reported.</p>

Supporting compliance for proposed requirements

Operators will not be required to use an electronic reader in order to report the identification number of an approved indicator;

Building on current provincial and federal requirements, carriers would be required to provide information to the operator of the destination on the source of animals;

Operators of a farm, a feedlot, or an agricultural fair who choose to use an electronic reader favourably reviewed by the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency to read the identification number of an approved indicator will be required to report the identification number of indicators read on the first pass, but not those not read.

When can I comment on the proposed regulations?

Following the publication of the proposed regulations in Part I of the Canada Gazette (www.gazette.gc.ca), stakeholders will have 75 days to review and provide comment. The CFIA will review and consider all comments received prior to finalizing the regulation amendments and publishing them in Part II of the Canada Gazette.

The Agricultural Service Board of the M.D. of Pincher Creek submitted the following letter to outline our concerns on July 22, 2019:



P.O. BOX 279
PINCHER CREEK, ALBERTA
T0K 1W0
phone 403-627-3130 • fax 403-627-5670
email: info@mdpincercreek.ab.ca
www.mdpincercreek.ab.ca

July 22, 2019

Dr. Jaspinder Komal, Chief Veterinary Officer
Canadian Food Inspection Agency
1400 Merivale Road
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0Y9

RE: Proposed amendments to Part XV of the federal *Health of Animals Regulations*

Dear Dr. Komal:

The Agricultural Service Board of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek would like to express some serious concerns regarding the most recent proposed amendments to the federal *Health of Animals Regulations*. Certain of the proposed amendments as we understand them, are impractical and will place a significant and in many cases unachievable burden on farm livestock producers in Canada.

We see the provision of individual animal data proposed for movement of domestic animals to and from a farm to be particularly problematic. The “data requirements” (as identified by the Livestock Identification and Tracability Program (TRACE) – Regulatory Update No. 5), are rather exhaustive and include a number of details that are not generally kept by many operators. Additionally, where livestock are transferred between two farm operations or received from a livestock auction, individual identification is commonly not available or provided to the purchaser. Even where provided or available, the same operators in many cases simply do not have access to readers or facilities at each location that would allow them to get the data at time of entry. Lastly, premise identification numbers are not readily shared amongst landowners and the proposed 7-day reporting period is seriously taxing.

A multitude of common circumstances exist which increase the impracticality of the identified reporting requirements. In instances where livestock are delivered to a particular location, and those originate from a variety of sites and the location is “shared” by more than one producer, the proposed reporting requirements are particularly unreasonable. This situation is relatively

common based on current buying practices and the prevalence of shared grazing arrangements, pasture rentals, grazing co-operatives, etc. .

Being that long range, high frequency tags and consequent readers are not currently readily available, reading and recording tag numbers of pastured cattle presents a substantial challenge. Before individual animal identification and reporting can reasonably be imposed throughout the system, we encourage the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to provide a significant level of support to improve tag and tag reader technology and availability. This development is critical prior to amending reporting requirements as proposed.

We support practical and effective improvements to traceability of livestock throughout the Country. Producers have commonly branded and ear-tagged their stock for decades as a practical way to achieve that. While new and more universal measures may be necessary and can no doubt be made, it is imperative that the circumstances and capacity of average producers be recognized and taken into account at all stages. We hope that the comments made within this letter will be considered prior to finalizing the regulation amendments. We encourage the CFIA to continue to disseminate information in a transparent way to ensure all stakeholders have adequate opportunity to be informed and provide comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Lawson', is written over a horizontal line.

John Lawson, Chair – Agricultural Service Board
MD of Pincher Creek

CC: Alberta Agricultural Service Boards;
Alberta Beef Producers;
Canadian Cattlemen's Association;
Canadian Cattle Identification Association

The following response was received from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency:



CVO 022692

AUG 26 2019

Mr. John Lawson
Chair, Agricultural Service Board
Municipal District of Pincher Creek
P.O. Box 279
Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K1W0

Dear Mr. Lawson:

I am writing in response to your letter of July 22, 2019, regarding the proposed changes to the livestock identification and traceability requirements in Canada.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is proposing regulations to strengthen the traceability system in order to enable effective and timely disease control investigations, better manage animal health, and help improve Canada's capacity to maintain market access as well as consumer confidence.

The CFIA appreciates the beef cattle sector's collaboration with government to develop a full livestock traceability system in Canada. While developing the livestock traceability regulatory proposal, the CFIA consulted with industry in 2013 and 2015, and with the beef cattle industry specifically a number of times. After listening to their concerns, the CFIA revised certain elements of the regulatory proposal. The proposed regulatory requirements align with the Cattle Implementation Plan (CIP) that is supported by the beef cattle sector. For example, operators of auction marts and community pastures would not be required to report the identification number of approved tags applied to animals they receive.

The proposed amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations* are anticipated to be published in Part I of the *Canada Gazette* (CGI) in winter or spring 2020 at the earliest. All stakeholders will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed requirements during a formal 75 day consultation period upon publication in CGI. This 75 day comment period following CGI is the most effective way to raise issues with the proposed regulations.

I trust that this information is of assistance. Thank you for writing to share your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Komal".

Dr. Jaspinder Komal
Vice-President, Science Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer for Canada
OIE Delegate for Canada

CANADIAN PRODUCT AND CANADIAN MADE

- WHEREAS:** The guidelines for "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada" claims promote compliance with subsection 5(1) of the Food and Drugs Act and subsection 6(1) of the Safe Food for Canadians Act, which prohibit false and misleading claims;
- WHEREAS:** A food product may use the claim "Product of Canada" when all or virtually all major ingredients, processing, and labour used to make the food product are Canadian;
- WHEREAS:** A "Made in Canada" claim with a qualifying statement can be used on a food product when the last substantial transformation of the product occurred in Canada, even if some ingredients are from other countries;
- WHEREAS:** Products will qualify for a "Made in Canada" when at least 51% of the total direct cost of producing or manufacturing the good must have occurred in Canada;
- WHEREAS:** Some of our "Made in Canada" raw products such as honey could be mixed with up to 30% of imported honey which is misleading to the Canadian consumers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Canadian Food Inspection Agency amend the Guidelines for "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada" claims to not include pure products such as honey.

SPONSORED BY: Northern Sunrise County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____

BACKGROUND

May 2013

Competition Bulletin

[James B. Musgrove](#)

The Competition Bureau's Enforcement Guidelines as to "Product of Canada" and "Made in Canada" Claims (the "Guidelines") came into effect as of July 1, 2010. The Guidelines apply to all goods sold in Canada, including those that are imported. The Guidelines, like their predecessors, are designed to assist in evaluating compliance with misleading advertising prohibitions as applied to the identification of Canadian content requirements in the *Competition Act*, the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act*, and the *Textile Labelling Act*.

In the predecessor version to the Guidelines, The Bureau expressed the view that "Made in Canada" claims could be made as long as the product met a 51% threshold of Canadian content and had its last substantial transformation in Canada.

Despite no changes in legislation or jurisprudence the current Guidelines set higher thresholds and draw a distinction between "Made in Canada" and "Product of Canada" claims. For a good to qualify as a "Product of Canada", the Guidelines take the position that the last substantial transformation must have occurred in Canada and at least 98% of the total direct costs of producing or manufacturing the good must have incurred in Canada.

For a good to qualify as being "Made in Canada", the Guidelines provide that the last substantial transformation must have occurred in Canada, and at least 51% of the total direct costs of producing or manufacturing the good must have been incurred in Canada. In addition, the representation must be accompanied by an appropriate qualifying statement such as "Made in Canada with imported parts" or "Made in Canada with domestic and imported parts". This could also include more specific information such as "Made in Canada with 60% Canadian content and 40% imported content". The Guidelines go on to advise that use of specific terms that reflect the limited production, manufacturing, or other activity that took place in Canada would be most appropriate (for example, "Assembled in Canada with foreign parts" or "Designed in Canada").

Terms such as "produced in Canada" or "manufactured in Canada" are likely to be considered synonymous with "Made in Canada" and should also, according to the Guidelines, comply with the above "Made in Canada" requirements. Sellers must also be cautious of implicit declarations (such as logos, pictures or symbols) that could be considered to give the same general impression to the public that a product is "Made in Canada" as an explicit declaration.

