

Progress Report on 2017 Resolutions

2017 AGM Financial Resolutions

1. **“Be it resolved that** the 2016 -2017 ABP audited financial statements and auditor’s report be accepted.”

Board

Carried: No further action required

2. **“Be it resolved that** the firm of Kingston Ross Pasmak chartered accountants be appointed as auditors for 2017-2018 year-end audit.”

Board

Carried: No further action required

2016 AGM General Session Resolutions:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP continue to pursue a non-refundable check off.”

Zone 6

Carried: ABP Executive have been meeting with the ACFA Executive to develop a plan moving forward to make the service charge non-refundable. ABP has approached Marketing Council with a formal request to begin the process for conducting a plebiscite of eligible producers on this matter.

2. **“Be it resolved that** should ABP seek a non-refundable check-off that it be through a plebiscite held for producer approval.”

Zone 4, 8

Carried: ABP Executive have been meeting with the ACFA Executive to develop a plan moving forward to make the service charge non-refundable. ABP has approached Marketing Council with a formal request to begin the process for conducting a plebiscite of eligible producers on this matter.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP release the details of any agreement and the structure of all related working groups three months prior to the plebiscite asking for a mandatory check-off.”

Zone 3

Carried: The results of the agreement between ABP and ACFA were discussed at the Alberta Beef Industry Conference in February. More information has gone out in the ABP weekly update and will be in the Grass Routes in April. ABP is also planning meetings around Alberta to discuss the increase in the national check-

off and the plebiscite for the non-refundable service charge.

4. **“Be it resolved that** any plebiscite on the issue of refundability/non-refundability address: a) the issue of refundability; b) the issue of providing funding for other beef cattle organizations.”

Zone 7

Defeated: ABP has approached Marketing Council with a formal request to begin the process for conducting a plebiscite of eligible producers on the matter of a non-refundable service charge. ABP is also planning to have meetings throughout Alberta to discuss the non-refundable service charge. Before the plebiscite, producers will know how ABP will be allocating the funds from a non-refundable service charge.

- 4(a) **“Be it resolved that** ABP submit a formal request to the Alberta Agricultural Products Marketing Council for a plebiscite on a non-refundable service charge model for the Commission.”

Board

Carried: ABP has approached Marketing Council with a formal request to begin the process for conducting a plebiscite of eligible producers on this matter.

5. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta Government to continue to fund both the University of Calgary Veterinary Medicine and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.”

Zone 6, 9

Carried: ABP has sent a letter to the Alberta government expressing our concerns for the change in policy and recommending that the government continue to fund both programs. ABP will continue to discuss the changes with the government during discussions with their Ministers and staff.

6. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to promote the inclusion of agriculture and agricultural information, particularly related to the beef industry, in the provincial education curriculum.”

Zone 1, 6

Carried: ABP currently supports the Classroom Agriculture Program that is presented to Grade 4 students across Alberta as well as Beef in the Classroom that is presented to high school students focused on food studies courses in Calgary and Edmonton and their surrounding areas. We are exploring opportunities to expand our educational programs to reach more students across Alberta.

7. **“Be it resolved that** ABP contribute, participate and promote Alberta Open Farm Days to drive greater public education about Agriculture and specifically the beef business.”

Zone 2

Carried: ABP promoted Alberta Open Farm Days and continues to look for opportunities for greater participation.

8. **“Be it resolved that** ABP investigate the viability of a calf mortality insurance program.”

Zone 6

Carried: The Cow Calf Council continues to investigate this issue.

9. **“Be it resolved that** ~~“Be it resolved that~~ ABP, in partnership with other commodity groups and the Alberta Association of Rural Municipalities, support the development of an Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program in the province of Alberta.”

Zone 5, 6

Carried: An ABP board member has been working with Alberta government officials on the Agriculture Recycling Group to develop a recycling program for Alberta. They have applied for funding for the group and ABP will be sending in a letter of support.

10. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the federal government to have the Department of National Defense (DND) compensate affected landowners for damages incurred because of activities occurring on DND property or in close proximity.”

