

AGENDA
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
February 18, 2020

The Agricultural Service Board meeting of Clear Hills County will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 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**
 - a. January 29, 2020 Organization Meeting Minutes2**
- 4. Delegation(s)**
- 5. BUSINESS ARISING**
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Activity Report.....7**
 - b. Date, Time and Place of Board Meetings9**
 - c. Drone Regulations Information10**
 - d. 2020 Agricultural Service Board Conference Follow-up.....15**
 - e. Board Reports76**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Events.....85**
 - b. Annual Delegation to Council91**
 - c. Veterinary Services Incorporated92**
- 8. REPORTS**
 - a. Agricultural Fieldman Report.....103**
- 9. INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE.....**
- 10. CONFIDENTIAL**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Worsley, Alberta
January 29, 2020**

PRESENT

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

ATTENDING

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

ABSENT

Garry Candy	Member
-------------	--------

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harcourt called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

AGENDA

AG1(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the January 29, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting with the following addition:

7c. Newsletter **CARRIED.**

AG2(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the November 29, 2019 Agricultural Service Board Organizational Meeting as presented. **CARRIED.**

AG3(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the November 29, 2019 Agricultural Service Board Meeting as presented. **CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

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

AG4(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the January 29, 2020 Agricultural Service Board Activity Report as presented. **CARRIED.**

Member Candy
Authorization to be
Absent

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

AG5(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board authorize Member Candy's absence from the January 29, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting. **CARRIED.**

Rental Equipment
Report

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

AG6(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accept the rental equipment report for information. CARRIED.

AG7(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board Direct administration bring back information on drone regulations pertaining to agricultural producer use. CARRIED.

Elk Population
Concerns

Following up on the Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer, Dan Downie delegation to the November 19, 2019 Agricultural Service Board 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.

Chair Harcourt recessed the meeting at 10:27 a.m.
Chair Harcourt reconvened the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

AG8(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the letter from Clear Hills County to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry with proposed hunting license recommendations to reduce elk populations. CARRIED.

VSI and Bees
Follow-up

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

Deputy Chair Ruecker entered the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

AG9(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the VSI minutes of November 8, 2019. CARRIED.

2020 Agricultural
Service Board Conference
Follow-up

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

AG10(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service Board table discussion on the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Conference that was held on January 21-24, 2020 in Banff, Alberta to the next Agricultural Service Board meeting. CARRIED.

AG(11/29/20)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board limit the attendance to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference to three Agricultural Service Board Members when the Conference is being held outside the Peace Region.
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.

AG12(01/29/20)

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

NEW BUSINESS
Events

The Board is presented with events for their consideration.

AG13(01/29/20)

**RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Chair Harcourt, Deputy Chair Ruecker and Member Ross to the Peace Region Clubroot Response Workshop on February 5, 2020 being held at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, Alberta.
CARRIED.**

AG14(01/29/20)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Councillor Janzen, Chair Harcourt, Member Watchorn, Member Ross, Member Candy and Deputy Chair Ruecker to the Peace Country Beef Cattle Day on February 12, 2020 at the Grimshaw Legion in Grimshaw, Alberta.
CARRIED.**

AG15(01/29/20)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board the attendance of Chair Harcourt to the Making the Grade – Grain Grading for Farmers being held on February 19, 2020 at the Grande Prairie Regional College in Grande Prairie, Alberta.
CARRIED.**

AG16(01/29/20)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all members to the 2020 Peace Country Beef and Forage Association Annual General Meeting being held at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta.
CARRIED.**

AG17(01/29/20)

**RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all available members to the Soil Mini Health Conference on February 24, 2020 at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta.
CARRIED.**

AG18(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Member Ross, Councillor Janzen, Member Candy, Deputy Chair Ruecker and

	<p>Member Watchorn to the Planning your Cover Crops on March 5, 2020 in St. Isidore, Alberta. CARRIED.</p>
AG19(01/29/20)	<p>RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Member Ross to attend the Farm and Ranch Safety Workshop on February 25, 2020 at the Valleyview Memorial Hall in Valleyview, Alberta. CARRIED.</p>
AG20(01/29/20)	<p>RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all available members to the Deadstock and Predation Management Workshop on March 24, 2020 at the Rycroft Ag Centre in Rycroft, Alberta. CARRIED.</p>
AG21(01/29/20)	<p>RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all available to attend one day of the Peace Country Classic on March 12-14, 2020 at Evergreen Park in Grande Prairie, Alberta. CARRIED.</p>
2020 Agricultural Service Board Grant	<p>The Board is presented with information regarding the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Grant.</p>
AG22(01/29/20)	<p>RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council send a letter to the Minister of Agriculture stressing the importance of the Agricultural Service Board Grant to our municipality's agricultural service programs, and to advocate for the continuance of funding from the Agricultural Service Board grant. CARRIED.</p>
Add In: Newsletter	<p>Member Ross requested this be added to today's agenda. The proposed Farmers' Tips would be provided by the ASB members, from information at workshops and other agriculture related events they attend.</p>
AG23(01/29/20)	<p>RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board direct administration to add a Farmers' Tip in the monthly Clear Hills County newsletter. CARRIED.</p>
<u>REPORTS</u> Agricultural Fieldman Report	<p>At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.</p>
AG24(01/29/20)	<p>RESOLUTION by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the January 29, 2020 Agricultural Fieldman's Report for information as presented. CARRIED.</p>

Information &
Correspondence

The Board is presented with correspondence for review.

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

AG25(01/29/20)

RESOLUTION by Councillor Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board receives the Information and Correspondence of January 29, 2020 as presented. CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Harcourt adjourned the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

CHAIR

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 18, 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 February 18, 2020 ASB Activity Report as presented.

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



Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

Activity Report for February 18, 2020 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				
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
January 29, 2020				
AG7	(01/29/20)	RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board Direct administration bring back information on drone regulations pertaining to agricultural producer use.		February RFD
AG10	(01/29/20)	RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service Board table discussion on the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Conference that was held on January 21-24, 2020 in Banff, Alberta to the next Agricultural Service Board meeting.		February RFD
AG22	(01/29/20)	RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council send a letter to the Minister of Agriculture stressing the importance of the Agricultural Service Board Grant to our municipality's agricultural service programs, and to advocate for the continuance of funding from the Agricultural Service Board grant.		In the Works – February 25 Council meeting
AG23	(01/22/20)	RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board direct administration to add a Farmers' Tip in the monthly Clear Hills County newsletter.		
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
AG11	(01/29/20)	RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board limit the attendance to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference to three Agricultural Service Board Members when the Conference is being held outside the Peace Region.		January 2021

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 18, 2020
Originated By:	Audrey Bjorklund Community Development Manager
Title:	DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF BOARD MEETINGS
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

This item was tabled at the November 19, 2019 Organizational meeting because all members must be present to change the date, time and place of meetings.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019 the board met every third Tuesday except May when the meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of the month and there are no meetings held in April or September as per motion AG115(11/06/17).

In the past the board met on the third Wednesday of each month except April and August.

The board may change the day and time of meetings by resolution if the third Monday and 10:00 a.m. start time are not acceptable to the members. All members must be present to change the date, time and place of the meetings.

OPTIONS:

1. Set ASB meetings for the third Wednesday of each month except May when the meeting will be held the first Wednesday, and no meetings will be held in April and September at a selected time.
2. Set ASB meetings on the third Tuesday of each month except May when the meeting will be held on the first Tuesday, and no meeting will be held in April and September at 10:00 a.m.
3. Table the date, time and place of Board meetings until all members are present.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That this Agricultural Service Board... this Agricultural Service Board set Agricultural Service Board meetings for 2020 on the third Wednesday of each month except May when the meeting will be held on the first Wednesday, and no meetings will be held in April and September. Meetings will commence at 10:00 a.m. in the Clear Hills County Council Chambers at 313 Alberta Avenue Worsley, Alberta. At the call of the Chair, special meetings shall be posted 48 hours in advance.

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

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 18, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	Drone Regulation Information
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with information regarding drone regulations.

BACKGROUND:

AG7(01/29/20) RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board Direct administration bring back information on drone regulations pertaining to agricultural producer use. **CARRIED.**

ATTACHMENTS:

- Drone Regulation Info

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion on agricultural drone regulations.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

abj

AgFieldman:

GC

Find your category of drone operation

From: Transport Canada

In Canada, there are 2 main categories of drone operation: basic and advanced. Each one has a different set of rules drone pilots must follow.

The weight of your drone, distance from bystanders and airspace rules define your category. The rules do not treat people who fly drones for fun or for business differently.

On this page

- Basic operations
- Advanced operations
- Micro drones (under 250 grams) and drones that weigh more than 25 kilograms

Basic operations

If you meet **all 3** of these conditions, you're conducting basic operations:

- You fly it in uncontrolled airspace
- You fly it more than 30 metres (100 feet) horizontally from bystanders
- You never fly it over bystanders

If you do not meet **any** 1 of these 3 conditions, you are conducting advanced operations.

For example, let's say you fly your drone more than 30 metres (100 feet) horizontally from bystanders but in controlled airspace. This operation is advanced because you're flying in controlled airspace even if you're more than 30 metres (100 feet) horizontally from bystanders.

For basic operations, here are some of the rules you must follow:

- Register your drone with Transport Canada before you fly it for the first time
- Mark your drone with its registration number
- Pass the Small Basic Exam
- Be able to show your Pilot Certificate – Basic Operations and proof of registration when you fly

Advanced operations

If you meet **any 1** of these conditions, you are conducting advanced operations:

- You want to fly in controlled airspace
- You want to fly over bystanders
- You want to fly within 30 metres (100 feet) of bystanders (measured horizontally)

For advanced operations, here are some of the rules you must follow:

- Register your drone with Transport Canada before you fly it for the first time
- Mark your drone with its registration number
- Pass the Small Advanced Exam
- Pass a flight review with a flight reviewer
- Be able to show your Pilot Certificate – Advanced Operations and proof of registration when you fly your drone
- Seek permission from air traffic control (likely NAV CANADA) to fly in controlled airspace (request an RPAS Flight Authorization from NAV

CANADA)

- Fly within the operational limits of your drone

You can only use drones that meet the safety requirements for the operation you want to conduct. See tips on choosing the right drone before you fly.

If you have a Pilot Certificate – Advanced Operations, you do not need a Pilot Certificate – Basic Operations to conduct basic operations.

Micro drones (under 250 grams) and drones that weigh more than 25 kilograms

Micro drones (under 250 grams) and drones that weigh more than 25 kilograms do not fall into the basic or advanced operations categories. If you have a micro drone, you must never put people or aircraft in danger. Always fly responsibly.

If your drone weighs over 25 kilograms or you want to fly outside the rules, you will need to get special permission from Transport Canada before you fly.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

FIND YOUR DRONE CATEGORY

YOU NEED A PILOT CERTIFICATE – BASIC OPERATIONS TO:

Fly **+30 m** from bystanders

Fly in uncontrolled airspace (where no air traffic control is provided)

YOU NEED A PILOT CERTIFICATE – ADVANCED OPERATIONS TO:

Fly less than **30 m** from or over bystanders

Fly in controlled airspace with air traffic control approval navcanada.ca/tpas

YOU NEED A SPECIAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS CERTIFICATE TO FLY:

At an advertised event

A drone over 25 kg

Above 122 metres (400 feet)

122 m+ (approximately a 30-storey building)

25kg+



Know before you go!
Find your drone category

(PDF 602 Kb)

► Text description

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 18, 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:

Thirteen resolutions and three emergent resolutions were put to the floor at the resolution sessions.