By contrast with the approach in the Guidelines, under the United States' "Made in USA" rules, total domestic versus foreign costs are analyzed on a case-by-case basis, according to the Federal Trade Commission's guide *Complying with the Made in USA Standard*, which expressly states that there is not a fixed point for all products at which they become "all or virtually all" made in the United States; the nature of the product, consumer expectations, how far removed

the finished product is from the foreign content and the proportion of domestic costs are all taken into account.

The hard and fast quantitative thresholds contained in the new Guidelines are not prescribed by legislation or regulation. They are not the result of court decisions. They simply represent the Bureau's view of the issue. Furthermore, some aspects are impractical. For instance, having to state in advertising materials such things as "Made in Canada with domestic and imported parts" may be problematic for many companies. It is simply too long a claim to be concisely articulated.

Additionally, it would appear that the transition from 51% to 98% was without significant public support. The House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, after receiving extensive representations, recommended only an increase to an 85% threshold, in their June 2008 report on "Product of Canada", in order to achieve the appropriate level of transparency and accuracy in these claims for food products.

There are obviously peculiarities inherent in rigid "Made in Canada" rules. Consider the case of jam, sausages and pickles. The fruit, pork and cucumbers, the essential ingredients, can all be locally grown in Canada. But the requirement for sugar, salt and spices, in transforming the essential ingredients into their finished product may require qualifying statements such as "made with imported sugar". It would be difficult to argue that consumers, who take pride in Canada made or produced goods, would think that the incidental addition of such ingredients not available in Canada would rob the finished product of its "Canadian-ness". Such producers and manufacturers, who cannot take advantage of the beneficial "Product of Canada"/"Made in Canada" claims, are negatively affected. Consumers are affected, because they are deprived of knowing that certain goods are essentially made in Canada, yet do not qualify for technical reasons.

The Guidelines take a very narrow, and mathematical, view of what is Product of Canada/Made in Canada. Much more so than the U.S. equivalent. They do so without the legislative, regulatory, jurisprudential or stakeholder support. They suggest clarifications which are impractical. The difficulty, however, is that if advertisers do not accede to the Bureau's view, they run a serious risk of prosecution or civil challenge – with fines up to \$10 million. With such serious consequences, it is submitted that the Bureau's Guidelines should reflect a more flexible approach – consistent with the legislation and jurisprudence.

by C.J. Michael Flavell and James Musgrove

a cautionary note

The foregoing provides only an overview and does not constitute legal advice. Readers are cautioned against making any decisions based on this material alone. Rather, specific legal advice should be obtained.

© McMillan LLP 2013

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	BOARD REPORTS
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports on meetings attended and other agricultural related topics.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

ATTACHMENTS:

- Member Watchorn

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' written or verbal reports of January 29, 2020 for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABj* AgFieldman: *GC*

The Dirt on Soil Health

Nov. 14/19 Rycroft, AB

Kimberly Cornish

Tracking change

Measuring and mapping change soil

Organic carbon

Why carbon?

Has it not been done before?

Why work on soil carbon measurement?

A grazing feedlot under holistic management since 1980, some parts of it has increased 6000% productivity

GPS farm area and estimate carbon

Use algorithm

Sample goes to lab

Tom Hangal-Netherlands

Dr. Kris Nicoles

We are short of carbon, which makes our soil into dirt

Carbon is the ultimate filter!

Regenerative agriculture builds resilience with soil biology

Photosynthesis is the most efficient form of solar energy conversion to chemical energy in bonds between carbon atoms and other atoms

Even in winter you still have photosynthesis because
microbial and living roots are still growing

You need carbon

Your body is made of carbon

Your food is made of carbon

Earth is 1/4 land

Take off deserts, forests, etc.

You have 1/16 left

take off urban encroachment

1/32 is all the land to grow food for 7 billion people

In that you lose 7 billion tonnes of topsoil yearly

Nature needs us to stress the system...

Seeding depth effects over all yield but not always

What is ideal depth? In nature what is it??

Don't take your straw off your fields

You aren't growing your soil nor protecting it

Biological tools take time

What can you put into place first?

Spread seed

Put cows out to push seeds into the soil

OR...

Seed with your combine!

Build a spreader on your header and spread straw out
behind you to cover seed and help with germinating

Put in seeds that stresses the competitor

Roll one way; 3 days later roll the other way

Aggregate Test:

PVC pipe cut in 3 inch pieces

1mm screen,

2mm screen

Screen cut big enough to cover bottom of PVC

Glass with water

Glue screen on end of pipe let dry well

Take pipe with 2mm screen stack on top of 1mm being on the bottom

Add small amount of dirt

Shake to sift dirt using dirt on bottom pipe add a bit to a glass and sprinkle dirt on top

The better the dirt the bigger the clumps cloudy water isn't good

The best way to put forested land into production is seed down with perennials and graze hard in the problem areas.

Winter Watering Tour

By Brian Harcourt

Speaker..Katie McLachlan..Subject CAP Update.

Active date..April 2018 to March 31, 2023.

406,000,000, available.

www.cap.alberta.ca

Climate Change Program-- 2 Purposes.

1..Water Quality and Climate Change.

2..Air Quality and Biodiversity.

Max \$ 100,000.00 available.

30 to 50 percent eligible.

You pay first then apply.

Need an upto date EFP---Must Prove!

They expire every 10 years.

5 different categories..101 to 105.

Must use new materials and new construction.

Must obtain Quotes.

Farm Solar money has been cancelled.

Check the Web site and or call PCBFA 780835 6799.

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	EVENTS
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with events for their consideration.

BACKGROUND:

- Peace Region Clubroot Response Workshop on February 5, 2020 being held at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, Alberta.
- Peace Country Beef Cattle Day on February 12, 2020 at the Grimshaw Legion in Grimshaw, Alberta.
- Making the Grade – Grain Grading for Farmers being held on February 19, 2020 at the Grande Prairie College in Grande Prairie, Alberta.
- SARDA Annual General Meeting and mental health extension even will be held on February 20, 2020 at the Girouxville Community Hall.
- 2020 Peace Country Beef and Forage Association Annual General Meeting being held on February 22, 2020 at the Dunvegan Inn and Suites in Fairview, Alberta.
- Soil Mini Health Conference on February 24, 2020 at the Dunvegan Inn and Suites in Fairview, Alberta.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Cost estimate per event
- Peace Region Clubroot Response Workshop poster
- Peace Country Beef Cattle Day poster
- Making the Grade – Grain Grading Day for Farmers poster
- SARDA AGM and Extension Even information
- 2020 Peace Country Beef and Forage Association Annual General Meeting poster
- Soil Mini Health Conference Poster
- January/February/March calendars

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion around Agricultural Service Board events.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

ABj

AgFieldman:

GC

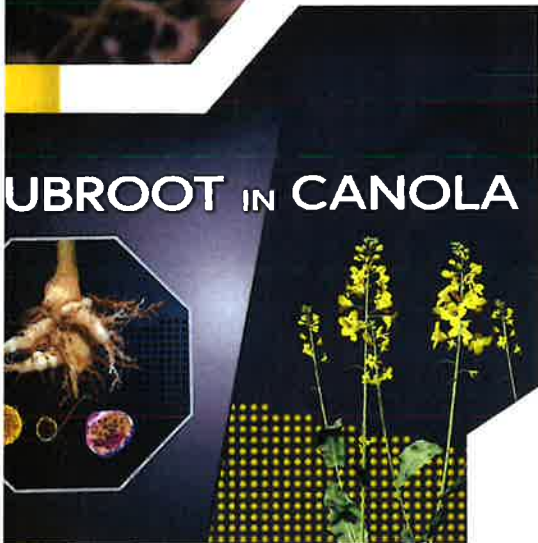
Upcoming Events Cost estimate per day per individual

Event	Location	Dates	# of days	Registration	Kms roundtrip from Worsley	Mileage	Room	Meals	Personal Allowance	Per Diem	Total Cost per person per day
Peace Region Clubroot Response Workshop	Grande Prairie	February 5, 2020	1	\$0	380	\$205.20	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$192.84	\$423.04
Peace Country Beef Cattle Day	Grimshaw	February 12, 2020	1	\$30	250	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$192.84	\$357.84
Making the Grade - Grain Grading Day for Farmers	Grande Prairie	February 19, 2020	1	\$75	380	\$205.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$192.84	\$473.04
2020 PCBFA AGM	Fairview	February 22, 2020	1	\$75.00	170	\$91.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$192.84	\$359.64
Soil Mini Health Conference	Fairview	February 24, 2020	1	\$80	170	\$91.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$192.84	\$364.64
					840	\$453.60	\$240.00	\$60.00	\$40.00	\$374.08	\$453.60

\$2,431.80

PEACE REGION CLUBROOT RESPONSE WORKSHOP

Wednesday, February 5, 2020
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre
Grande Prairie, AB



ABOUT

The clubroot response workshop brings together the science, the agronomy, and the practical perspective of farmers.

