

RESOLUTIONS CARRIED
AT THE
ONTARIO CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 25-26, 2009
Doubletree International Plaza Hotel, Toronto

09-01 MANDATORY AGE VERIFICATION

Moved by: Doug Shelswell, Simcoe Seconded by: Kim Ellison, Simcoe
WHEREAS the provinces of Alberta and Quebec are in the process of proposing mandatory age verification,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association lobby the Ontario provincial government to implement mandatory age verification for the province of Ontario.

CARRIED

Perth

Moved by: Joe Daunt Seconded by: Todd Fawcett
WHEREAS non-age-verified cattle are going to the processor and being labeled incorrectly as over-aged, and this is costing producers across the province millions of dollars in income,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT it should be mandatory to have age verified beef cattle in Ontario.

09-02 OCA SHARE-COST PROGRAM

Moved by: Joe Hill, Wellington Seconded by: Rob Unsworth, Wellington
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA continue to deliver the county cost-share program at current levels.

CARRIED

09-03 SOURCE WATER

Moved by: Harvey Hoggart, Huron Seconded by: Paul Coultres, Huron
WHEREAS the Source Water Protection Committees are formed, and
WHEREAS the lines on the map are now being drawn,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association continue to lobby the government for 100% compensation for the farms affected.

CARRIED

09-04 PIN ON MANIFEST

Moved by: Doug Scott, Huron Seconded by: Harvey Hoggart, Huron
WHEREAS replacing missing CCIA tags is dangerous and can cause unnecessary carcass bruising just prior to slaughter, and since most farm chutes are designed for lighter and younger animals, and
WHEREAS on direct to packer sales of cattle, carcasses are separate to the point of grading, and
WHEREAS individual PIN #'s are or will be assigned to all cattle farms,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association consider that on direct to packer sales, OCA and CCA work with CCIA to investigate the feasibility of CCIA producer PIN #'s on shipping manifests as an alternative to applying missing dangle or RFID tags to cattle.

CARRIED

09-05 SUPPORT FOR PROVINCIAL LOBBY REQUESTS

Moved by: James Cole, Grey Seconded by: Carl Spencer, Grey

WHEREAS the Ontario beef industry, like the general Ontario economy, is facing survival choices for the next few years, and recognizing that a certain level of production is required to maintain, for example, the Ontario packing industry, and

WHEREAS growth in demand for local foods has increased, and government support payments to Ontario beef farmers would boost the rural economy and act as an incentive for growth in the Ontario beef industry and the Ontario economy,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association persevere with their agenda of lobbying the government for the liquidity enhancement request and also the twenty million dollar risk management pilot program with the desired outcome being to keep our industry at a functioning volume of production and a major contributor to the Ontario economy.

CARRIED

Simcoe

Moved by: John Beattie

Seconded by: Don Currie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association continue its strong lobby efforts with the provincial government to continue focusing attention on the challenges facing the beef industry in Ontario.

09-06 RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Moved by: Cora VanDenBroek, Dundas Seconded by: Bonna Oosterhoff, Dundas

WHEREAS Ontario continues to be affected by low returns in all beef sectors,

WHEREAS a useable and easy to administer and understand Business Risk Management beef program is required, and

WHEREAS the Ontario Cattlemen's Association has been working on a Business Risk Management program for the beef sectors for several years,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA develop a Business Risk Management program for Ontario beef farmers in consultation with producers on a timely basis to address beef sector needs.

CARRIED

Huron

Moved by: Raph Scott

Seconded by: Glen Walker

WHEREAS we have seen several stabilization programs over the last 30 years, and

WHEREAS the crop risk management plan has been implemented even though crop prices are somewhat improved, and

WHEREAS we seem to have been subjected to trade impediments, and

WHEREAS beef is priced much less than the cost of production,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association consider investigating the implementation of some sort of risk management plan.

09-07 PETERBOROUGH PROPOSAL

Moved by: Edgar Cornish, Peterborough Seconded by: Jack Holland, Peterborough

WHEREAS Ontario beef cattle producers have suffered major financial loss over the last six years because of BSE, high fuel cost, high Canadian Dollar, high fertilizer cost, high feed costs, and all other production costs escalating, and

WHEREAS the support programs that have been available to beef producers are tied to a 5 year reference margin that have eroded to the point of being almost meaningless in today's financial position, and

WHEREAS a group of Peterborough County Cattlemen put together a draft proposal in 2008 for a Beef Production Assurance Program for all sectors of the industry, a proposal that got favorable support from local cattlemen, local politicians, and some neighbouring county producers, but lost in the workings of OCA and staff,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA further explore this program and others through a series of public meetings throughout Ontario, seeking input from grassroots producers of all sectors.