ATTACHMENTS:

2020 resolutions

- 1-20. Ropin' the Web
- 2-20. West and Pest Surveillance and Monitoring Technology Grant
- 3-20. Clubroot Pathotype Testing
- 4-20. Education Campaign for Cleanliness of Equipment for Industry Sectors
- 5-20. AFSC Assist in Preventing the Spread of Regulated Crop Pests
- 6-20. Beehive Depredation
- 7-20. Agricultural Related Lease Dispositions
- 8-20. Emergency Livestock Removal
- 9-20. Mandatory Agriculture Education in the Classroom
- 10-20. Reinstate a Shelterbelt Program
- 11-20. Compensation to Producers on Denied Land Access to Hunters
- 12-20. Proposed Amendments to Part XV of the Federal Health of Animals Regulations
- 13-20. Canadian Product and Canadian Made

2020 emergent resolutions

- E1-20. Review of Business Risk Management Programs
- E2-20. Initiate Agrirecovery Framework
- E3-20. Agriinvest and Agristability Changes

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: <i>ag</i> AgFieldman: <i>GC</i>

**Resolution 1-20
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;
- 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

that 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: Mountain View County, Cypress County

MOVED BY: Brian Rodger, Mountain View County

SECONDED BY: Dustin Vossler, Cypress County

CARRIED: 94%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Service Alberta

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)

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 2018-2019* (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>

Resolution 2-20

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: Dale McQueen, Woodlands County

SECONDED BY: Bill Lane, County of Barrhead

CARRIED: 86%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

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.

Resolution 3-20
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 REQUEST

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: _____
Doug Meneice, Big Lakes County

SECONDED BY: _____
Warren Wohlgemuth, M.D. of Greenview

CARRIED: _____
90%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: _____
Provincial

DEPARTMENT: _____
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

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.

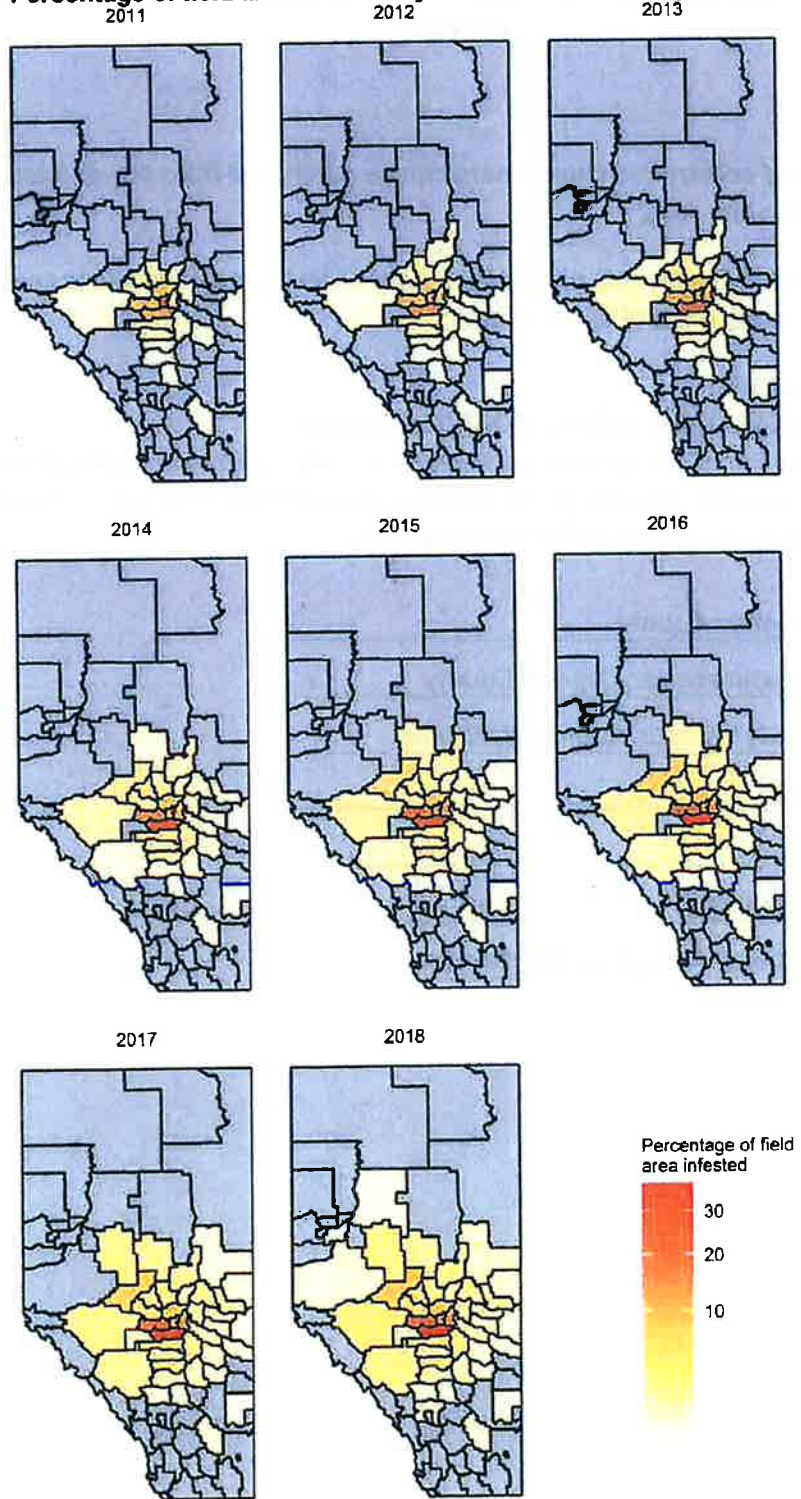
Pathotype Classification CCD

Differential Host	Pathotype Classification CCD																					
	3A	2B	8P	5X	5C	3D	8E	2F	5G	3H	5I	8J	5K	5L	6M	8N	3O	6S	8W	8V	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. napus</i> var. <i>pekinensis</i>) 'Graana'
ECD 6	The fodder rapes (<i>B. napus</i>) 'Waven'
ECD 8	'Island Rape' selection
ECD 9	New Zealand resistant rape
ECD 10	The rutabaga (<i>B. napus</i> var. <i>napobrassica</i>) 'Withernburgers'
ECD 11	Cabbage (<i>B. oleracea</i> var. <i>capitata</i>) 'Badger Shipper'
ECD 13	Coltsong '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



Resolution 4-20
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 or equipment auction services that outlines their role and promotes the importance of moving clean, uncontaminated equipment.

SPONSORED BY: Cypress County

MOVED BY: Dustin Vossler, Cypress County

SECONDED BY: Craig Widmer, County of 40 Mile

CARRIED: 80%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

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.

Resolution 5-20

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:	<u>Kneehill County</u>
MOVED BY:	<u>Wade Christie, Kneehill County</u>
SECONDED BY:	<u>Murray Marshall, Starland County</u>
CARRIED:	<u>61%</u>
DEFEATED:	<u></u>
STATUS:	<u>Provincial</u>
	<u>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</u>
DEPARTMENT:	<u>AFSC</u>

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

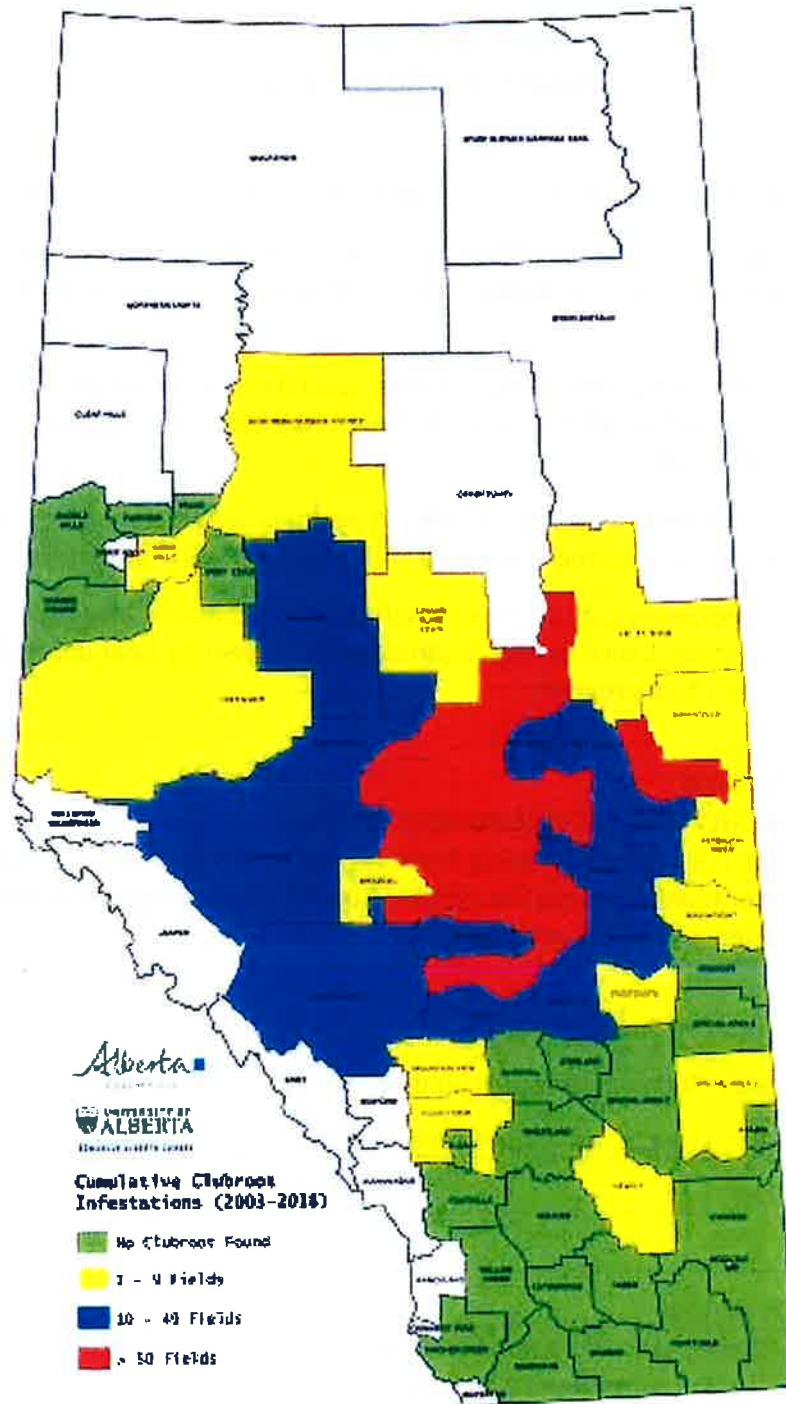


Figure 1. Alberta Clubroot Map: Cumulative clubroot infestations as of December 2018. Map courtesy of S.E. Strelkov, University of Alberta and M. Hartman, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development.

**Resolution 6-20
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: Peter Gunning, Northern Sunrise County

SECONDED BY: Simon Lavoie, Northern Sunrise County

CARRIED: 72%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Alberta Environment and Parks

DEPARTMENT: AFSC

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>

Resolution 7-20
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

the Government of Alberta 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: Duane Nichols, Big Lakes County

SECONDED BY: Robert Brochu, M.D. of Smoky River

CARRIED: 73%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Environment and Parks

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.