TOPICS

- understanding the clubroot pathogen
- the science behind mitigating the effects of clubroot
- understanding clubroot resistance and breakdown
- growing canola in the presence of clubroot
- regulation and enforcement of clubroot policies

SPEAKERS

JOHN GUELLY

Alberta Farmer
& Chair of Alberta Canola

GREGORY SEKULIC

Canola Council of Canada
Agronomy Specialist

DAN ORCHARD

Canola Council of Canada
Agronomy Specialist

SHEILA KAUS

Big Lakes County
Agriculture Fieldman

KEISHA HOLLMAN

University of Alberta
Masters Student

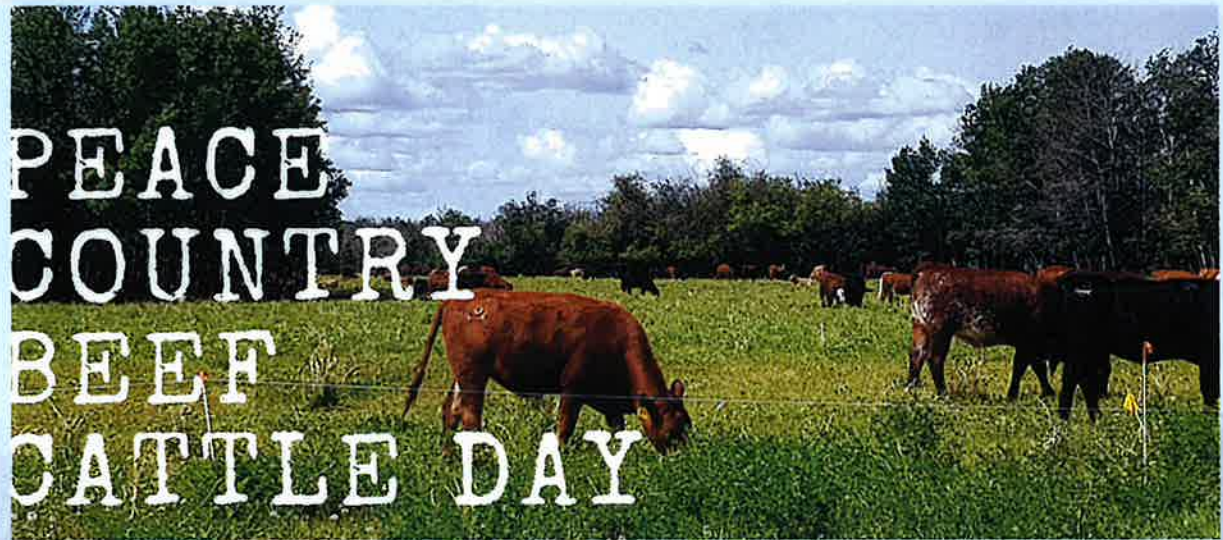
MICHAEL HARDING

Alberta Agriculture
& Forestry Research Scientist

AARON VAN BEERS

Leduc County
Agricultural Foreman

NO CHARGE TO ATTEND | Pre-registration is required.
Complete details and registration at albertacanola.com/events



PEACE COUNTRY BEEF CATTLE DAY

FEBRUARY 12TH 2020
GRIMSHAW LEGION
9:30 AM REGISTRATION
10:00 AM PRESENTATIONS

COST INCLUDES LUNCH
\$30 MEMBER
\$50 MEMBER PAIF
\$40 NON MEMBER
\$70 NON MEMBER PAIF



TOPICS INCLUDE;

CROP/LIVESTOCK INTEGRATION
DARYL CHUBE
CATTLE MARKET INFORMATION
DALLAS RODGER | CANFAX
LIVESTOCK NUTRITION
JUSTIN ROSADIUK | TROUW
EMERGENCY PLANNING
ELLEN JABS | AG SAFE
STRESS MANAGEMENT
SHANE ANDERSON

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER
PEACECOUNTRYBEEF.CA
INFO@PCBFA.CA | 1-780-835-6799 EXT 3
NORA@NPARA.CA
1-780-836-3354



Making THE GRADE

A HANDS-ON GRAIN GRADING
DAY FOR FARMERS



Alberta
Barley

ALBERTA CANOLA



ALBERTA PULSE
GROWERS



Alberta Wheat
COMMISSION



February 19, 2020

Grande Prairie
Regional College
Grande Prairie, AB

**Early Bird
Registration \$75**

After February 5th \$100

FREE to Attend



Featuring
Lesley Kelly

*High heels &
canola fields*

SARDA AGM & Extension Event

February 20, 2020

8:30 am

Girouxville Community Hall

Pre Registration Required

Online at www.sarda.ca

Phone: 780-837-2900

A Mental-Health Crisis is Blanketing Farms and Ranches

A mental-health crisis is blanketing farms and ranches across the country, and even though experts say the rate of mental illness exceeds those in other professions, Canada does not have a cohesive plan to track or address it.

About 45 per cent of farmers across Canada have high stress, while 58 per cent meet the threshold for anxiety and 35 per cent meet the standard for depression, exceeding levels in the general population, according to research by Andria Jones-Bitton, a veterinarian, epidemiologist and professor at the Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph. Her research also showed farmers are more vulnerable to burn out – high emotional exhaustion, high cynicism and low professional efficacy – than the general population. About 67 per cent of the farmers she surveyed scored lower than people outside the industry when it came to resilience, which reflects the ability to cope with stress and bounce back from lows.

The agriculture and agri-food industry contributes roughly \$110-billion annually to Canada's GDP and accounts for one in eight jobs in the country, according to the federal government. Yet investments in keeping farmers healthy have lagged. Demand for mental-health programming exceeds supply – if it exists at all. Furthermore, it can be difficult to access because farmers often work unpredictable hours in relatively remote, rural regions. This is compounded by the fact many are still unwilling to get help: About 40 per cent of Canadian agricultural producers say they would be uneasy seeking help for mental illness because of what others may think, according to research from the University of Guelph.

To talk about this crisis, SARDA Ag Research has invited Lesley Kelly to speak at the AGM and Extension Event planned for February 20, 2020. Lesley is a motivational speaker, podcast host, blogger, creator of a snack food company, co-founder of the Do More Agriculture Foundation, creator of High Heels and Canola Fields. She is a high energy, positive speaker with a unique ability to empower and relate to her audience.

Lesley hales from the family farm near Watrous, Saskatchewan. The farm consists of about 6500 acres on which they grow canola, wheat, barley, flax, oats and lentils. Lesley provides marketing business strategy, human resources and accounting expertise. She also is available to jump in the combine and drive truck when help is needed.

Plan on attending this great event. The event will be held at the Girouxville Community Hall in Girouxville starting at 8:30 am. There is no charge to attend, and lunch is provided. Pre-registration is required. Visit www.sarda.ca and follow the links.

References

Carrie Tait and Jessical Leeder (2019) With High Stress, Anxiety and Depression, 40 percent of Canadian Farmers uneasy about seeking help, *Globe and Mail*, May 21

Lesley Kelly, 2019, accessed November 15, 2019 <<http://highheelsandcanolafields.com>>

PEACE COUNTRY
BEEF AND FORAGE ASSOCIATION
INVITE YOU TO THEIR

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, February 22
Dunvegan Inn and Suites, Fairview
Doors open at 3:30
Meeting at 4:30

FEATURING DR. AKIM OMOKANYE;
AFC FERTILITY PROJECT UPDATE

KEYNOTE FROM
ANDREA STROEVE-SAWA; SHIPWHEEL
CATTLE FEEDERS

Registration Cost includes Supper and Membership!

One Year Membership - \$75 Single | \$100 Pair

Three Year Membership - \$165 Single | \$190 Pair

Five Year Membership - \$250 Single | \$275 Pair

For More Information or to Register;
peacecountrybeef.ca | info@pcbfa.ca | 780-835-6799 ext. 3



Soil Health Mini Conference

WITH DR YAMILY ZAVALA

AND

DR. MIR M. SEYEDBAGHERI

Monday February 24th
Dunvegan Inn and Suites
Registration and Coffee - 9:30AM
Conference 10AM - 4PM

Join us for a day of learning about Soil
Biology, Soil Amendments, Microbes
and more!