CARRIED

Renfrew

Moved by: David Campbell

Seconded by: Myles England

WHEREAS in 2008, several producer groups in the province submitted discussion papers and proposals to the OCA for consideration in developing a risk management program for Ontario beef producers, and WHEREAS these grassroots producers put a lot of time, effort and deliberation into developing these proposals and delivering them to OCA for consideration, and WHEREAS the response from OCA seemed to indicate that these proposals were not taken very seriously nor given due consideration by the Board,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA do a comprehensive review of the proposals submitted by these producer groups and provide a detailed response of action taken and the rationale either for or against the issues presented.

09-08 YOUNG FARMER INCENTIVE

Moved by: Larry Schroeder, Renfrew Seconded by: Shawn Smaglinski, Renfrew

WHEREAS access to startup funds for young farmers entering the industry are prohibitive, particularly when trying to access money through regular lending institutions, and WHEREAS the average age of farmers in Ontario is in excess of 50 years of age,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA lobby the Ontario government to develop a low interest guaranteed loan program to help young farmers enter the industry.

CARRIED

09-09 REGULATORY BURDEN ON PROVINCIAL PLANTS

Moved by: Adrian Verhoeven, Sudbury Seconded by: James Barrett, Sudbury

WHEREAS the provincial government is both encouraging local food production and marketing, while increasing regulations, and thus increasing costs on small abattoirs,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association lobby the provincial government to provide a cost share program to reimburse the slaughter facility for increasing slaughter costs for each animal slaughtered at provincially licensed abattoirs.

CARRIED

09-10 MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

Moved by: Ruby Lennox, Wellington Seconded by: Pat Brown, Wellington

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA support OFA, NFU & CFFO to stop the development charges on all agriculture buildings, housing livestock.

CARRIED

Resolutions from the Floor:

09-28 PREREQUISITES FOR FUTURE GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Moved by Dave Perry, Frontenac Seconded by: Orrie Cumpson, Frontenac
WHEREAS age verification is an important and useful tool in the Canadian beef industry, and
WHEREAS the OCA and other beef industry partners are encouraging cow/calf producers to age verify
their calves,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA lobby for industry support to incorporate age verification as a
prerequisite for cow/calf producers to receive any future ad hoc financial assistance from the
government.

CARRIED

09-34 MARKETING ONTARIO BEEF

Moved by: Rob Unsworth, Wellington Seconded by: Ruby Lennox, Wellington
WHEREAS we are surrounded by advertising by other groups trying to take over our beef markets,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA finds ways to take back lost markets, increase new markets, and
start an aggressive ad campaign promoting Ontario beef, including but not limited to Ontario Corn-Fed
Beef, and report recommendations and actions at the 2010 OCA AGM.

CARRIED

09-35 SHARE-COST PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Moved by: Kim Ellison, Simcoe Seconded by: Doug Shelswell, Simcoe
WHEREAS the Cost Share program was very successful in getting money out to support county
cattlemen's activities,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association continue the Cost Share program
on a permanent basis. Also allow the flexibility to channel unused funds (not claimed) from other
counties to those counties that require extra funds for larger projects.

CARRIED

Frontenac

Moved by: Dave Perry Seconded by: Mike Noonan
WHEREAS some counties utilize the maximum amount of producer and consumer grants from OCA and
other counties do not,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA increase the amount of grant to those counties that would use it,
thereby using more of the funding that has already been allocated for beef promotion.

RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

**ONTARIO CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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REFERRED TO OCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

09-11 EUROPEAN BAN (referred from AGM)

Moved by: Earl McFadden, Leeds Seconded by: Harold Haig, Leeds

WHEREAS traditionally supply management farmers are the first to say that they should not be traded off to benefit other farm groups, and
WHEREAS when Europe moved to ban the import of Canadian beef because of the use of hormones in feedlots, and Canada won the appeal at the WTO level, supply managed commodities became the direct beneficiaries, and
WHEREAS Canada increased tariffs and quotas on other agricultural goods entering Canada because of the WTO ruling against the European ban on Canadian beef,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA propose that those increased fees collected from tariffs and quotas be taken from other agricultural commodities, and be invested in the beef industry, based on the fact that they are the primary losers of the European ban.

09-13 COST RECOVERY - CFIA REGULATIONS

Northumberland

Moved by: Dave Denure Seconded by: Jeff McCann

WHEREAS our Ontario producers are in a cost prohibitive situation based on excessive CFIA regulations,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA and CCA lobby to eliminate the cost recovery aspect of these CFIA regulations.