**Resolution 8-20
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 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: Terry Ungarian, County of Northern Lights

Seconded by: Anthony Peters, Mackenzie County

Carried: 80%

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.

RESOLUTION 9-20
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 Agricultural Service Boards, 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.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Education be approached to add Canada Agriculture Day as an event to their school activities.

SPONSORED BY: Lac La Biche County

MOVED BY: Jolene Yackimec, Lac La Biche County

SECONDED BY: Cliff Martin, County of St. Paul

CARRIED: 90%

DEFEATED: _____
STATUS: Provincial
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Alberta Education
Alberta Teachers Association
DEPARTMENT: Rural Municipalities of Alberta _____

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.

Resolution 10-20
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: Dallas Eckstrom, Brazeau County

SECONDED BY: Al Montpellier, Sturgeon County

CARRIED: 82%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

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.

Resolution 11-20
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: Ian Sundquist, M.D. of Willow Creek

SECONDED BY: Tony Webster, M.D. of Ranchland

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: 74%

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.

Resolution 12-20
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: Frank Welsch, M.D. of Pincher Creek
SECONDED BY: Shawn Rodger, County of Warner
CARRIED: 84%
DEFEATED: _____
STATUS: Provincial
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
DEPARTMENT: Canadian Food Inspection Agency

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 403-627-6070
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 Traceability 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", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

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

Resolution 13-20
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 30% of imported honey which is misleading to the Canadians 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: Peter Gunning, Northern Sunrise County

SECONDED BY: Terry Ungarian, County of Northern Lights

CARRIED: 89%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

DEPARTMENT: Canadian Food Inspection Agency

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

**RESOLUTION E1-20
REVIEW OF BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

- WHEREAS:** Current Business Risk Management Programs do not currently reflect the rising cost of agriculture;
- WHEREAS:** Western Canadian agricultural producers are in dire straits following this past year's cropping issues and marketing issues, both of which are from forces beyond their control;
- WHEREAS:** The current suite of programs available to farmers are insufficient to address the crisis facing many agricultural producers; either new programs need to be developed or increased competition in existing programs needs to occur;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**
that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada immediately begin a review of all Business Risk Management Programs involving all stakeholders, including producers, to explore potential new programs or amendments to current programs.

**FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**
that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada look to increase competition by allowing private industry access to cost shared subsidies through programs like AgriInsurance to prevent certain companies from having a monopoly on government subsidies.

SPONSORED BY: County of Northern Lights

MOVED BY: Terry Ungarian, County of Northern Lights

SECONDED BY: Bob Marshall, County of Grande Prairie

CARRIED: 80%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Alberta
Agriculture and Forestry

DEPARTMENT: Agriculture Financial Services Corporation

EMERGENT RESOLUTION STATUS: the County of Northern Lights opines that this resolution is Emergent due to the new information that has surfaced since our Regional meetings regarding the Federal and Provincial Ministers currently discussing a review of the Agricultural BRMP and it is imperative that our producers voices are heard, it is our duty as ASB's.

We further believe that Canada lags behind the world in farm support programs and this request urgently needs to ahead of the 2020 review, a resolution coming forward in January 2021 will be too late.

BACKGROUND

AgriInsurance is a federal-provincial-producer cost-shared program that stabilizes a producer's income by minimizing the economic effects of primarily production losses caused by severe but uncontrollable natural hazards. Some examples of possible eligible perils are drought, flood, wind, frost, excessive rain, heat, snow, uncontrolled disease, insect infestations and wildlife. Producers get a payment when they experience a production loss during the year. We contribute a portion of total premiums and administrative costs to this provincially delivered program.

Each province currently has either a Crown Corporation or a branch of the provincial agriculture department responsible for administering the AgriInsurance program. The federal government's role is to provide program oversight by ensuring that the obligations under *Farm Income Protection Act*, the *Canada Production Insurance Regulations* and the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework Agreement (currently the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership*) are respected.

<https://www5.agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/agriinsurance-program/?id=1284665357886>

New world ag order forces feds' hand on farm support

Reading Time: 2 minutes

Published: December 6, 2019

Federal Agriculture Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau must consider the changing agricultural landscape when her ministry reviews business risk management programs, as she promised to do during the election campaign.

The agricultural world order is moving from a market-oriented, supply and demand function in search of an equilibrium to a politically directed landscape that is teeming with subsidies and policies aimed at protecting domestic markets and extracting political retribution.

So the massive agricultural subsidies in the European Union, and to a lesser degree in the United States, means Canadian producers face a playing field that is permanently tilted.

A recent New York Times expose of the European Union's agricultural support program and the corruption it foments is a devastating indictment of EU policies. Agricultural supports, which comprise about 40 percent of the EU's budget, provide payouts of about \$65 billion per year.

The Times story shows that supports are so lucrative in the EU that officials in some countries — particularly in central and eastern Europe where governments owned large tracts of land — use access to farmland as payoffs to supporters. In some cases, owning farmland pays more in subsidies than actually farming it.

In the U.S., where farm subsidies are expected to top US\$22 billion this year, nearly one-third of projected U.S. net farm income in 2019 will come from government aid and taxpayer-subsidized insurance payments, Reuters reports.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says that without those payments, U.S. net farm income this year would have dropped by nearly eight percent.

The level of Canada's farm subsidies are debated, since the Organization of Economic Development considers the supply management system subsidized through consumer spending. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership, negotiated in 2018, is shared in a 60-40 split between the federal government and the provinces. The program will cost about \$3 billion over five years, though there are also many other government subsidies.

Still, the OECD estimates that government support of agriculture in Canada represents about of 8.3 percent of gross farm receipts. The EU subsidizes as much as 19.22 percent of gross farm receipts and U.S. subsidies equal about 12.2 percent.

When it comes to support of farmers, Canada is out of touch with the big players. Canada needs to embrace the new reality when it comes to structuring its business risk management programs.

Producers are not asking for handouts. They seek the opportunity to buy into programs as insurance to help mitigate the risk of operating in an increasingly unstable world market that is no longer simply about supply and demand, but one that is skewed by geo-politics.

There is a solid argument for encouraging agricultural sector supports, not the least of which is that farmers could sell their land, cash in, and make more money investing elsewhere without buying and maintaining expensive equipment. Business risk management programs help ensure there is an affordable and stable food supply in the face of unpredictable crop markets and increasingly unstable weather patterns.

Tinkering with those programs is not enough, especially if the federal government wants to encourage farmers to take more risks by investing in land and equipment necessary to meet the objectives of \$140 billion in domestic sales by 2025, up from \$110 billion in 2017, and \$85 billion in exports by 2025, up from \$64.6 billion in 2017.

As a major exporter of agri-foods, Canada must not let support of the agricultural industry lag while major competitors become more aggressive.

<https://www.producer.com/2019/12/new-world-ag-order-forces-feds-hand-on-farm-support/>

**RESOLUTION E2-20
INITIATE AGRIRECOVERY FRAMEWORK**

- WHEREAS:** AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial disaster relief framework intended to work together with the core Business Risk Management Programs to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters and the extraordinary costs producers must take on to recover from disasters;
- WHEREAS:** Numerous municipalities have declared an agricultural disaster due to drought, fire, flood, early frost, disease and excessive moisture;
- WHEREAS:** These producers accrued exorbitant costs to even attempt harvest or put up feed, manage tough grain, feed shortages and the rehabilitation of land in the coming years;
- WHEREAS:** The current agriculture and economic climates is plagued by lower commodity prices from trade restrictions and poor relations leading to lower profits and decreased cash flow;

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

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry work together to initiate the AgriRecovery disaster framework and begin an immediate analysis of impact for additional financial support to assist field rehabilitation, costs accrued to attempt harvest and manage tough grain, feed shortages, losses incurred from lower commodity prices due to trade wars and any other out of the ordinary accrued expenses upon assessment.

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

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada immediately work to resolve trade restrictions and improve relations with countries like China and India to improve movement and commodity prices.

- SPONSORED BY:** County of Northern Lights
- MOVED BY:** Terry Ungarian, County of Northern Lights
- SECONDED BY:** Christi Friesen, M.D. of Peace
- CARRIED:** 80%
- DEFEATED:** _____
- STATUS:** Provincial
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
- DEPARTMENT:** Agriculture Financial Services Corporation

EMERGENT RESOLUTION STATUS: the County of Northern Lights opines that this resolution is Emergent due to the new information that has surfaced since our Regional meetings regarding the Federal and Provincial Ministers currently discussing a review of the Agricultural BRMPs. In addition, as of the October 29th date of our Peace Region ASB Conference many producers were still actively harvesting or hoping to continue and complete harvest. It was only after our Conference that the true dire situation of our agricultural producers could be confirmed.

BACKGROUND

AgriRecovery Framework is part of a suite of federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) Business Risk Management (BRM) tools under the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership*. AgriRecovery is an FPT disaster relief framework intended to work together with the core BRM programs to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters.

The core BRM programs are, in part, designed to help producers deal with the income and production losses they experience when disasters occur. AgriRecovery cannot duplicate or replace the assistance provided by these programs.

The focus of AgriRecovery is the extraordinary costs producers must take on to recover from disasters. Extraordinary costs are costs which producers would not incur under normal circumstances, but which are necessary to mitigate the impacts of a disaster and/or resume farming operations as quickly as possible following a disaster. Further, AgriRecovery is intended to respond in situations where producers do not have the capacity to cover the extraordinary costs, even with the assistance available from other programs.

Natural disasters which may be considered under AgriRecovery are those resulting from a disease, pest or weather-related event, such as flooding or a tornado. Events which are cyclical, such as pricing cycles, or part of a long-term trend, such as a change in markets, cannot be considered under AgriRecovery.

AgriRecovery process:

AgriRecovery is not a program but a framework which forms the basis by which federal-provincial-territorial governments can work together when natural disasters occur to assess the impacts and determine whether there is need for an AgriRecovery initiative. When there is need, an initiative is put in place to provide targeted assistance to help with the extraordinary costs of recovery.

The main steps of the process for assessing disasters and developing initiatives under the AgriRecovery Framework include:

1. A provincial or territorial government requests that an assessment of a disaster event be initiated.
2. A joint assessment is undertaken by the federal and provincial/territorial governments to examine the impacts of the disaster; determine what actions producers must take in order to mitigate the impacts and/or resume production; assess whether producers are able to undertake the actions necessary for recovery with the assistance available through the core BRM programs; and determine whether further assistance is needed to help producers deal with the extraordinary costs of recovery.
3. The findings from the assessment form the basis on which FPT governments then decide whether, or not, to implement an AgriRecovery initiative.
4. If governments decide to proceed, a joint initiative is developed.

5. The initiative is launched, and program materials are made available (for example, terms and conditions, application forms).
6. Payments are made to eligible producers.

AgriRecovery initiatives are cost-shared on a 60:40 basis between the federal government and participating provinces or territories.

Initiatives are typically delivered by the participating province/territory, or its delivery agent. However, in some cases initiatives have been delivered by the federal government. AgriRecovery: <http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/agrirecovery/?id=1387480598562>

Goodale's AgriRecovery suggestion worth study

Reading Time: 2 minutes

Published: June 13, 2019

Saskatchewan MP Ralph Goodale's position on the potential use of AgriRecovery to backstop farmers during the trade dispute with China is a welcome development.

It would be an extraordinary use of the program, but then Canadian farmers are in an extraordinary situation.

Funding for AgriRecovery is split 60-40 with the provinces, and indeed, the program's rules state that the provinces must make the request of the federal government to initiate funding.