\$80/Member \$100/Non-Member
Includes Lunch

To Register or for more information;

peacecountrybeef.ca
info@pcbfa.ca | 780-835-6799- ext 3

nora@npara.ca
780-836-3354



January 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Happy New Years	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Council Mtg.	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 2020 ASB Provincial Conference GC, BR, DJ	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Council Mtg.	29 ASB Mtg.	30		

January 21 – 24th – 2020 ASB Provincial Conference being held at the Banff Fairmont.

Legend:

BH – Brian Harcourt
 BR – Baldur Ruecker
 MR – MacKay Ross
 GC – Garry Candy
 JW – Julie Watchorn
 DJ – David Janzen
 All – All available members

February 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5 Peace Country Clubroot Response Workshop	6	7	8
9	10	11 Council Mtg.	12 Peace Country Cattle Day	13	14	15
16	17 Family Day County office Closed	18 ASB Mtg.	19 Making the Grade – Grain Grading for Farmers	20 SARDA AGM & Extension Event	21	22 2020 PCBFA AGM
23	24 Soil Mini Health Conference	25 Council Mtg	26	27	28	29

February 5th – Peace Country Clubroot Response Workshop 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie

February 12th – Peace Country Beef Cattle Day at 9:30 a.m. at the Grimshaw Region

February 19th – Making the Grade Grain Grading for Farmers at the Grande Prairie Regional College in Grande Prairie.

February 20th – SARDA AGM and Mental Health Extension Event at the Girouxville Community Hall starting at 9:30 a.m.

February 22nd – 2020 PCBFA AGM at 3:30 p.m. at the Dunvegan Motor Inn

February 24th – Soil Health Mini Conference at 9:30 a.m. Dunvegan Motor Inn

Legend:

BH – Brian Harcourt
 BR – Baldur Ruecker
 MR – MacKay Ross
 GC – Garry Candy
 JW – Julie Watchorn
 DJ – David Janzen
 All – All available members

March 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Council Mtg.	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 ASB Mtg.	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Council Mtg.	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Legend:

- BH – Brian Harcourt
- BR – Baldur Ruecker
- MR – MacKay Ross
- GC – Garry Candy
- JW – Julie Watchorn
- DJ – David Janzen
- All – All available members

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	2020 ASB Grant
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with information regarding the 2020 ASB Grant

BACKGROUND:

The Government of Alberta has to this point, not asked municipalities to apply for the 3 year ASB grant. Normally, reminders would have been sent to each municipality regarding application deadlines, etc. The Manager of the ASB Program for Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has not heard when or if the ASB grant funding will be available to municipalities.

The Deputy Minister of Agricultural endorsed an ASB program review that was completed in the fall of 2019. Six recommendations came out of this review, one of which recommended extending secure, sustainable funding for the ASB grant program.

ATTACHMENTS:

2018-19 Agricultural Service Board Review Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by...to have administration draft a letter and recommend Council send it to the Minister of Agriculture stressing the importance of the ASB grant to our municipality's Agricultural Services Programs, and to advocate for the continuance of funding from the ASB grant.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABJ* AgFieldman: *GC*

2018-19 Agricultural Service Board Review Report

Report to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

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APPENDICES10

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) are unique to Alberta and are celebrating 75 years of service in 2020 with the agriculture industry in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The *ASB Act* assigns specific duties and powers to both municipal and provincial partners, while encouraging a cooperative and coordinated effort in the development of agricultural policies and programs that are of mutual benefit. ASBs are required to enforce and administer legislation under the *Weed Control Act*, *Agricultural Pests Act*, *Soil Conservation Act*, and serve as a resource under the *Animal Health Act*.

In the past ASB programs had strong working relationships with both the Minister and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. However, one of the key issues that surfaced during the review is that communication and support for ASBs has degraded. Recommendation 1 is looking for more timely meetings between the Minister and the ASB Provincial Committee so they can continue to act as the Ministers legislated advisor. In Recommendation 2 they are seeking to have stronger support at the Provincial ASB conference, and more opportunities to connect with the Minister on matters of mutual concern including the resolutions brought forth by the 69 ASBs annually. ASBs are eager to rebuild and strengthen this vital relationship in the coming years. They are also looking to have stronger support, as indicated in recommendation 3, from AF when issues arise in other Ministries and with Federal counterparts on issues that affect ASBs. Lastly, in recommendation 5, they are encouraging the Ministry to continue to provide the vital AF services their members rely on to deliver their ASB programming.

In relation to the grant program itself, there is a theme that ASBs and AF need information to help them tell their story. Recommendation 6's goal is to collect information through an impact assessment to help both AF and ASBs credibly build the story that will indicate to Albertans that ASBs provide an essential service to the agriculture industry and Alberta's overall economy.

Lastly, ASBs want to ensure have they have secure and stable funding in the upcoming years by switching to a five-year agreement in 2020. This will not only reduce the administrative burden of AF but will also help foster and strengthen the relationship that ASBs and AF have had for the past 74 years.

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) are unique to Alberta and will be celebrating 75 years of service in 2020 to the agriculture industry and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The *Agricultural Service Board Act* assigns specific duties and powers to both municipal and provincial partners, while encouraging a cooperative and coordinated effort in the development of agricultural policies and programs that are of mutual benefit. ASBs are required to enforce and administer legislation under the *Weed Control Act*, *Agricultural Pests Act*, *Soil Conservation Act*, and serve as a resource under the *Animal Health Act*.

The provincial government provides grants to support Agricultural Service Boards with the administration of legislative requirements under the *Agricultural Service Board Act* known as the Legislative Funding stream as well as in the development and delivery of environmental extension programming under a separate Environmental Funding Stream. The expected Program outcomes include the following:

- 1) Targeted prevention and control of agricultural diseases, pests, weeds and delivery of soil conservation programs;
- 2) The development of effective agricultural policies and plans that are implemented and address the needs and issues of the municipality related to agricultural practices;
- 3) Increased awareness, understanding and implementation of environmental agricultural practices and programs with an emphasis on supporting the agriculture industry in meeting social license requirements and climate change leadership initiatives;
- 4) Development of strong collaborations with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF), other municipalities, governments, agencies etc. to achieve outcomes listed in 1 through 3.

Currently, under the Legislative Funding Stream, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) provides on average approximately 20 percent of the base-operating budget for ASBs. The current annual grant expenditure for the ASB Grant Program, which funds 69 ASBs is \$10.4 million dollars in support of the Legislative Stream.

2018-19 Review History

Talk about a review commenced on January 24th, 2017 when the ASB Provincial Committee met with former AF Deputy Minister Bev Yee to discuss conducting an ASB Program Review. During the discussion they indicated that the role of ASBs continues to expand to meet the increasing needs of agriculture producers, the municipality and the Alberta Government. As a result, several requests have come forward from individual ASBs and the ASB Provincial Committee asking for an increase in the amount of ASB funding. They also highlighted that a full program review has not

been completed since approximately 2005. Shortly after this meeting, the DM endorsed the ASB program review.

The focus of the review based on discussions with both the ASB Provincial Committee and AF Executive Directors are as follows:

- Program Impact – Achieving our purpose
- Program efficiency and effectiveness – Measuring and communicating success in municipalities and the province
- ASB Grant Program administration
- Strengthening the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and ASB working relationship
- ASB Grant Program innovation ideas – Responding to change and preparing for the future

The following areas were considered out of scope:

- Program Funding
- ASB Environmental Stream
- Legislation such as the *Agriculture Service Board Act*, *Weed Control Act*, *Agricultural Pests Act*, *Soil Conservation Act*, and the *Animal Health Act*

To address the concerns raised by the ASB Provincial Committee a review of the ASB Program was undertaken by AF. A Steering Committee consisting of Corey Beck (Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee Chair), Sebastien Dutrisac (Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, AAAF), Marcia Hewitt-Fisher (AF), Dale Chrapko (AF), and Doug Macaulay (AF) directed the review process. The Steering Committee Terms of Reference are included in Appendix 1. Stakeholder input was collected through five regional Face-to-Face sessions facilitated by Cindy Bishop. Eighty-six percent of the ASBs participated in the Face-To-Face sessions. Eighty-one percent of the Agricultural Fieldmen submitted responses to the on-line survey. The consultant's summary reports are included in Appendix 2.