09-14 SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN BEEF ADVANTAGE PROGRAM (CBAP)

Bruce

Moved by: Steve Eby Seconded by: Doug Calhoun

WHEREAS information flow with all partners of the beef value chain is important, and
WHEREAS some systems (National ID) are established, and
WHEREAS programs like the Canadian Beef Advantage Program have been started to improve flow and enhance trade opportunities,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA continue to support and promote the Canadian Beef Advantage Program.

09-15 CARCASS DATA FEEDBACK

Temiskaming

Moved by: Allan Aitchison Seconded by: Russell Britton

WHEREAS the beef industry has indicated need for Age Verified calves to increase domestic and export markets, and
WHEREAS the Cow/Calf sector has requested increased feedback from packers regarding grade and yield data upon tag retirement,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA/CCA pressure the packers to supply carcass data to an accessible database for those producers who have supplied Age Verified calves to the system.

Perth

Moved by: Bob Dunsmore

Seconded by: Kim Leonhardt

WHEREAS there is no accessible traceability in the beef sector of Ontario from cow/calf to feedlot to processor to help farmers keep track of livestock records and information,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all Ontario cattle be traceable from birth to processor in order to improve the genetic base of the cow herds in Ontario.

09-16 MARKET ACCESS

Renfrew

Moved by: Larry Schroeder

Seconded by: Shawn Smaglinski

WHEREAS Canada depends on export markets to consume approximately one-half of the beef that we produce in this country, and

WHEREAS many countries have still not fully re-opened their markets to Canadian cattle and beef since the first BSE cow in 2003, even though they should according to international rules and our controlled BSE status,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA work with CCA, CBEF (Canadian Beef Export Federation) and the Ontario government and the federal government to aggressively pursue these countries to gain full and unrestricted access to their markets.

09-17 DENTITION AT AUCTION MARKETS

Renfrew

Moved by: Trudy Desjardins

Seconded by: Myles England

WHEREAS Ontario producers have increased their commitment to Age Verifying their cattle, and

WHEREAS producers that take the steps to age verify their cattle prior to shipping are still being charged for a service they have already completed,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA encourage the auction markets not to charge this fee to proactive producers.

09-18 BEEF CATTLE FINANCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

Grey

Moved by: James McKinlay

Seconded by: Jim Cole Jr.

WHEREAS the Ontario Beef Cattle Financial Protection plan was established in 1982 to deal with the accepted marketing and payment terms of that time, and

WHEREAS the Ontario Beef Industry has evolved to include many new and evolving markets in the form of value chains which often have longer terms for payment, and

WHEREAS the provincial government and OCA continue to encourage these new value added marketing initiatives for the primary producer,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association consult with the various stakeholders and the Livestock Financial Protection Board to ensure that the Ontario Beef Cattle Financial Protection plan serves all segments of the beef industry and ensure that all producers are aware of the requirements of the plan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA petition the Ontario government to develop policies and programs to level the playing field with respect to the beef industry in Alberta and Quebec by increased investment in the Ontario beef industry.

Renfrew

Moved by: Shawn Smaglinski Seconded by: Wilson Rae

WHEREAS the Alberta Beef Producers, in partnership with the Alberta Government and the federal government have developed a Cattle Price Insurance Program to be offered to Alberta producers on a voluntary producer funded basis,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA work with the federal government and the Ontario government to develop a similar Cattle Price Insurance Program for Ontario producers to provide protection against fluctuating market prices and to level out marketplace prices with other beef producing provinces.

09-21 BOARD REPRESENTATION

Lanark

Moved by: Don Badour Seconded by: Richard Kidd

WHEREAS the average age of the Ontario farmer is 53, and

WHEREAS young farmers (under the age of 40) may have ideas and perspectives different to those of older, more established farmers, and

WHEREAS there is no mechanism currently in place to ensure representation of young farmers on the OCA Board of Directors,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA Constitution and By-Laws be amended to change one of the "At Large" Director positions to an "At Large - Young Farmer" Director position to be elected by voting delegates identified as young farmers (under the age of 40).

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA Nominating Committee make an effort to identify potential young candidates for all positions.

09-22 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELLING

Manitoulin

Moved by: Steve Orford Seconded by: John McNaughton

WHEREAS we, the beef producers of Manitoulin, see COOL as an unfair trade practice,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA continue to lobby the provincial and federal governments to ensure that the beef industry is treated fairly in trade negotiations.