But the provinces aren't there yet.

Goodale, who is the public safety minister, may have been politicking — just sending a message to farmers that the federal government is willing to go beyond tinkering with the other business management programs — or he may have been sending a tacit message to the Chinese that Canada is willing to go big on farmer support as the United States has done in its trade dispute with China.

Regardless, his comments are useful.

His position dovetails with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's comments last week in which he said China's rejection of Canadian canola, ostensibly due to pests, is "unjustified," even saying "they're inventing excuses around that to block canola and perhaps next steps as well."

That is a significant break from his previous low-key comments that Canada is trying to settle the issue with science. Yet, China has refused to accept a scientific delegation.

Last week, China's ambassador to Canada, Lu Shaye, who is being transferred to France, said his country has supplied all the documentation Canada needs on the issue, even though the Canadian Food Inspection Agency said it has found nothing wrong with Canadian canola exports.

It's widely accepted, even obliquely acknowledged by the Chinese, that the canola dispute is as a result of Canada's arrest of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou in Vancouver in December for extradition at the request of the United States.

So China isn't going to let science resolve the situation until the leadership says so.

Canola is western Canadian farmers' most reliable crop and China buys 40 percent of Canada's canola seeds, worth about \$2.7 billion annually. China's targeting of canola is strategic.

The federal government has made some changes to help farmers, allowing producers to borrow up to \$1 million, and canola growers to borrow \$500,000 interest free under the cash advance program, and extending the AgriStability deadline to July 2.

Meanwhile, the U.S. announced a \$12-billion backstop for farmers last July, followed by \$16 billion in support announced last month.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture is calling for “immediate reforms” to the business risk management programs, in part due to trade uncertainty, but also in the face of potential drought in the West and following a 45 percent drop in producers’ realized net farm income last year.

The CFA has suggested restoring AgriStability margin coverage to 85 percent and removing AgriStability’s reference margin limit.

That may entice more farmers to sign up because payouts would kick in more often.

But a long-term trade dispute with China could put other agricultural exports in jeopardy, including pork and peas.

If that happens, tinkering with AgriStability isn’t going to cut it.

AgriRecovery’s program rules would need to be changed and Goodale has acknowledged some willingness to do that.

His comments do not represent a grand gesture to show the Chinese that Canada is willing to go all out to support farmers caught up as pawns in the dispute, but it’s an acknowledgment that such a gesture is possible.

<https://www.producer.com/2019/06/goodales-agrirecovery-suggestion-worth-study/>

603 00 00

Minister
of Agriculture and
Agri-Food



Ministre
de l'Agriculture et de
l'Agroalimentaire

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G5

Quote: 254474

JAN 08 2020

Mr. Terry Ungarian
Reeve
County of Northern Lights
600 7th Avenue NW
PO Box 10
Manning AB T0H 2M0

RECEIVED

JAN 14 2020

COUNTY OF
NORTHERN LIGHTS

Dear Reeve Ungarian:

Thank you for your letter, co-addressed to the Honourable Devin Dreesben, Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, requesting measures to help mitigate the impacts of harsh weather conditions in the County of Northern Lights during the growing season. I realize that these conditions can certainly create financial strain for producers.

As you may know, AgriInsurance and AgriStability are the main tools that producers can access to deal with production- and weather-related challenges. These programs can provide significant financial assistance to producers who are experiencing financial difficulties, including those related to extreme weather events. These programs are part of a comprehensive suite of business risk management (BRM) initiatives in place to help producers manage the risks that threaten the viability of their farms. They are the primary tools to help producers deal with income and production losses, as well as increased costs.

I understand that producers affected by harsh weather conditions may face difficult herd management decisions. As a result, in addition to the assistance available through existing BRM programs, I announced on July 22, 2019, an initial list of designated regions for Livestock Tax Deferral for 2019. As you noted in your letter, the County of Northern Lights is eligible for this important initiative as a result of the harsh weather conditions.

The Livestock Tax Deferral provision will provide owners of breeding livestock in designated areas who are forced to sell all or part of their breeding herd due to drought with a one-year tax deferral on part of the income from those sales. In this way, the proceeds of the sale will be available to fund the acquisition of replacement livestock when feed supplies recover.

12

Canada

Mr. Terry Ungarlan

Page 2

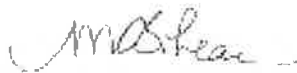
In your letter, you requested that programs such as AgriRecovery be put in place to provide additional support. The AgriRecovery framework allows federal and provincial governments to work together to evaluate disasters and provide additional assistance where needed. AgriRecovery is intended to assist producers in covering extraordinary costs associated with recovering from a natural disaster without duplicating assistance already available through existing BRM programs.

Requests for assessment under AgriRecovery are typically made by a province or territory to the federal government, as provincial and territorial governments are usually closer to the disaster event, its impacts, and affected producers. If the Province of Alberta determines that a formal assessment under AgriRecovery is required, federal officials will work with the Province to complete it in a timely manner.

I want to assure you that I am committed to ensuring producers have the tools they need to manage the risks they face.

I trust that this information will be of assistance to you. Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, PC, MP

c.c.: The Honourable David Dreesen, MLA

**RESOLUTION E3-20
AGRIINVEST AND AGRISTABILITY CHANGES**

- WHEREAS:** Business Risk Management Programs such as AgriInvest are administered federally by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada;
- WHEREAS:** AgriInvest lowered the percentage of allowable net sales and does not keep up with the rising cost of farms production;
- WHEREAS:** Business Risk Management Programs such as AgriStability are administered through Agriculture Financial Services Corporation in Alberta;
- WHEREAS:** AgriStability recently lowered the reference margin and added reference margin limits;
- WHEREAS:** The purpose of AgriStability is to provide support for a large margin decline and the purpose of AgriInvest is to help manage small income declines;
-

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, and Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) work collaboratively to adjust AgriStability to increase covered losses starting at 85 per cent of reference margins and for the removal of Reference Margin Limits.

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and Canada Revenue Agency adjust AgriInvest to move the Allowable Net Sales under AgriInvest to 3 percent with maximum Allowable Net Sales of \$500,000.00.

SPONSORED BY: County of Northern Lights

MOVED BY: Terry Ungarian, County of Northern Lights

SECONDED BY: Simon Lavoie, Northern Sunrise County

CARRIED: 89%

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Canada Revenue Agency

DEPARTMENT: Agriculture Financial Services Corporation

EMERGENT RESOLUTION STATUS: the County of Northern Lights opines that this resolution is Emergent due to the new information that has surfaced since our Regional meetings regarding the Federal and Provincial Ministers currently discussing a review of the Agricultural BRMP and it is imperative that our producers voices are heard, it is our duty as ASB's.

Also, at the time of Regional Resolution Conference 60% of crops were still left unharvested and we were told to wait and see what the numbers from AFSC looked like and if the adjustments would help. To our knowledge these adjustments will not be made in time for this year and a review of these programs will be conducted in 2020. We are requesting these changes be adopted to ease future disasters and better programs for all producers across Canada.

BACKGROUND

AgriStability provides support when you experience a large margin decline. You may be able to receive an AgriStability payment when your current year program margin falls below 70% of your reference margin.

AgriInvest is a self-managed producer-government savings account designed to help you manage small income declines and make investments to manage risk and improve market income. Each year, you can deposit up to 100% of your Allowable Net Sales to your AgriInvest account and receive a matching government contribution on 1% of your Allowable Net Sales.

AgriInvest Program History:

- Growing Forward (2008-2012) - Max deposit of \$22,500 or 1.5% of Allowable Net Sales (ANS) to a maximum ANS of \$1,500,000
- Growing Forward 2 (2013-2017) - Max deposit of \$15,000 or 1.0% of Allowable Net Sales (ANS) to a maximum ANS of \$1,500,000
- Canadian Agriculture Partnership (2018-2022) - Max deposit of \$10,000 or 1.0% of Allowable Net Sales (ANS) to a maximum ANS of \$1,000,000
- **Resolutions Ask** would equate to a Max deposit of \$15,000 or 3.0% of Allowable Net Sales (ANS) to a maximum ANS of \$500,000. This ask would help all farmers, but greatly improve contributions acquired by farms smaller than 5,000 acres.

AgriStability: <https://www5.agr.gc.ca/eng/?id=1291990433266>

AgriInvest: <https://www5.agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/agriinvest/?id=1291828779399>

AgriStability under review as feds, provinces make minor tweaks to program

By **D.C. Fraser**

Published: December 17, 2019

OTTAWA – Minor changes are coming to AgriStability following a meeting of Federal Agriculture Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and her provincial counterparts.

Major changes will have to wait. A full review of federal Business Risk Management (BRM) will be completed in April, with the findings discussed when the federal, provincial and territorial ministers meet again in July.

The one-day meeting in Ottawa on Dec. 17 resulted in a decision by the ministers to change the way private insurance is treated under the AgriStability program for the 2020 year.

Private insurance will be able to complement AgriStability, being used as a “top up” according to Bibeau, if producers choose to use it. The federal government will also pilot a project that will use tax return information for those applying to AgStability in hopes it will make it easier to apply to the program, which has long described as complicated by producers.

Bibeau didn't entirely reject the idea of changing reference price margins under AgriStability, saying she wants to first see a review of all the BRM. Farm groups are calling for the margins to be returned to 85 per cent from the current 70 per cent.

“Changing the limit to AgriStability would impact both the federal and provincial and territorial governments. And we thought that it would be more appropriate to start by doing a review of the programs and making sure that when we're ready to put more money on the table, we would do it towards the right program,” she said.

The cost of increasing the limit back to 85 percent is estimated to be around \$300 million.

Currently, around \$1.5 billion each year is dedicated to BRM programs, with AgriStability and AgriInvest being the core ones available to producers needing help covering losses due to revenue declines or falling prices.

Bibeau said agriculture ministers want to move fast on addressing the issue and raising the reference price margin is “always an option, but we were not ready at this stage to go forward with such a significant increase.”

For now, provinces and federal officials will evaluate the impact of changes to the reference margin limit and changes to eligible expenses under AgriStability.

Agriculture ministers from prairie provinces also had a chance to discuss the issue of carbon pricing with Bibeau. There are continuous complaints from producers and prairie governments that the cost of carbon is having a significant and costly impact on farmers drying their crop this year.

“I asked them to provide data, and help me gather more information on the situation, if I want to evaluate properly the impact on the sector,” she said, adding later that, “We recognize that the agriculture sector may face other types of challenges.”

Bibeau said she is open to evaluating getting more carbon pricing relief from producers, but reiterated that she needs more data in order to make a strong case to her colleagues at the federal cabinet table.

Already the federal government has announced it will be reviewing the impact of carbon pricing on the agriculture sector early in 2020.

The ministers also discussed trade challenges facing the agriculture industry and the African swine flu.

<https://www.producer.com/2019/12/agristability-under-review-as-feds-provinces-make-minor-tweaks-to-program/>

Alberta farmers urge government to change farm support programs

By [Jeremy Simes](#)

Published: November 21, 2019

Alberta Agriculture Minister Devin Dreeshen tells delegates at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta convention on Nov. 15 that the province will be pushing the federal government to immediately change business risk management programs. | Jeremy Simes photo

Municipal leaders and farming organizations in Alberta are urging the provincial and federal governments to take action on business risk management programs after facing what many describe as a harvest from hell.

A group called Team Alberta, which represents the province's major crop commissions, said in a news release that programs are ill-equipped to mitigate the challenges of harvest this year.