In November 18, 2018, Ag-Fieldmen across the province were surveyed to tap their on-the ground work and practical knowledge of the Program strengths and limitations. The response rate was an exceptional 81.2%. Agricultural Fieldmen were given approximately 30 days to complete the questionnaire with eighty-one percent submitting a response. The consultant report is included in Appendix 2.

In February 2019, ASB members from across the province. The purpose of these Sessions is to exchange information, share perspectives, and tap the collective wisdom of ASB members. The response rate was an exceptional 86%. The ASB review consisted of 5 regional face-to-face meetings. Eighty-six percent of the ASBs participated in the Face-to-Face meetings. The sessions were held as follows:

- South Region (Lethbridge) February 6, 2019
- Northwest Region (Barrhead) February 12, 2019

- Central Region (Lacombe) February 14, 2019
- Northeast Region (St. Paul) February 20, 2019
- Peace Region (Peace River) February 26, 2019

The Steering Committee developed the following recommendations with help from the consultant based on the results provided in the ASB Review Summary Report. Each recommendation includes a suggested direction and potential implications of the recommendations. This report provides the Steering Committee's seven recommendations regarding the ASB review to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry.

Although the key issue was the level of funding, AF took this opportunity to address program purpose, program effectiveness and efficiency, program administration and communication, and an overall evaluation of the ASB program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations are related to the areas identified in the terms of reference as the key focus areas:

- i. Program impact – Achieving the ASB Grant Program purpose
- ii. Program efficiency and effectiveness – Measuring and communicating success in municipalities, the province
- iii. ASB Grant Program administration – Spotlight on the resolution process, program/service elements
- iv. Strengthening the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and ASB working relationship
- v. ASB Grant Program innovation – Responding to change and preparing for the future

After compilation of stakeholder input from the 5 regional Face-To-Face Sessions and the responses to the Ag. Fieldmen On-line Survey, the Steering Committee proposed the following recommendations regarding the ASB Grant Program:

The Steering Committee accepted the consultant's ASB Review Summary Report and used this report to build recommendations based on the input received from both Agricultural Service Board members and Agricultural Fieldmen. The following are the Steering Committee's 6 recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. The Steering Committee recommendations are supported by AF.

The Steering Committee recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: It is recommended in matters of mutual concern that the minister and provincial ASB committee meet in a timely manner.

Background:

- 1.1 Agricultural Service Boards (ASB) are legislated advisors to the Minister as per Section 2 (a) of the *Agricultural Service Board Act* that states that ASBS are "to act as an advisory body and to assist the council and the Minister, in matters of mutual concern."
- 1.2 ASB are delegated to implement the *Weed Control Act*, *Agricultural Pest Act*, *Soil Conservation Act* and *Animal Health Act* by the *Agricultural Service Board Act*.
- 1.3 The provincial ASB Committee is composed of five regionally elected ASB members who represent the 69 ASBs from across the province.
- 1.4 In recent years, industry stakeholder groups have provided input to the Minister on pest issues that influenced decisions that had implications for ASBs; a recent example would be *Fusarium*.
- 1.5 ASBs are legislated to develop local policies that support the Acts and meet the needs of agriculture producers across Alberta.

Recommendation #2: It is recommended that Minister and the Ministry enhance essential communications to facilitate a stronger, enduring working relationship between the Minister, Ministry and ASBs.

- The Minister commits to attending the Provincial ASB Conference to provide a Ministry update and interact with valued ASB advisors on significant issues of mutual concern.
- Timely meetings, at least two per year, between the ASB Provincial Committee and the Minister will promote discussions on current and past resolutions, issues of mutual concern and allow exchange of advice on policy and other pertinent matters.
- Enhance the relationship between Ministry and ASB's by strengthening key communications: discussing resolutions, concerns, and providing updates.
- In some cases the Minister might confer directly with the regional or local impacted ASB. For example, if there is a rat issue within a local municipality, consultation with that ASB would occur.

Recommendation #3: It is recommended that the Minister advocate for agriculture to GOA and federal ministerial counterparts on issues of mutual concern and provide support and co-ordination to establish common approaches for policy or legislation impacting ASB's and the agriculture industry. Minister advocate for agriculture to GOA and federal ministerial counterparts on issues of mutual concern

- Minister advocate for agriculture to GOA and federal ministerial counterparts on issues of mutual
- Support the creation of an inter-agency liaison, 'cross-ministry' invasive species working group with Director level representation and ADM champion to tackle weed and pest issues on public lands that are a threat to the agriculture industry. Key ministries include

Alberta Transportation, Alberta Environment and Parks (one Director for public lands and one for Alberta Parks), Office of Solicitor General, Fish and Wildlife.

Background:

- 3.1 Many issues of concern to ASB's arise through proposed policies and legislation in other ministries. As such it would greatly benefit ASB's to have the Minister advocate with his/her counterparts and assist in the setup of meetings with these Ministries to directly discuss the issue before final decisions are made. For instance, in recent years weed control issues on Alberta highways occurred due to programming changes in Alberta Transportation, which led to an increased presence of regulated weeds that potentially impact Alberta's agriculture sectors. The crown is bound by the Acts and ASB's are required to take action on these pests as they threaten adjacent farmland and potential access to markets. Other examples of issues that are of concern include Wildlife Depredation, Agriculture in the Classroom, etc.
- 3.2 Goal is to enhance compliance within other Ministry's for regulated and economically important pests and weeds and reduce delays in response to these incidents which can negatively impact market access and reduce economic value of agriculture industry. For example, advocate that CFIA inform a impacted ASB if a regulated pest on a Federal Act is found.

Recommendation #4: It is recommended that Agriculture and Forestry extend secure, sustainable funding for the ASB grant program from a 3 to a 5 year term.

Background:

- 4.1 Secure and sustainable funding shows strong support for the 74 year partnership between the Ministry and ASB's.
- 4.2 Supporting the ASB program demonstrates that the Ministry recognizes the contribution ASBs provide to both the Ministry and Alberta's agriculture Industry.
- 4.3 Funding agreements would be extended from a 3 to 5 year term, with a program funding review occurring at the mid-way mark of the agreement. This change enables ASB's to reliably administer the Acts and deliver related programs and services that support compliance and provide assurance for market access and trade while facilitating the credible evaluation on the impact of the program over time.
- 4.4 Related to recommendation 7 and above points (4.2, 4.3), there is the need to show the impact of the ASB program and necessity of effective oversight to demonstrate regulatory compliance to the Acts and assurance through surveillance and monitoring for industry market access.
- 4.5 Supporting a 5 year grant agreement would reduce administrative costs to Agriculture and Forestry.

Recommendation #5: It is recommended that Agriculture and Forestry continue to provide vital departmental resources through AF that support the delivery of ASB programming.

Background:

- 5.1 Ag-industry centric, independent, objective input by government experts versus special interest stakeholders when addressing critical pest and weed issues on behalf of the entire industry (i.e. clubroot)
- 5.2 Vital Resources include but are not limited to:
 - expertise in pest and weed surveillance and monitoring
 - pest and weed risk assessment
 - extension programming incorporating knowledge translation and transfer on production related risks
 - management of pests and weeds
 - environmental sustainability
 - key contact programming
 - plant health lab
 - regulatory, assurance and policy support
 - ASB program support including provincial staff, ASB Provincial Committee Executive Assistant, grant (legislative and environmental streams)
 - evaluation and assessment support
 - a functional, informative, current and interactive AF website platform

Recommendation #6: It is recommended that Agriculture and Forestry complete an Impact Assessment to qualify and quantify the economic contribution ASB's provide to Alberta related to our agriculture industry's ability to access markets through compliance to the Acts.

Background:

- 6.1 Demonstrate to Albertans how Act compliance contributes to industry's access to markets.
- 6.2 Demonstrate to Albertans that the shared responsibility of Act compliance between the municipality and the government of Alberta is an effective model.
- 6.3 Demonstrate to Albertans how ASBs and AF surveillance and monitoring programs contribute to the economy.
- 6.4 Establish the impacts of non-compliance to the Acts for the Alberta agriculture industry, including economic, social and environmental impacts.
- 6.5 Demonstrate to Albertans how the ASB and AF model for surveillance and compliance provides assurance to trading partners. Explore a series of recent events as case studies: Case Studies: GMO wheat (2017-18); Jimson Weed, etc.