Renfrew

Moved by: Larry Schroeder Seconded by: Murray Crozier

WHEREAS Mandatory Country of Origin Labelling (MCOOL) in the United States has directly impacted Canadian beef producers by lowering prices for live slaughter cattle and restricting access to U.S. processors, and

WHEREAS this rule goes against World Trade Organization (WTO) and North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) rules, and

WHEREAS the U.S. has relaxed labeling rules as recently as January 13, 2009, there is still no guarantee that MCOOL, under the present protectionist Congress, will not continue to be used to discriminate against Canadian cattle,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA and the CCA lobby the federal government to continue to monitor U.S. cattle trading practices to ensure that unfair practices do not continue against Canadian cattle.

09-23 SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS

Manitoulin

Moved by: John McNaughton Seconded by: Jim Naokwegijig

WHEREAS, we the beef producers of Manitoulin, see the Ontario Corn Fed Beef program as an outstanding marketing tool and we see the Age verification Program as a valuable incentive mechanism, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA continue to financially support both the OCFB and Age Verification programs.

REFER TO ONTARIO FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

09-24 WILDLIFE DAMAGE

York

Moved by: Gavin Valentine Seconded by: Arthur Schickedanz

WHEREAS wildlife crop damage and predator livestock damage continues unabated, especially in the GTA, and

WHEREAS constant lobby efforts over the last 10 years have been dismissed by the responsible Ministries,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA insist to the government of Ontario that food producers should not be solely responsible for bearing the burden of the costs of the damage.

Renfrew

Moved by: Bill Laventure Seconded by: David Campbell

WHEREAS livestock predation continues to cause livestock losses in most areas of the province, and WHEREAS compensation levels are not applied consistently across all municipal jurisdictions, and WHEREAS the province has developed a policy for compensation under the 'Livestock, Poultry and Honey Bee Protection Act',

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA lobby the Ontario government to ensure that all municipalities in the province adhere to these policy guidelines.

Algoma

Moved by: Gail Murdoch Seconded by: Richard Hill

WHEREAS the rural community of Ontario, including Ontario cattlemen, is suffering an increase in predation and financial loss from coyotes, regarding livestock as well as pets, and

WHEREAS the ability of the rural community to effectively resist this burden is inhibited by the time and financial constraints of the current economic conditions, and

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has increased the severity of the problem through the institution of licensing and other restrictions on the taking of coyotes,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Algoma Cattlemen's Association requests that the OCA demand that the Ontario MNR activate a bounty program for coyotes in all problem areas, so as to expand the interest and availability of hunters to assist livestock producers in reducing this problem.

Lanark

Moved by: Dave Campbell

Seconded by: Gordon Patterson

WHEREAS the loss of livestock to wildlife predation is increasing in Lanark County, and

WHEREAS the loss of livestock adversely affects profitability of our farms, and

WHEREAS the management and control of wildlife is a provincial responsibility, and the programs currently in place have not been upgraded or changed for many years,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Lanark, the Lanark agricultural commodity organizations and interested municipal organizations lobby the provincial government for improvements to legislation affecting wildlife damage and compensation, and make revisions to the Livestock, Poultry and Honey Bee Act to:

- increase compensation levels to reflect current market value of livestock
- expand species of livestock listed as predators
- increase eligible species of livestock covered
- provide funding to help municipalities administer the Livestock, Poultry, and Honey Bee Act

09-25 ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN FUNDING

Huron

Moved by: Ralph Scott

Seconded by: Harvey Hoggart

WHEREAS the trend is toward increased environmental emphasis,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OCA ask for additional, consistent, and reliable funding for the Environmental Farm Plan program.

09-26 DIESEL FUEL COSTS

Ottawa

Moved by: Tom O'Rourke

Seconded by : Barkley O'Rourke

WHEREAS diesel fuel in Ontario has been significantly higher than gasoline and Ontario's agricultural producers use large amounts of diesel fuel in their equipment,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Cattlemen's Association, in conjunction with the GFO's and commodities, lobby the provincial / federal governments to bring the cost of diesel fuel more in line with gasoline and the diesel fuel's cost of production (relative).

REFER TO:

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

CHRISTIAN FARMERS FEDERATION OF ONTARIO

09-27 MUNICIPAL BYLAWS

Wellington

Moved by: Pat Brown

Seconded by: Chris Lennox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA support OFA, NFU & CFFO on informing all farmers that "non-residential" in a local municipality may mean agriculture.

Example: Wellington North - "Non-residential" means agriculture, commercial and industrial development.