As well, it said, trade disruptions and the looming federal carbon tax are compounding the problem.

"Farmers are facing the perfect storm of devastating harvest conditions, trade uncertainty and a lack of support through programs that should be mitigating these challenges," said Dave Bishop, chair of the Alberta Barley Commission, in the release.

The province's latest crop report, which captured conditions as of Nov. 12, said [recent snowfall largely halted harvest](#).

Alberta's Peace Region has been hampered most, with only 65 percent of all crops combined. The rest of the province has harvested 87 to 97 percent of crops.

The value of unharvested acres is pegged at \$778 million, Team Alberta said.

Urgency to help producers was echoed during the Rural Municipalities of Alberta convention in Edmonton on Nov. 15.

County reeves and councillors asked the province if any new programs are in the works to address the awful harvest.

"People are hurting," said Brent Reese, a councillor with the County of Northern Lights, speaking to the panel of ministers.

"This year has been disastrous for agricultural producers and our county has declared a state of agricultural disaster, along with many others in our region," he said.

In response to concerns, Agriculture Minister Devin Dreeshen said the province is going to push the federal government to make immediate changes to programming, noting it goes up for renewal in two years.

As well, he's also seeing if there are ways efficiencies can be made at Agriculture Financial Services Corp. so producers could see payments sooner.

"Lots of the farm groups say it's been a harvest from hell, but as farmers, we've been through hell before and we want to make sure we're there as a government to provide support programs that work at the end of the day," he said.

He said AFSC has estimated it will have to pay out \$700 million this year because of the bad harvest.

With business risk programming, Team Alberta is asking for immediate adjustments to AgriStability.

It wants the program to increase covered losses starting at 85 percent of reference margins and for the removal of the reference margin limits in time for the 2020 harvest.

As well, Team Alberta is pressing the federal government to exempt farmers from paying the carbon tax on fuel used for farming, which includes fuel used to operate grain dryers and irrigation.

“Many of those in the worst hit areas won’t be able to get their crop off until the spring, which could push this year’s delays well into next year’s growing season,” said John Guelly, chair of the Alberta Canola Producers Commission, in the news release.

“Aggressive action from our governments on trade, business risk management programs and the carbon tax is a must,” he said.

AFSC has said it is ready to help producers.

In a news release, it said eligible clients can take advantage of a post-harvest advance or a preliminary payment. It would allow them to receive a portion of their estimated claim as an early payment within days of submitting their harvested production report.

As well, it said it will consider deferring loan payments on a case-by-case basis for farmers facing financial strain.

It will extend production insurance coverage to unharvested crops until the crop can be combined in the spring or managed by other means, it added.

<https://www.producer.com/2019/11/alberta-farmers-urge-government-to-change-farm-support-programs/>

Fraser: Bibeau buying time, BRM not a federal priority

Posted Dec. 20th, 2019 by [D.C. Fraser](#)

The federal government is buying time when it comes to making drastic improvements to AgriStability and other business risk management (BRM) programs.

Federal Agriculture Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau recently announced minor, cost-free [tweaks to AgriStability](#), during the same week the public was given an updated look at Canada’s fiscal situation.

That update shows the Liberal government’s expected budgetary deficit has continued to grow. It is now billions of dollars more than what was expected when the budget was released in March — and the figures provided don’t account for the billions more in spending promised by the Liberals in the 2019 election.

The Liberals pledged to improve BRM programs during the campaign, and since her reappointment to cabinet, Bibeau has made a point of stating publicly — more than once — that she wants to improve AgriStability.

That is why, rather than making changes now, Bibeau announced — alongside her provincial counterparts — a full review of BRM programs will be completed by April, then addressed when the country’s agriculture ministers meet again in July.

This suggests there won't be a significant increase in funding in the budget when released (typically, this happens in March).

Bibeau knows BRM improvements are going to cost money (especially if there is to be a return to the long-called for 85 per cent reference price margin), telling reporters this week it was appropriate to do a review, to make sure, "that when we're ready to put more money on the table, we would do it towards the right program."

Her words combined with the overarching federal fiscal picture suggest the federal government isn't ready to put more money on the table right now. Time will tell if it will be ready in July.

Farm groups are right to raise concern about significant improvements being ready for the 2020 season. They also have the right to be frustrated by slow or inadequate action.

Reviewing BRM programs before making changes is a necessary step, sure, but it's not as if the problems with AgriStability are a mystery. The Liberals – in their own recent reports – have noted some of the issues.

They are aware that despite the number and value of AgriStability payments going down, the administrative cost of the program has stayed flat since 2013, when the program last experienced a major overhaul.

(Administrative costs as a percentage of the payments to producers increased from 15 per cent in 2010-11 to 21 per cent in 2014-15, for example).

They know – again, because it's in a publicly available report — to address this issue, a major change in the program's design is needed.

The Liberals are aware participation rates in AgriStability have consistently declined – something the minor tweaks looked to address but won't, according to groups such as Grain Growers of Canada.

And of course they know about the longstanding ask for the reference price margin to increase and complaints of the program being cumbersome and complicated.

But improving upon all of that costs money. And while the Liberals have demonstrated a clear desire to spend, they clearly have not made improving BRM programs a priority.

If it was, Bibeau wouldn't be buying time the way she is now.

— D.C. Fraser writes for *Glacier FarmMedia* from Ottawa.

Tagged [AgriStability](#), [Bibeau](#), [BRM](#), [budget](#), [federal](#), [funding](#), [ministers](#), [programs](#), [reference margin](#), [review](#), [update](#)

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	February 18, 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 Candy
- Chair Harcourt

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' written or verbal reports of February 18, 2020 for information.

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

ASB 2020 – 25 Years of Agricultural Service Board in Alberta
Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, AB.
Jan. 21 – 24, 2020

By: Garry Candy

Tuesday, Jan. 21

- Travel
- Registration
- Finger food get together
- Ag Field men had meetings

Wednesday, Jan. 22 - Breakfast at 7:00 am.

Dianne Finsted from 40 Mile County in southern Alberta

- Brent Hyland, CAO Flagstaff County spoke about the history of the Ag Service Board – an excellent speaker
 - Topic focused on Pioneers & Ag Innovation – past, present and future
 - He spoke of the low population in the west and that Canada advertised in a number of countries for people to come and homestead in the prairies in order to supply the east with agricultural products
 - Using photographs to illustrate, Brent explained the Homestead Act – you would file on a quarter section of land and have 3 years to complete your obligations to the government in order to get title to it. These obligations were to live on it for at least 6 months of each year and break 30 to 40 acres per year. (My father explained this as betting a 1/4 section of land against your hard work.)
 - 40,000 acres of homesteaded land resulted and farming began in the west. One of his pictures showed a steer harnessed and pulling a wagon parked in front of a meat market and beside a leather goods store. His comment was “Beyond Beef can’t pull a cart!”
 - With the homesteads came the need for Herd and Fire Districts, creating the need for infrastructure – fensos were purchased for road building and local farmers were hired part time for construction jobs. Grain prices were higher than we would think, “2.31 bushel of wheat in 1919. My Dad also told me in 1919 he had a fair bit of money and but then in 1920 a relief ticket. The Great Depression Years also known as the Dirty 30’s caused a lot of people to give up and move away.
 - In 1928 inspectors were appointed by the government and the inspectors were subject to being fined for not doing their job properly
 - In 1941 the Municipal Act resulted in 70 rural municipal districts
 - In 1942-43, lands had been abandoned and were in poor shape and needed some sort of action and the local government seemed to be the answer – Dr. Longmen, Department Agriculture and Art Wilson, President of the Alberta

- Association of M.D's were instrumental in setting actions to cope with weed and erosion problems. The first Service Board was started with a \$1000 grant.
- Brent talked of the advancements or actions such as the Rat Act, the Shelterbelt Trees and Rabies Control. Bill Lobay was one of the provincial supervisors of these programs plus inspections of seed cleaning plants so as not to seed weeds.
 - In 1945 Ag Service Boards were started and Brent emphasized the terrific job and results of the Alberta Ag Service Boards, the only province to have them
- Doug Griffiths, former MLA, President and CEO of 13 Ways Inc.
 - Doug spoke of the needs for strong communities and the need for infrastructure to build for 10 years from now
 - In 66 years have gone from Wright Brothers first flight to man on the moon
 - Agricultural progress was slow first 5000 years, invention of the steam engine `made the world smaller`
 - Spoke of advances in the digital age – next year will see electronic devices (ipads) that wrap around your wrist.
 - Within 15 years, 80% of vehicles will be automated. Digital capabilities double every 9 months Quantum computers are next
 - Due to the machinery technological practices, the urban mindset of `straw hats and slopping the hogs` will need to change to high tech agricultural operations
 - Also mentioned that microbial manufacturing of meat and leather are in early stages
 - Everything has a background – a version of a fax machine was used in the 1800`s
 - Commented on misinformation and how quickly it can change markets and minds. Spoke about the `flat eartheners`` and their followers as being known ``all around the globe``. The anti-vaccine information that is out there is now causing great concerns.
 - Good speaker – has a book called ``13 Ways to Kill your Community``
 - Invited to go to a town in Minnesota to help stimulate the economy and raise employment. The town had tried many things including building a state of the art Rec Centre, parks, etc. He accidentally found out from a young mother that they had very limited day care. He convinced the town to include a large day care centre and pay good wages in a new administration building that was under construction. In 3 years, the unemployment rate was at an all-time low, business was booming, young families were moving into the area because of good, reliable day care and now their rec centre was in use. Maybe a lesson to be learning in our rural areas.

- Cory Baujot – Saskatchewan farmer, businessman with Seed master Men, DOT Innovator
 - Father was an inventor, holding many patents. His dad was often up at 3 am scratching out drawings on scrap paper and napkins. Next day someone in the fab shop was working on them. They built the Sea Hawk air seeder in 1992 with the smart hatch and developed openers that are used on several air seeders
 - Cory has been involved with the fully automated tractor DOT and sees some problems ahead. Because of the size the equipment is getting to – 600 HP tractors and 100 ft. seeders, land compaction is a problem because of the amount of ballast required. The implements for DOT are loaded on it for ballast and smaller. DOT will be an ongoing venture with Raven Industries now holding the controlling interest in DOT.
 - Gave his dad all the credit and quoted him - ``you never change things by fighting the existing reality – to change, make a model that makes the existing obsolete. ``

- Jonathon Gill – Robotic Engineer, Lecturer at Harper Adams University, U.K.
 - His use of drones and electronic controls together with existing farm machinery led to what started as the hands free hectars but has now moved to 1500 acres
 - Land is farmed with no operators or agrolgist on the ground
 - Admits to making a stubborn challenge that full automation is not possible
 - One hectare minus the headlands was the start of completely hands-free, from tillage, seeding, spraying and fertilizing to harvesting and hauling in the grain. Planted to barley 2017, winter wheat in 2018, rye and clover mix in 2019.
 - His method could be referred to as a single plant approach, much like a garden. He is getting away from the compaction by large machinery and replacing it with swarms of small equipment with no operators to tire.
 - Throughout the growing season he collects plant samples by the use of drones that have clippers and a type of tweezer to cut and remove plant parts.
 - Everything he has purchased to add to the older small equipment was from Amazon, EBay and the like. He showed an older ford row crop tractor and what looked like an old 410 MF combine.
 - He was granted a Nuffield Scholarship which has been used by people with an Ag interest to travel the world and study different agricultural methods since 1986
 - He learned that sheep in the beginning could be herded by drones can` t nip at heels.
 - However the sheep could be attracted to move to new paddocks by the sound of the drone. Opening a gate to a new field would probably entice them to move but the film showed them moving more quickly.