APPENDICES

- 1) Steering Committee Terms of Reference
- 2) Provincial Reports
 - i. ASB Review Summary Report
 - ii. Face-To-Face Provincial Summary Report
 - iii. Agricultural Fieldmen On-line Survey Summary Report
- 3) Regional Reports
 - i. Face-To-Face Summary, Northwest Region
 - ii. Face-To-Face Summary, Northeast Region
 - iii. Face-To-Face Summary, Peace Region
 - iv. Face-To-Face Summary, Central Region
 - v. Face-To-Face Summary, South Region

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

ATTACHMENTS:

- Greg- Agricultural Fieldman Report-January 29, 2020

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that the Agricultural Service Board accepts the January 29, 2020 Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABJ* AgFieldman: *GC*

JAN 20, 2020

PEST CONTROL

• **Wolves Claimed 2019:**

Total #	Total \$
40	\$14000.00

• **Wolves Claimed 2020 YTD:**

Total #	Total \$
3	\$1050.00

OTHER TOPICS

- Repairs on Grain Vac are complete
- Waiting on parts and welding for Grain Bag Extractor.
- The valve bank was repaired on the grain bag roller.
- Attended the brainstorming session on farmer led ag research on Jan 17th .
- A grain bag recycling plant has started operations in Bashaw. When they are at capacity, they will be able to pelletize 150-200 tonnes of grain bags per month. That is about 10 semi loads. They are working with Cleanfarms and have taken some bags from the Fairview Landfill.
- We have gone to tender for both the Side By Side and the trailer. The side by side tenders will be opened at the January 28th council meeting, and the trailer tenders will be opened at the February 11th council meeting.
- I have received quotes for the skid mount sprayer for the side by side.
- MRF has ordered the equipment for the GPS spray tracking for the two side by sides. We will have them up for installation once both side by sides and sprayers are here.

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 29, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with correspondence for review.

BACKGROUND:

Attached are documents for the Board's information:

ATTACHMENTS:

- VSI Services – letter – (63-10-40)
- VSI Services – Board of Directors Meeting November 8, 2019 – (63-10-40)
- VSI Services – Managers' Report for 2019 AGM – (63-10-40)
- Alberta Crop Report – Newsletter – (63-10-02)
- Alberta's new farm safety act gets warm response – The Alberta Farmer Express Article – (63-10-02)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board receives the information & correspondence of January 29, 2020 as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABj* AgFieldman: *GC*

V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD

A nonprofit organization providing veterinary care in Alberta

BOX 137

FAIRVIEW, AB T0H 1L0
PH 780 835 5440

November 24, 2019

Mr. Allan Rowe, CAO
Clear Hills County
Box 240
Worsley, AB T0H 3W0

RECEIVED

DEC 06 2019

CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

Dear Allan,

Enclosed are two (2) copies of the 2020 VSI contract extension for Clear Hills County. The copy with the attached schedules is yours to keep. Please sign and return the other copy to me.

The VSI Board of Directors approved a maximum basic 2.8 % increase in fees to stay in line with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (AB.VMA) recommended fees. In addition, the VSI Board of Directors recommended the addition of a 10% contingency fee to guard against the need to requisition further funding later in the year.

The \$64,000 figure in your contract was reached as follows:

- a) The cost of your claims, for the period October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019, was increased by 12.8% to cover the maximum fee increase & 10% contingency
- b) Estimated net administration costs of \$5,000, were added to the above total.
Note: Your estimated net administrative costs, including GST, are based on 9.7% of estimated total administrative costs of \$37,510. Estimated total administrative cost include a 3% increase to cover raise in manager salary and increase in AGM meeting cost.
- c) Finally, you contract figure was rounded off to the nearest \$500.00

Please **do not remit any funds at this time**. Your requisition will be determined in late January or early February, after all your 2019 claims have been processed. Your requisition will consist of your actual claims for 2019 increased by 12.8% maximum along with an estimate of net administrative costs.

Appropriate adjustments will be made to your requisition statement to account for any deficits, or surpluses, in your VSI account as of December 31, 2019.

Please feel free to call me if there are any questions or if you see any errors in my estimates.

Thank you

Rik Vandekerkhove, Manager

Encl.

Cc Greg Coon, Sarah Hayward

*Signed agreement
mailed Dec 12/19.*

**Minutes
VSI Services (1980) Ltd
Board of Directors Meeting
November 8, 2019**

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>
Dale McQueen	Woodlands County
Dale Smith	MD of Greenview #16
Gerald Manzulenko	Birch Hills County
Brian Harcourt	Clear Hills County
Terry Ungarian	County of Northern Lights
Walter Sarapuk	Mackenzie County
Mike Krywiak	MD of Bonnyville #87
Sandra Melzer	MD of Lesser Slave River #124
Norm Boulet - alternate	MD of Smoky River #130
Ken Herlinveaux	MD of Peace #135
Peggy Johnson*	MD of Fairview #136
Rik Vandekerkhove	Manager

Note: * indicates new Director for the Municipality

OTHERS

Sebastian Dutrisac	Northern Sunrise County

TELECONFERENCE (Courtesy of Mosaik Veterinary Partners)

Sheila Kaus	Big Lakes County
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REGRETS

Evan Lowe	Emerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd.
Darlen Beniuk*	Lac La Biche County
Ed Armagost	Saddle Hills County
Tara Guglich	Mighty Peace Veterinary Clinic (Grimshaw)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Terry Ungarian at 12:48 pm

2. Additions to the Agenda

move article 13 ahead of 12

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Dale Smith that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes – Board of Directors November 9, 2018

Errors or omissions

Correction: Sebastian Dutrisac is from Northern Sunrise County, not MD of Smoky River

It was moved by Dale McQueen that the minutes of November 8, 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as corrected

CARRIED

5. Business arising if any

None

6. Retiring Directors

It was moved by Dale McQueen that the following resignations from the Board of Directors be accepted.

CARRIED

George L'Heureux	Lac La Biche County
Phil Kolodychuk	MD of Fairview #136

7. Appointment of Directors
Following motion

It was moved by Walter Sarapuk that the following appointments to the Board of Directors be accepted

Darlen Beniuk	Lac La Biche County
Peggy Johnson	MD of Fairview #136

CARRIED

8. Auditor's Report – 2018 Financial Statement

Moved by Dale McQueen that the 2018 Notice to Reader be accepted.

CARRIED

2019 Estimates – Dr. Vandekerkhove

This year most jurisdictions are in reasonable shape, but some could end up with a deficit, especially once administrative costs are included in the mix. Our overall spending has increase. I did not increase the overall estimate of our expenses beyond what I believe them to be in the future.

At risk are the county of Woodlands, Birch Hills, and Mackenzie as well as the MD's of Bonnyville and Lesser Slave River. Amounts are likely to be such that no interim requisition will be necessary, and shortfall will be added to final dollar request for 2020.

9. Appointment of Accountant for 2019 fiscal year

We managed once again to stay within the promised \$1.00 discrepancy, making 2018 once again uneventful on the accounting side. Sue Madden indicated that she would be willing to once again investigate this for us next year. Her bill of \$840 was the same than last year.

Moved by Gerald Manzulenko that H & R Block of Fairview be appointed to prepare a "Notice to Reader" for the 2019 fiscal year

CARRIED

10. Approval to Destroy Claim Forms

Moved by Peggy Johnson that V.S.I. claim forms and contracts up to and including 2012 be destroyed

CARRIED

11. Requisitions for 2020

Dr. Vandekerkhove makes the same proposal as last year for determining the dollar amount that is put into the contract between VSI and Municipal Jurisdictions.

The proposal is to base the 2020 requisition estimates on actual claims from October 1 of 2018 to September 30th of 2019 with an adjustment based on an estimate of what the new fee schedule will cost plus an estimate of administration & GST costs. This would be the amount put in the 2020 contracts.

Furthermore, to add in a 10% contingency again this year so that it is less likely that we would have to go back and request additional funds should our estimates be too low.

The requisitions, which will go out in early February, after all the 2019 claims have been paid, and will be based on actual costs for 2019 with an adjustment based on an estimate of what the new fee schedule will cost with a 10% contingency plus an estimate of administration & GST costs. Surpluses will be deducted from the actual requisitions and deficits will be added.

Ask for Motion(s) on Contract and Requisition amounts

Moved by Gerald that Contract and requisition amounts will be based as indicated with a 2.8% fee-based increase with a 10% contingency with estimated GST and Administration cost.

CARRIED

Note: Item 13 (appeal) was dealt with first

12. Items from the AGM

Contract issues reg a: mileage, after hours, Dispensing fee vs drug costing.

Moved by Dale McQueen that recommendation to remove item 10 i) from the contract be accepted, and that dispensing fees would be allowed for not-seen animals.

CARRIED

Coding in combination with flat fees

Moved by Dale Smith that the recommendation to allow two code #51 as extra exams beside (a) flat fee(s) of equal or greater value be accepted

CARRIED

Compensation for Veterinary Directors

Moved by Gerald Manzulenko to allow a honorarium for attending veterinary directors based on an average compensation of the councilors (\$250) and mileage as per Province of Alberta guidelines. Attending veterinarians could qualify for similar compensation, but this requires a confirming vote by the AGM each year

before granted. If attending by teleconference mileage compensation is not allowed.

CARRIED

Noncompliance with contract

Moved by Walter Sarapuk that a letter be sent setting an end date for compliance. If not met contract would not be renewed till full listing of comparable charges for VSI clients and non-VSI clients is presented showing adherence to the contract principle of not charging the VSI clients more than non-VSI clients.

13. Appeal of manager decision/action to enforce contract extra fees – mileage

Dr. JM Pozniak does not believe the action taken by the manager towards him regarding the enforcement of the extra fees limits under 10 i) of the contract to be reasonable and made his decision clear that he would appeal it after the procedure was explained. He later agreed to postpone the decision to the AGM / Board of directors and was willing to wait till then on the payment. As a result the appeal was added to this board meeting, rather than have an extra board meeting during the summer months.

Dr. Pozniak explained his reasons for appeal.

-Mileage was not changed from before he took over the clinic. While he had signed the contract, he had initially signed it as an associate, not worrying over the details as they were handled by management. Once he took over, the renewal was a shortened version, so he did not realize there was something on the extra fees that he was not compliant with. The sudden change to enforcement interfered with his intended management of the way his practice was run. (discouraging traveling)

-Other arguments were the same as presented during The AGM on the mileage issue.

-The fact emergency fees during the day were not allowed hindered him as a sole practitioner to deal with the effect of such emergencies on the normal booked agenda of his clinic.

Discussion followed

Moved by Sandra Melzer to approve his appeal on the mileage constriction and allow payment of the claims that were on hold till settlement of the appeal, relieving his necessity to comply with section 10 i) of the current contract.

CARRIED with one opposed

Dr. Pozniak withdrew his appeal on the daytime emergency fee not being allowed and will comply with this requirement.

14. Items Relating to the Fee Schedule

It was moved by Dale Smith and seconded by Gerald Manzulenکو that Schedule A is to be increased by 2.8% for the 2020 year.

CARRIED

15. Review of President's Honorarium

The President's Honorarium is currently set at \$725 per year. If the AGM has approved a 2.8% increase for the fee schedule it would be reasonable to suggest that the President's Honorarium be similarly increased

Moved by Dale Smith that the President's Honorarium be set at \$725 for 2020.

CARRIED

16. Election of Executive

President

Brian Harcourt nominated Terry Ungarian for the position of President.

Sandra Melzer moved that nominations cease

CARRIED

Terry Ungarian was declared President by acclamation

Vice-President

Walter Sarapuk nominated Peggy Johnson for the position of Vice-president.

Sandra Melzer moved that nominations cease.

CARRIED

Peggy Johnson was declared Vice-president by acclamation.

Veterinary Directors

Dale McQueen moved that the Board accept the recommendation from the AGM that Dr. Lowe & Dr. Guglich be approved as Directors.

CARRIED

17. Other Business
 - a. Manager Review

Dale McQueen moved to have a 3% increase for hourly rate for the manager

CARRIED

Date for next AGM and Directors meeting

November 13, 2020 is set as the likely next date for the 2020 AGM and Board of directors meeting

18. Ken Herlinveaux moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:38pm

CARRIED

Managers' Report for 2019 AGM

The following table compares the differences in services & costs for the top 10 codes for the periods Oct 1/17 to Sept 30/18 and Oct 1/18 to Sept 30/19

Notes: Items are listed from highest to lowest total costs for 2017/2018.

Most pregnancy testing is done in the fall thus for this service we are basically comparing 2017 with 2018.

Code	Description	17/18	18/19	%	17/18	18/19	%
		Services	Services	Change	Cost	Cost	Change
60-67	Semen Tests	4,008	4,258	6.2%	153,127	\$166,587	8.8%
6	Pregnancy Tests	59,371	63,098	6.3%	149,087	\$164,932	10.6%
41-43	Caesareans	269	266	-1.1%	67,719	\$70,717	4.4%
25	Herd Health	173	356	105.8%	31,365	\$38,152	21.6%
50-52	Gen. Examinations	623	690	10.8%	29,667	\$34,026	14.7%
9	Clinic Fees	1,152	1,148	-0.3%	25,032	\$25,905	3.5%
31-33	Calvings	193	191	-1.0%	22,924	\$22,444	-2.1%
55-56	Fluid Therapy-calves	156	147	-5.8%	13,011	\$12,534	-3.7%
71	Uterine Prolapse	100	97	-3.0%	11,583	\$11,854	2.3%
22	LDA	37	16	-56.8%	7,990	\$3,570	-55.3%
	Other Services	1,133	1,122	-1.0%	55,418	\$53,581	-3.3%
	Grand Totals	67,215	71,489	6.4%	566,923	\$604,304	6.6%

Between the two 12 months periods under comparison:

- a) Total claims lines were up 6.5% (6167 vs 5789)
- b) Total services were up 6.4% (71,489 vs 67,215)
- c) Total costs were up 6.6% (604,304 vs 566,923)

Percentage changes for the first 3 quarters are as follows:

Woodlands County	up	28.3%
M. D of Greenview	down	-7.6%*
Lac La Biche County	up	11.1%
Birch Hills County	up	27.5%
Saddle Hills County	up	4.8%
Clear Hills County	up	2.7%
County of Northern Lights	down	-2.3%
Mackenzie County	up	18.1%
M. D. of Bonnyville	up	22.3%
M. D. of Lesser Slave River	up	68.2%
M. D. of Big Lakes	down	-28.9%
M. D. of Smoky River	down	-16.3%
Northern Sunrise County	up	5.1%
M. D. of Spirit River	down	-1.1%
M. D. of Peace	up	2.4%
M. D. of Fairview	down	-2.1%

Manager's Report for 2019 AGM

VSI total up 3.6%

* Still has outstanding 2-3qtr claims, so up 5% would be a more realistic figure

We were tentatively advised in time for the AGM about a recommendation to the Food Animal Committee (FAC) of the Alberta Veterinary Association of a 2.80% increase for 2020.

All our Surplus funds were invested with Manulife Bank. A total of \$ \$3,884.06 in interest has been paid to the end of September.

Our cost for the tax return and the financial statement was the same than last year at \$840.00.

Veterinary claims were usually mailed out on the next business day following the end of each month. A few late submissions were processed during the month following. Quarterly reports were issued to municipalities contact persons within 5 to 6 weeks of the end of each quarter, usually at the end of the weekend following the next month.

It has once again been an interesting year. I continued with including a running tally for each member in the quarterly reports.

Alberta Crop Report



Crop Conditions as of December 3 – Final Report for 2019

This crop year has been complicated by many and varied weather events in Alberta. While the south and eastern areas experienced a lack of rainfall, the opposite was true for much of the rest of the province who battled too much moisture. The fall season saw cold temperatures, untimely snow and excess moisture resulting in much frustration for producers. Harvest operations started then halted numerous times and many areas were taking off tough and damp grain just to get it off the field. As a result, increased time and input costs for drying grain, moving grain from bin to bin or piling it on the ground is common along the foothills and northern areas of the province.

The cycle of cold then warm continued since the previous report on November 12, bringing moisture with each temperature change culminating in minimal progress on fall harvest operations. South, Central, North East and North West regions progress is less than 1 per cent in the last three weeks, while Peace moved up nearly 3 per cent. Unharvested-crop varies widely across the areas with South having 2 per cent remaining, Central and North West both have approximately 7 per cent still out, North East has 13 per cent left with Peace lagging at 32 per cent of acres yet to be combined (see Table). Provincially there is an estimated 10 per cent of all crops that will be out until spring, unless a weather window opens up at some point, and this volume matches the last crop report from 2016.