- Nicolette Hahn Nimen – Bolinas, California. Environmental lawyer and rancher (Bill Nimen Ranch)
 - Spoke of importance of animals on the plate and in the field. In her past as a lawyer for Robert F Kennedy, she had cases against some agricultural practices and in 2000 became a vegetarian. Since meeting and marrying Bill Nimen who ranches raising grass fed beef she has educated herself about livestock and written books about it: The Righteous Pork Chop, Finding a Life and Good Food Beyond Factory Farms.
 - She mentioned the push to go meatless and claimed the media has had a lot to do with it as well as ads like GoVegan
 - Her statement: ``For every complex problem, there is an answer that is Simple and Wrong`` - Taking a complex situation and reducing it to so simple that it is distorted.
 - Her talk included nutrient cycles – water cycles and how proper grazing practices are very valuable to the climate not as is published in poor documentaries that are not factual and blaming greenhouse gases squarely on animals: methane, CO2 and NOx. NOx is being listed as the bad one from cattle emissions. From my experience with engine emissions, the only way NOx is formed is a combination of nitrogen and oxygen at extremely high temperatures in the engine cylinder (3500 degrees F and up). Thus the need for ECR on engines at high H.P.
 - The amount of carbon capture is high when grazing is done properly and it helps build soil. The capture is done in several ways:
 - use of carbon dioxide by the plant and release of oxygen – photosynthesis
 - 80% of warming is caused by water vapor in the air if the soil will accept water and hold it – a positive
 - She says carbon sequestration can be carbon negative. Fracking wells are the main cause of methane emissions but she says that scientists agree that the methane count has been done incorrectly but it is too difficult to change what goes out to the public. Methane is getting a bad rap because carbon from cattle methane is not new carbon but recycled through the animal so again, the count is inaccurate
 - Methane from fracking is confused with methane from rice growing. Termites reduce methane substantially with bacteria they leave behind. Studies are under way as to the effects of feeding seaweed to cattle to reduce methane. I don't know if that means they fart less but maybe humans could use some.
 - The soil degradation is less in Canada than in most of the world. Livestock around the world have received the blame for degradation because they are seen on land that farming has degraded. Thirteen species of animals over 100 lbs. were domesticated in Europe – animals that contributed to the culture of Europe
 - Livestock can be used or saved (held over), not like field crops that have to be seeded and harvested regularly

- Living and working with animals help to control health issues by being in contact with a different environment
 - Benefits of grass:
 - Protect soil and water
 - Build carbon and fertility
 - Hold the soil from erosion as 90% of grass is below the surface creating an optimal subterranean environment
 - Eco system diversity
 - Good grazing can be carbon negative
 - Trees are a tremendous benefit and provide shade
 - Inverse water quality and quantity by retention
 - Talked about diet – you only get Vitamin K2 from cheese, eggs, and animals on grass. Vitamin K2 is essential for bone health. Fats are now good for you, other parts of the world have known that for a long time
 - In an effort to produce palm oil and coconut oil to prepare a butter substitute, grazing acres are being destroyed
 - In her words: It's not the cow, it's the how`
- Dr. Merina Van Keyserlingk – Animal Welfare – U of BC
 - Has a 270 dairy cow farm – has no extra money put into it, has to stand on its own, but the research department for dairy is heavily funded by the BC Dairy Farmers Association and Alberta Milk
 - She talked about the video with 2 workers at a dairy farm that was an isolated incident and assured everyone it doesn't happen. The US in some states passed Ag gag laws – no photos or entrance without permission. Her feeling is that laws like this simply make the public think there is something wrong or cruel and it's being hid. In Idaho judges ruled against Ag gag laws because of loss of trust.
 - A lot of studies are being done basically to identify comfort levels of dairy animals. One study involved using weights to open doors to fresh feed: different feeds like treats or to a mechanical rubbing brush – looks like a street sweeping brush. They increased the door weights and proved they would prefer the rubs to the free food. This was put on videos and people in the Netherlands began chastising farms because they didn't have mechanical brusher.
 - She cautioned people that if they take people on tours not to ask if they have any questions but to ask if something bothered them and address that concern.
- Graham Sherman and David Farran – shared the stage speaking of their backgrounds, their goals and the fight to become: private brewer for Graham and private distiller for David
 - Graham self identifies as a tech nerd. He contracted to the army and spent time in Afghanistan making sure the troops had communications. He became tired of

the time away from home and decided he wanted to make beer but found that was impossible at the time. He pushed the envelope until the laws relaxed. Finally brewed his beer for export, got and importer's licence and imported his own beer back.

- The first law that stopped him brewing at all was that you had to brew 500,000 litres per year or you need not apply. He now has his Toolshed Brewery using as he says the best barley in the world from Alberta in a 15,000 sq. ft. facility near the Barlow Trail in Calgary and employs many people
 - David was a business man who started a group of Vet Clinics to work under his banner. He had originally started Pipestone Raven and sold clothing and trips, as he put it, to weird places. Sold out his Vet business and did nothing for a while until his wife said she would like to see him do something. He decided to become a distiller and his story of red tape was much the same as Graham's.
 - He bought an old movie theater in Turner Valley and set out to make the world's best single malt whiskey. He mentioned getting funding for a project and the financial institutions wanting to know the expected time of return. When told there would be nothing for 10 -12 years, there would be dead silence.
 - Doug did find financial backing and has Las Eau Claire distillery running in Turner Valley, hiring people and rejuvenation the town.
 - David also has a passion for horse farming and has a 35 acre site that is farmed using the old methods and equipment with Perc heron horses. He invites people, mostly horse people, to come and have a hand in the farming. The ranch is called the BarU in the Longview area.
 - Both of these speakers were excellent and are promoting Alberta Farm products as well as value added products
-
- Dave McCauley – gave some ASB updates
 - He was happy to announce that he has ministerial support for 5 year agreements with the government instead of 3 which will make things easier and better. There is a program launch coming with budgets shortly.
 - The province has 57,000 weed inspections done, 67 seed cleaning plants certified and 300 plus agricultural education events
 - Alberta has a competitive advantage because ASBs have:
 - Market access
 - Public trust
 - Strengthen rural Alberta
 - Farmer led policy development
 - Reduce industry threats
 - Cut red tape initiative
 - Farmer led research session
 - Canadian Ag Partnerships

- Kevin Hursh – south western Saskatchewan farmer
 -
 - Warns wild ride coming up for farmers – and predictions for the next 10 years
 - Talked about climate change hysteria – with the size and population of Canada affecting the world atmosphere is like a no pee zone in a pool – we are all still in the water
 - Glyphosate is on the way to being banned or curtailed and means a new way of arming. Experiments are being done with high temp steam for non-selective weed control.
 - Claims are that it would take 1 -2 gallons of water to steam per acre
 - Farmland prices will be cool, stable for a period
 - Need more value added products, large and small
 - Will see more black swan events and trade disruptions such as swine fever
 - Ag costs plus the carbon tax makes us not competitive in the world market
 - Crop diversification such as Maple Peas (Acer variety) are being grown and sprouted for sale to China, peas were first used as feed for racing pigeons
 - Morris manufacturing is under credit protection
 - Protein fractuation plant is being built in Manitoba for peas – possibly for beyond meat products
 - Intercropping will be more common such as peas and canola, chick peas and flax
 - Closed by saying there are 3 types of farmers: optimist, pessimist and opportunist

Clubroot Response Workshop
Rycroft, Alberta
By: Brian Harcourt

Clubroot is a serious disease of Canola and other crops of the Brassica family. It leads to swollen and deformed plant roots restricting H₂O and nutrient uptake. Clubroot is caused by the soil-borne pathogen *Plasmodiophora Brassica*. Preventing the introduction of the pathogen is critical but management is possible. Learn the life cycle, how to spot it, how to diagnose it, how to manage it, and how to stay informed at...clubroot.ca

Crop rotation cannot stop or prevent the spread of the disease.

Alberta is not the only province with the clubroot problem.

Check out the differences of a strain, pathotype, and a race.

Seed only clubroot resistant varieties!!

Grass in the entrances to your fields to reduce the risk.

Clean your equipment before leaving the field and if possible disinfect by using a 2% hydrogen peroxide bleach spray for 20 minutes.

Isolate infected areas, grass them in and 30--50 feet around them and identify them clearly. It's not OK to do Nothing!

5 stages of Grief, 1 Denial, 2 Anger, 3 Bargaining, 4 Depression, 5 Acceptance.

Talk to your neighbors. Scout your fields! clubroot.ca

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:

- Agricultural Strategies for Producers being held on February 20, 2020 at the Sexsmith Civic Center in Sexsmith, Alberta.
- La Crete Organic Conference being held on April 2-3, 2020 at the La Crete Heritage Center being held in La Crete, Alberta.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Cost estimate per event
- Agricultural Strategies for Produces information
- February/March/April

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
Agricultural Strategies for Producers	Sexsmith	February 20, 2020	1	\$0	336	\$181.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$195.35	\$376.79
La Crete Organic Conference	La Crete	March 13-14, 2019	2	\$555.00	838	\$452.52	\$240.00	\$60.00	\$80.00	\$195.38	\$2,158.28

Agricultural Strategies for Producers

Date And Time

Thu, 20 February 2020
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM MST

Location

Sexsmith Civic Center
99 Avenue
Sexsmith, AB T0H 3C0

Agenda

- 9:30 -10:00 Coffee and Registration
 - 10:00 - 10:30 Welcome
- Sonja Raven County of Grande Prairie
 - Agricultural Fieldman 's Update
- 10:30 -11:00 Gregory Sekulic Canola Council of Canada
 - Beneficial Insects
- 11:00 -11 :30 Jennifer Otani Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
 - Field Heros Initiatives Beaverlodge Research Farm
 - 11:30- 12:00 Tracy Leishman MNP Grande Prairie
 - Agriculture Tax Strategies
 - 12:00 -1:00 Lunch
 - 1:00 -2:00 Keynote Speaker - Do More Agriculture
 - Mental Health in Agriculture
 - 2:00 - 3:00 Cameron Smith KMSC Law LLP
 - Farm Succession /Estate planning

We envision a culture in Agriculture where all producers are encouraged, empowered and supported to take care of their mental well being .

Do More Ag is helping to realize this culture in agriculture by creating awareness about mental health and breaking the stigma that currently exists while building a community of support and resources for those impacted and affected. We will help all producers realize they are not alone and they have an entire industry behind them.

This event is FREE to attend , however preregistration is requested for catering numbers.

For more information, please contact Jill Henry Agriculture Department, County of Grande Prairie at 780-532-9727 or email

February 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5 Peace Country Clubroot Response BH, BR, MR	6	7	8
9	10	11 Council Mtg.	12 Peace Country Cattle Day DJ, BH, JW, MR, GC, BR	13	14	15
16	17 Family Day County office Closed	18 ASB Mtg.	19 Making the Grade – Grain Grading for Farmers BH	20 Agricultural Strategies for Producers	21	22 2020 PCBFA AGM ALL
23	24 Soil Mini Health Conference ALL	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 – Agricultural Strategies for Producers at the Sexsmith Civil Centre 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 Cover Crops MR, DJ, GC, BR, JW	6	7
8	9	10 Council	11	12 Peace Country Classic ALL 	13	14
15	16	17 ASB Mtg.	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Council Deadstock Predation ALL	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

March 5th – Cover Crops in St. Isidore


March 12th – Peace Country Classic Evergreen Park Grande Prairie, Alberta

March 24th – Deadstock Predation Rycroft Ag Centre

Legend:

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

April 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2 La Crete Organic Conference 	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Good Friday County Closed	11
12 Easter Sunday	13 Easter Monday County Closed	14 Council	15	16	17	18 Trade Show
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Council	29	30		

April 2-3rd – La Crete Organic Conference at the La Crete Heritage Centre

April 18th – Clear Hills County Agricultural Trade Show

There is no ASB meeting in April.