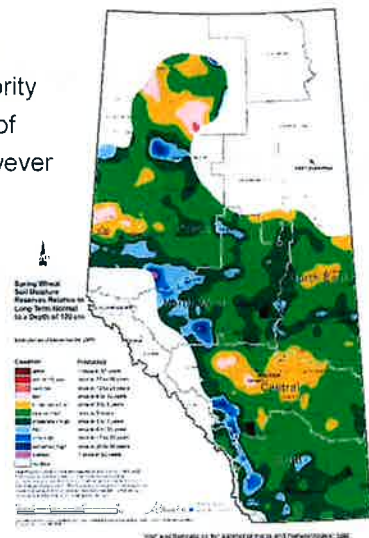
The remaining crops are now snow covered with reports of standing crops lying flat which creates considerable challenges to pick up. Swaths are in somewhat better shape, but either way producers will face losses to both yield and quality and cleaning up the acres left out in the spring will be no small task.

Table: Estimates of Harvest Progress as of December 3, 2019

	% Combined					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat*	97.5%	92.0%	90.0%	95.5%	65.3%	89.8%
Durum Wheat	99.3%	99.6%	---	---	---	99.3%
Winter Wheat	100%	100%	100%	---	---	100%
Barley*	98.6%	94.5%	92.3%	93.6%	56.1%	93.1%
Oats*	97.5%	92.3%	82.9%	93.7%	63.8%	85.3%
Fall Rye	100%	100%	100%	---	---	100%
Triticale	100%	99.8%	---	---	---	99.8%
Mixed Grain	99.0%	95.9%	---	---	---	96.0%
Mustard	98.9%	100%	---	---	---	99.3%
Canola*	95.3%	91.0%	81.7%	91.6%	66.4%	84.5%
Dry Peas*	100%	96.1%	98.7%	99.5%	88.2%	96.7%
Lentils	100%	100%	---	---	---	100%
Chickpeas	100%	100%	---	---	---	100%
Flax	99.1%	73.8%	99.0%	---	---	92.7%
Potatoes	88.7%	100%	---	98.0%	---	89.8%
All Crops this week	97.6%	92.9%	86.9%	93.1%	67.7%	89.6%
Major Crops* this week	97.5%	92.6%	87.1%	93.7%	68.0%	88.8%
All Crops Nov. 29, 2016	100%	93.2%	81.0%	82.4%	84.6%	89.7%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

One positive of the moisture amounts challenging producers during harvest is the sub-soil moisture reserves are currently near normal for the vast majority of Alberta, which will be available for spring seeding (see light green areas of Map). The areas represented in yellow on the map are moderately low, however some of these areas are currently under snow. The most current long-term winter weather predictions are for normal precipitation throughout most of Alberta with a swath across the upper north east with potentials for above normal precipitation. As for temperatures, the eastern half and lower south of Alberta may be above normal with the western side experiencing normal temperatures (as per Environment and Climate Change Canada winter forecast December 2019 – February 2020).



Regional Assessments:

- The **South Region** has seen very little change since three weeks ago in terms of harvest progress. A few acres were cleaned up in a short weather break the third week of November leaving 1 per cent of all crops standing and 1 per cent in the swath. Dry Beans are 97 per cent harvested and sugar beets only 56 per cent harvested. Acres left out for beans, beets and potatoes will not now be harvested, and some producers may put cattle in to graze the poor yielding unharvested crops this winter.
- **Central Region** harvest progress also saw minimal change from the last report on November 12. There are still scattered fields left unharvested, majority of these being west of highway 2. Approximately 3 per cent of acres are standing and 4 per cent in the swath. Producers may try to combine in the spring or those with livestock may choose to use those acres for feed.
- Harvest progress in the **North East Region** was unchanged from the last report and there are many areas with unharvested acres under a snow cover. Estimates show 3 per cent of crop is still standing and 10 per cent remains in the swath.
- The **North West Region** harvest activity was unchanged in the last three weeks given that acres left out are all under snow and ice. Approximately 3 per cent of crop is standing while an additional 4 per cent is swathed. Producers have been keeping very busy drying grain wherever a dryer is available.
- **Peace Region** crops did see a minor increase in harvested numbers over three weeks ago as some areas saw a few days where the weather was nice enough to get the equipment moving. This region has the most unharvested acres with estimates of 20 per cent standing and 12 per cent still in the swath. The majority of acres left out were very wet and are now quite frozen and snow covered, with the ground underneath saturated.

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Alberta's new farm safety act gets warm response

New act exempts most Alberta farms from workplace rules, removes right to unionize



By **Alexis Kienlen**

Reporter

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News

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A group of farmers, government and industry officials pose at Tri M Farms near Bon Accord after the unveiling of new workplace safety legislation. *Photo: Alexis Kienlen*

There were no surprises when the United Conservative government unveiled its new farm workplace safety legislation — and that's one of the things that farm leaders like about it.

“It’s making farming easier,” Alberta Canola chair John Guelly said in contrasting the new legislation with the contentious version brought in by the previous NDP government. “Everybody was scared to go across the road.”

As promised, the legislation — dubbed the Farm Freedom and Safety Act — will allow farm employers to purchase private insurance (instead of having to have a Workers Compensation Board of Alberta account) and removes the right of farm workers to unionize or bargain collectively.

And operations with five or fewer non-family employees — about three-quarters of the province’s 41,000 farms — won’t have to buy insurance at all. Nor will they have to adhere to employment standards such as overtime and restrictions on what work that youth can do on farms.

The new rules went over well with those farmers who made the trip to Tri M Farms near Bon Accord to hear Agriculture and Forestry Minister Devin Dreeshen unveil the legislation.

“It will lower stress levels and give more freedom,” said Kevin Bender, a regional rep with Alberta Wheat and the group’s former chair.

“For our sake, we didn’t want to hire people because we had all this red tape to deal with.”

That view was echoed by Guelly.

“We can think about expanding again without a whole bunch of hoops,” he said.

REQUIREMENT

Dreeshen said the new Occupational Health and Safety Code will also be simpler and include an overarching outcome base to ensure safe work on farms, rather than “being prescriptive, detail specific of certain types of work.”

“Let there be best standards and practices that farmers themselves can develop,” he said. “That allows us to be under the OHS Act in a practical and common-sense way.”

But the minister also spoke about the need for providing more farm workplace safety education. The Labour Ministry will be spending \$500,000 on education for farm workers and farmers to educate them about insurance coverage options, he said.

There's definitely a need for that sort of effort, said Guelly.

"There's a lot of education that needs to be done," he said. "We're still for education over legislation. We still have improvements to make on the farm."

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The previous government sparked an uproar in Alberta's ag community with its farm workplace legislation four years ago. The passage of Bill 6 was crafted with virtually no input from farm groups and prompted them to band together in an unprecedented coalition.

The groups not only fought to ensure the regulations and rules flowing out of that bill (the Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act) would be sensible and practical, but also led to the creation of AgSafe Alberta. The non-profit provides educational resources on workplace safety for producers.

"Education plays an important role in the future," said Tom Steve, general manager of Alberta Wheat and Alberta Barley.

"All the commissions (livestock and crops) are represented on AgSafe. This represents the route we want to go — less regulation and more education to build a culture of farm safety in Alberta."

Although numerous representatives from farm groups put in a lot of work into the regulations implemented by the previous government, having new legislation offers "a new start," said Steve.

"Is the bill perfect? We don't know," he said. "The good thing is we have input and the ear of the government. Under the previous government, it was more dictated to us, and we were to respond.

"The big difference is that we feel we're heard."

The government hosted 25 consultations across the province this summer, hearing from more than 1,000 producers. It also received more than 1,200 responses to an online survey.

Other details of the legislation include:

- In determining the number of employees, farms don't count family members and employees who work less than six months consecutively.
- Operations with six or more employees must offer holiday pay (4.2 per cent of wages) and provide four days of rest for every 28 days of work.
- The mandatory insurance required for larger operations must cover accidental death and dismemberment, and bodily insurance, including sickness. Employees still have the right to refuse unsafe work.
- The definition for private worker insurance will be developed in regulations by the Labour Ministry but won't be enshrined in the legislation.
- Greenhouses, nurseries, mushroom farms and sod farms will now be classified as farms, and can use farm- and ranch-specific rules. Cannabis operations are still not classified as farms.