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:	February 18, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	Annual Delegation to Council
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

Each year the Board gives Council an update on the Agricultural Service Board program. The Board will discuss possible dates and information to present to Council.

BACKGROUND:

March Council Meeting: 10th & 24th
April Council Meetings: 14th & 28th

OPTIONS:

ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board direct administration to book a delegation with Council on ____.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

ABJ

AgFieldman:

GC

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 18, 2020
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	Veterinary Services Incorporated
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with Veterinary Services Incorporated (1980) Ltd. (VSI) review of 2019.

BACKGROUND:

- There are currently 198 active members enrolled in the VSI program.
- 2 members exceeded the \$3,000.00 cap/VSI user and were invoiced for the difference.
- 24 BSE tests – (\$125/test)
 - 2019 Annual Budget: \$3,000=24 tests

OPTIONS:

ATTACHMENTS:

- Policy 6311 VSI
- Policy 6314 BSE Testing Incentive Program
- VSI Schedule A
- VSI Schedule B
- VSI 2020 Requisition Letter

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion on the 2019 VSI Program review.

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



Clear Hills County

Effective Date: January 12, 2016	Policy Number 6311
Title: Veterinary Service Incorporated (1980) Ltd. Program (VSI)	

1. Policy Statement:

1.1. Clear Hills County recognizes the value of aiding in the development of livestock expansion with a long term goal of livestock producer and veterinarian service sustainability.

2. Purpose:

2.1. To provide assistance to County livestock producers in managing the health of their herd(s).

2.2. To retain local large animal veterinarians through the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) program.

2.3. To establish guidelines for Clear Hills County's involvement in the VSI program.

3. Responsibilities

3.1. Council will allocate an annual VSI budget in accordance with the VSI agreement.

3.2. The Agricultural Service Board will recommend to Council amendments to the VSI program and level of service as necessary.

3.3. The Agricultural Service Board will recommend to Council the membership fee for participation in the program and this fee may from time to time be reviewed and amended.

3.3.1. The membership fee will be included in the County Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

3.3.2. Memberships will be valid for five years from the time of membership renewal or entry into the program.

3.4. Eligible participants must be a resident in Clear Hills County for three consecutive months or a landowner in Clear Hills County with livestock.

3.5. Participants in the VSI program will:

- 3.5.1. be limited to one membership per farm unit;
- 3.5.2. sign and complete an application form and enter into a Clear Hills County Veterinarian Services Incorporated (1980) Letter of Understanding and Agreement. Attached as Schedule A.

3.6. VSI Services will:

- 3.6.1. Provide a schedule of fees for eligible veterinarian services on an annual basis;
- 3.6.2. Provide quarterly summaries of program users and claims.

3.7. Service Limitations:

- 3.7.1. Effective January 12, 2016 there will be an annual cap on the county's 50% portion of service costs at \$3,000.00 (three thousand dollars) per membership as per Council resolution C28-16(10/12/16)
- 3.7.2. Administration will invoice any users who exceed any service limitations in the amount of the County's contribution to the service that has been exceeded.

4. End of Policy

ADOPTED:

Resolution C438 (05/24/11)

Resolution C404-17 (08/22/17)



Clear Hills County

Effective Date: January 26, 2016	Policy Number 6314
Title: Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Testing Incentive Program	

1. **Policy Statement:**

Clear Hills County recognizes the value of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) testing. Canada may be at the risk of losing its status as a controlled BSE risk country due to tested numbers not meeting the 30,000 animal annual requirements.

In September of 2011 the province discontinued the \$150.00 per animal incentive given to producers for sampling their animals and maintaining control of the carcass pending BSE test results.

By providing a municipal BSE testing incentive, it will encourage producers to participate in the BSE testing program and assist in realizing the target of keeping the Country's status as a controlled BSE risk country.

2. **Purpose:**

2.1. To establish guidelines for Clear Hills County's BSE Testing Incentive Program.

3. **General:**

3.1. Council may annually during budget deliberations, establish a budget for the BSE Testing Incentive Program.

3.2. By resolution of Council the BSE Testing Incentive Program will be activated and deactivated.

3.3. Council will establish the amount of compensation per animal to be paid as an incentive payment for eligible beef cattle that have been BSE tested.

4. **Responsibilities**

4.1. Only beef cattle are eligible for BSE testing and incentive payments.

4.2. The Agricultural Service Board will be provided with an annual report on the number of users of the BSE testing incentive program and recommend to Council amendments to the BSE testing incentive program as necessary.

4.3. Eligible participants must be Veterinary Services (1980) Ltd. (VSI) members and a resident in Clear Hills County for three consecutive months or a landowner in Clear Hills County with livestock.

4.4. V.S.I. Services will provide a list of Clear Hills County VSI members that had animals tested for BSE in the quarterly reports.

4.5. Clear Hills County will pay VSI members that have been identified as having animals tested for BSE.

4.6. Only Veterinary Clinics will have access to the results of the BSE tests.

5. End of Policy

ADOPTED:
C55-16(01/26/16)

DATE:
January 26, 2016

V.S.I. Services (1980) LTD.
 Schedule "A" 50/50- Effective Jan 1 2020

CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

Until this Tariff is amended, and subject to the terms and conditions of the year 2020 contract, VSI Services (1980) Ltd. will pay the listed VSI fee charged by the veterinarian for the services stated herein. All other charges levied in association with the service(s) being claimed must be shown on the invoice.

Note: Unless otherwise noted all **flat rate and hourly fees** are fully **inclusive** which means the **fee includes local anaesthetic procedures** (including the drugs), **surgical packs, suture materials, stitch removal and all drug administration procedures.**

CATTLE

A. Ancillary (add-on) Services

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Clinic Outpatient Fee	9	46.40	23.20	23.20

Note: This fee can **only** be **claimed** in conjunction **with another** valid **VSI claim**. It can only be charged once per occurrence. It is **not** a **per animal** fee.

Epidural	1	35.80	17.90	17.90
----------	---	-------	-------	-------

Note: **Epidurals** can **only** be **claimed** in conjunction **with dystocias** (code 31), **embryotomies** (code 44 & 45) & **prolapse revisits** under code 52.

Intramuscular or Subcutaneous Injections	3	6.50	3.25	3.25
Intravenous Injections	4	13.00	6.50	6.50
Stall Fee (calves - per 24 hr.)	10	33.40	16.70	16.70
Stall Fee (older animals -per day)	11	50.80	25.40	25.40
Oral Drug Administration	5	36.10	18.05	18.05
Subconjunctival injection	7	13.00	6.50	6.50

Note: Codes 3, 4, 5 & 7 can **only** be **claimed once per animal** and only in conjunction with a code 26, 27, 50, 51, or 52 claim.

X-ray (2 views)	2	148.30	74.15	74.15
X-ray (subsequent views - each)	21	30.80	15.40	15.40
X-ray – Digital Equipment Surcharge	8	41.50	20.75	20.75

Note: Please be judicious in taking x-rays in situations where the x-ray won't add to the diagnosis or alter the course of treatment (e.g. most cases of broken legs in calves).

B. Flat Rate Inclusive Surgical Procedures

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Abscesses	28	190.90	95.45	95.45
Claw Amputation	17	273.60	136.80	136.80
Epididymectomy	20	293.50	146.75	146.75
Eye Enucleation	16	408.40	204.20	204.20
LDA (Left Displaced Abomasum)	22	475.20	237.60	237.60
Omphalitis – Intra-abdominal debridement	35	285.40	142.70	142.70

Note: For superficial procedures with minimal debridement use code 28

RDA (Right Displaced Abomasum)	23	530.30	265.15	265.15
Rumen Fistula	24	192.00	96.00	96.00
Sole Abscess	29	147.30	73.65	73.65
Torsion (abomasal or intestinal – calves < 200#)	14	302.10	151.05	151.05
Umbilical Hernia (eviscerated in newborn calve)	18	302.10	151.05	151.05
Urethrostomy	15	238.40	119.20	119.20
Vasectomy	19	322.10	161.05	161.05

C. Flat Rate Obstetrical and Reproductive Services

Note: **Oxytocin** and/or **uterine boluses** are **included** in **all** obstetrical procedures.

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Caesarean Section	41	544.80	272.40	272.40
Dystocia	31	247.10	123.55	123.55
Embryotomy (1 or 2 cuts)	44	369.10	184.55	184.55
Embryotomy (3 or more cuts)	45	435.90	217.95	217.95

Note: Code #1 (epidural) can be added, as appropriate, with codes 31, 44, 45 & 52.

Scrotal Circumference Measurement	65	25.40	12.70	12.70
-----------------------------------	----	-------	-------	-------

Note: This fee **only** applies for **bulls eliminated** from further breeding soundness evaluations.

Semen Test (1 st bull)	60	109.00	54.50	54.50
Semen Test (2 nd to 10 th bull)	61	77.10	38.55	38.55 each
Semen Test (11 th to 50 th bull)	62	70.30	35.15	35.15 each
Semen Test (51 st bull plus)	63	63.60	31.80	31.80 each

Pregnancy Testing (per head)	6	5.60	2.80	2.80 each
------------------------------	---	------	------	-----------

Note: A higher fee can be charged for the first animal as per the AB.VMA fee schedule but VSI will only pay the VSI rate for the first animal.

Prolapses				
-Rectal	74	128.40	64.20	64.20
- Uterine	71	243.80	121.90	121.90
-Vaginal	81	166.70	83.35	83.35
-Vaginal & Rectal	84	192.00	96.00	96.00
Uterine Torsion (manual correction)	46	269.20	134.60	134.60

D. Hourly Rates for Surgical & Professional Services

Note: **Rates** are quoted for **1/4 hour** (15 minute) intervals. -- **All of the services in this section are fully inclusive** and an hourly rate can't be used for services for which a flat rate fee has been established.

Code **12A/12B** or **13A/13B** claims **CAN'T EXCEED 1½ hours** (parts A & B combined)

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Surgery (major)	12A	96.00	48.00	48.00
Non Surgical Professional time	12B	57.80	28.90	28.90
Surgery (minor)	13A	64.80	32.40	32.40
Non Surgical Professional time	13B	57.80	28.90	28.90

Note: Only the actual surgical time should be claimed under codes 12 & 13. Time required for related services, e.g. examination, surgical preparation, immediate post surgical treatments, etc. should be claimed under codes 12B or 13B.

Professional Services (general)	25	57.80	28.90	28.90
---------------------------------	----	-------	-------	-------

Note: This fee is used:

- a) For **herd** health visitations and/or **problems** (max. 2 units for set-up Veterinary-client-Patient Relation)
- b) In place of codes 50, 51, 52 & 55 as specified in section "E"
- c) When **more than two postmortems** are conducted
- d) When a single animal is examined, euthanized then subjected to a postmortem
- e) Other instances as agreed to or recommended by the VSI Manager

Time claimed for codes 12, 13 & 25 should be consistent with time required by a veterinarian of **average competence**.

E. Flat Rate Non-Surgical Professional Services

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Cast Application (closed reduction)	26	134.90	67.45	67.45
Cast Removal	27	63.60	31.80	31.80
Examination	50	109.00	54.50	54.50
Examination (2 nd animal)	51	74.40	37.20	37.20
Examination (re-visit)	52	74.40	37.20	37.20
Next 24 hr IV hook-up + monitor (NEW)	53	74.40	37.20	37.20
I.V. Hook - up (1 st & 2 nd no monitor)	55	121.90	60.95	60.95

Note: **This code includes the examination** and is for situations where the animal is not hospitalized for follow-up care.

I.V. Hook - up + 24 hour monitor	56	190.90	95.45	95.45
----------------------------------	----	--------	-------	-------

Note: **Only** for calves up to **two months old**. It **includes the exam and professional services** for the **first 24 hours**. Code **53** should be used to cover professional services in **subsequent 24 hour periods**.

Services normally covered by codes 50, 51, 52 & 55 will be claimed under code 25 when more than two (2) claims are made using any combination of codes 50, 51, 52 & 55

Services normally covered under 50 in combination with flat fee(s) of equal or greater value automatically become code 51 - second animal

Postmortem - Brain Removal	99	72.30	36.15	36.15
Postmortem - 300 pounds or less	90	114.40	57.20	57.20
Postmortem - 300 to 800 pounds	91	123.10	61.55	61.55
Postmortem - over 800 pounds	92	185.20	92.60	92.60

Note: For **more than 2** postmortems at the **same time** make a **single code 25 claim**.

Technovit Block - Application of	30	95.50	47.75	47.75
----------------------------------	----	-------	-------	-------

Note: **Materials** are **included** in this service

PIGS

All Services

Note: With the exception of the following pig services are to be billed by the hour under codes 12, 13, or 25, as appropriate:

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Examination	50	109.00	54.50	54.50
Examination (2 nd animal)	51	74.40	37.20	37.20
Examination (re-visit)	52	74.40	37.20	37.20

Note: Codes 3, 4 & 5 can be claimed with codes 50, 51 & 52, as appropriate

Postmortem - 20 pounds or less	93	77.10	38.55	38.55
Postmortem - 20 to 100 pounds	94	82.50	41.25	41.25
Postmortem - over 100 pounds	95	100.80	50.40	50.40

Note: For **more than 2** postmortems at the **same time** make a **single code 25 claim**.

SHEEP & GOATS

All Services

Note: Most sheep and goat services can be billed by the hour under codes 12, 13, or 25, as appropriate, with the exception of the specific flat rate codes in this section:

All of the sheep codes are inclusive with the exception of codes 33, 50, 51 & 52 where the same conditions apply as for cattle.

Oxytocin and/or uterine boluses are included in all obstetrical procedures.

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Caesarean	43	345.70	172.85	172.85
Dystocia	33	153.80	76.90	76.90
Examination	50	109.00	54.50	54.50
Examination (2 nd animal)	51	74.40	37.20	37.20
Examination (re-visit)	52	74.40	37.20	37.20

Note: Codes 3, 4 & 5 can be claimed with codes 26, 27, 50, 51 & 52, as appropriate.

Semen Test (1 st animal)	66	92.30	46.15	46.15
Semen Test (subsequent animals)	67	70.10	35.05	35.05
Postmortem - 20 pounds or less	96	77.10	38.55	38.55
Postmortem - 20 to 100 pounds	97	82.50	41.25	41.25
Postmortem - over 100 pounds	98	100.80	50.40	50.40

Note: For more than 2 postmortems at the same time make a single code 25 claim.

Prolapse - Rectal	76	109.00	54.50	54.50
Prolapse - Uterine	73	159.10	79.55	79.55
Prolapse - Vaginal	83	109.00	54.50	54.50

ELK & BISON

All Services

Note: The only services covered for elk & bison are pregnancy tests, semen tests and postmortems. Pregnancy & Semen tests can be charged at the flat rates for cattle or by the hour under code 25

Assuming that the hourly rate will only be used when the flat rate is not adequate you are asked to consider whether the extra amount is justified due to the inherent difficulty in working with these species or whether it is due to poor facilities or inadequate help. If the problem is poor facilities or poor help then the producer should assume 100% of the extra fees.

The following codes apply to postmortems for elk & bison:

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Postmortem - Brain Removal	99	72.30	36.15	36.15
Postmortem - 300 pounds or less	90	114.40	57.20	57.20
Postmortem - 300 to 800 pounds	91	124.10	62.05	62.05
Postmortem - over 800 pounds	92	186.70	93.35	93.35

Note: For more than 2 postmortems at the same time make a single code 25 claim

V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD.

SCHEDULE "B"

Annexed to and forming a part of the agreement dated **effective January 1, 2020**

Following are some of the services not payable by V.S.I. Services (1980) Ltd

- a) castrations
- b) dehorning
- c) dockings
- d) spaying heifers
- e) embryo transplants
- f) routine trimming of feet
- g) meat inspection
- h) scrotal hernias - all species
- i) umbilical hernias - all species
 - Note: With the exception of eviscerated hernias in newborn calves
- j) cryptorchid surgery- all species
- k) insurance examinations (including mortality, loss of use exams & reports)
- l) listed herd and dispersal sales
- m) shows & sales
- n) endorsement fees
- o) export testing
- p) parentage sampling
- q) routine vaccinations
- r) all drugs and medicines
- s) all laboratory fees
- t) waiting time
- u) after hours or holiday fees
- v) mileage
- w) services relating to quality assurance programs such as CQA & QSH.
- x) internal fracture fixation procedures
- y) hospitalization for any **service not listed** in **Schedule "A"**
- z) Services under codes 12A/B & 13A/B over & above 1½ hours
 - aa) Exams for non-conventional treatments and those treatments. (Examples: adjustments, acupuncture etc)
 - ab) **VCPR consultations for a period longer than 2 units of code #25**

All "Schedule A" services for species not specifically identified on "Schedule A"

Note: All jurisdictions cover "Schedule A" services for the bovine, porcine, caprine and ovine species. Some jurisdictions cover some, or all, "Schedule A" services for alternative livestock species (e.g. elk, bison, deer, etc.). The specific species and services covered will be identified on the "Schedule A" that was approved by that particular jurisdiction.

Any other veterinary services not specifically listed in Schedule "A" as amended from time to time.

V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD

A nonprofit organization providing veterinary care in Alberta

BOX137

FAIRVIEW AB T0H 1L0

PH 780 835 5440

vsiservices16@gmail.com

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

February 1, 2020

Dear Allan,

Enclosed is your 2020 VSI requisition of \$63,500

Total VSI administrative costs, for 2019, including G.S.T. (\$15,948) were approximately \$55,218. Your jurisdiction accounted for 583 (9.6%) of the 6099 claim lines processed thus your share of gross administrative costs (= total administrative cost minus claim related GST) was deemed to be \$3,841

Investment income was approximately \$4,878. Total cost of your claims, as per your fourth quarter report, sent to greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca and sarah@clearhillscounty.ab.ca was \$51,034. This was 8.5% of total claims expenditures of \$601,414. Your share of the interest was deemed to be \$414

The 2019 VSI fee schedule was increased 2.8% with a 10% contingency added. As a result, your **2020 requisition is equal to your 2019 claims plus an 12.8% increase plus your estimated net administrative costs for 2019**. The total was rounded to the nearest \$500. (Net administrative costs = total administrative costs minus investment income rounded to the nearest \$100.)

Following is an estimate of your current VSI balance after adding 2019 administrative costs and investment income:

	Claims	Payments	Balance
Jan. 1, 2019			\$ (1,985)
Payments in 2019		\$ 64,500	\$ 62,515
2019 Claims	\$ 51,034		\$ 11,481
2.5 % GST 2019 Claims	\$ 1,276		\$ 10,206
Share of 2019 Expenses	\$ 3,841		\$ 6,365
Share of 2019 Interest		\$ 414	\$ 6,779

The amount in your **contract** was **based on the actual cost** of claims for **Oct 1, 2018 to Sept 30, 2019 plus an estimate of net administrative costs**. The **amount of your requisition is based on the actual cost of claims for 2019 plus an estimate of net administrative costs** (rounded to the nearest \$100). This explains the difference between your requisition of \$63,500 and the \$64,000 in your contract.

Please feel free to contact me if you detect any errors or if you have any questions. Thank you for your continuing support of VSI.

Yours sincerely

 Rik Vandekerkhove, Manager

cc Greg Coon, Sarah Hayward

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	February 18, 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-February 18, 2020

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that the Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 18, 2020 Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

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

FEB 18, 2020

PEST CONTROL

• **Wolves Claimed 2020 YTD:**

Total #	Total \$
7	\$2450.00

OTHER TOPICS

- Grain Bag Extractor is back in service. The repair bill was \$4766.82
- The side by side tender was awarded to Scanalta Power Sales at \$17,108.00 inc. GST
- The tenders were opened for the trailer for hauling the side by side. This will be awarded at the next Council meeting.
- The skid mount sprayer for the side by side has been ordered at a cost of \$4500 + GST.
- The GPS sprayer tracking equipment and software has been ordered at a cost of \$9000.00 + GST.
- The letter to the Ag Minister regarding the ASB grant has been drafted and will go to Council Feb 25th for their approval and the Reeves signature.

January 1 - February 10, 2020

Rental Equipment	Rental Deposit	Rental Rates	Total Users	Total Days	Total
Backpack Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Bale Scale	\$ 100.00	\$ 30.00	0	0	\$ -
BBQ Trailer	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -
Chairs	\$ 50.00	\$0.50/chair	2	2	\$ 19.50
Community Centre	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -
Corral Panels	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -
Eco-Bran Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Exta Hoses	\$ 50.00	\$1.000/hose	0	0	\$ -
Grain Bagger	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	0	0	\$ -
Grain Bag Roller	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Grain Bag Extractor	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	0	0	\$ -
Grain Vac	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	2	2	\$ 400.00
Grill	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	0	0	\$ -
Hand Held Rope Wick	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Land Leveller	\$ 260.00	\$ 130.00	0	0	\$ -
Loading Chute	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	2	2	\$ 50.00
Manure Spreader	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -
Mulch Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -
Post Hole Auger	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -
Post Pounder	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00	0	0	\$ -
Pull/Push Roller Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Quad Mount Rope Wick	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Quad Mounted Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Quad Pull Type Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Rock Picker	\$ 600.00	\$ 300.00	0	0	\$ -
Rock Rake	\$ 600.00	\$ 300.00	0	0	\$ -
Roller Mill	\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	0	0	\$ -
Rotowiper	\$ 150.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Sickle Mower	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -
Skidmount Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Smoke Signs	\$ 60.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Steam Tables	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	0	0	\$ -
Tables	\$ 50.00	\$1.00/table	1	1	\$ 10.00
Toilets	\$ 100.00	\$ 40.00	0	0	\$ -
Tree Spade	\$ 300.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -
Truck Mount Sprayer	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -
Wash Station	\$ 50.00	\$ 10.00	0	0	\$ -
Water Pumps	\$100 (summer) \$1000 (winter)	\$75 (summer) \$200 (winter)	0	0	\$ -
Wire Roller	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -
Zero Till Drills	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -
			7	7	\$ 479.50

Revenue	\$ 479.50
Expenses	\$ 1,900.37
Loss	\$ (1,420.87)