Zone 4

Carried: The federal government is providing compensation to the affected landowners.

- 10(a) **“Be it resolved that** ABP supports the Framework for Grazing Lease Rental Rates and assigned fees that was outlined in the letter sent to public land grazing leaseholders this fall.”

Board

Carried: ABP has presented the changes to the grazing lease rates to producers in Alberta but are waiting for the government to approve the changes and put them into affect.

- 10(b) **“Be it resolved that** support landowners in maintaining their eligibility for the Alberta Environment and Parks landowner special license for antlered mule deer, which has been recommended for elimination by the Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council Big Game Policy Sub-committee.”

Floor

Carried: A representative from ABP attended the December meeting of the Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council and they agreed to reduce the number of landowner special licenses rather than eliminate them.

11. **“Be it resolved that** ABP intensely lobby the Alberta government, Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and exercise intense pressure on Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council (AGPAC) to: (1) recognize the enormous commitment of landowners in providing wildlife habitat and environmental goods and services; and (2) to dismiss the AGPAC committee’s proposed recommendation to AEP of taking 1200 landowner special licenses for antlered mule deer from landowners to give to recreational hunters.”

Zone 2

Redundant

12. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government for the continuation of the mule deer special licence for land owners.”

Zone 5

Redundant

13. **“Be it resolved that** ABP intensely lobby the Alberta Government to increase the Petty Trespass Act first offense fine from \$287 to a level that will actually discourage trespassing on private land.”

Zone 2

Carried: This was referred to the Cow Calf Council for action. They are still investigating.

14. **“Be it resolved that** ABP take a stance and give direction to the government that we do not want the beef industry to be sacrificed to save supply management during the North American Free Trade Agreement negotiations.”

Zone 2

Defeated: We have consistently asked the federal government to ensure that Canadian trade policies do not adversely affect our ability to negotiate trade agreements that are favourable to the beef industry. The agriculture industry is a large exporter, but it is still only 3% of the product exported out of Canada. The delegates felt that agricultural commodity organizations must support each other and there is no benefit to challenging other commodities on trade issues.

15. **“Be it resolved that** ABP through the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association lobby to ensure that anti-dumping and countervail duties remain intact and not

be negotiated away in trade agreements (CETA, TPP) so as to ensure fair marketing of beef and livestock.”

Zone 1

Carried: The Board of Directors will be dealing with this resolution at the April board meeting. Further actions to this resolution will be found in the Semi-Annual Report and the AGM Report. We are not aware of any plans for Canada to relinquish our ability to take trade actions in the event of a dispute with countries involved in trade agreements.

16. **“Be it resolved that** ABP and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association support access to foreign workers and extend plans to 10 years to allow retained employees and expedite the process of resourcing, attaining and employing these workers. The English requirements are currently limiting our access to these highly qualified workers.”

Zone 2

Carried: ABP understands the challenges that agricultural producers and businesses face in finding workers and we support actions that will increase access to foreign workers.

17. **“Be it resolved that** ABP facilitate an intelligent, informative discussion concerning the effects and extent of man-made global warming caused by CO₂ emissions.”

Zone 8

Defeated: There are scientists working on this issue and the delegates felt that it was beyond the scope and finances of ABP.

2017 Resolutions for Board of Directors:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP continue to collaborate with other industry groups (i.e. ACFA, WSGA) to develop a single voice for the beef industry and work towards unification of said industry organizations.”

Zone 1

Carried: ABP is actively collaborating with ACFA on the matter of a non-refundable service charge and the potential creation of the Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund. We continue to look for opportunities to reduce duplication and increase collaboration among all industry organizations.

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP change the funding share of the national levy amended to 55% BCRC and 40% to Canada Beef and 5% to issues management.”

Zone 2

Defeated: The Board of Directors carried a motion at their March meeting allocating 50% of the increased national check-off to Canada Beef, 44% to the Beef Cattle Research Council and 6% to issues management. This allocation will come into effect on April 1, 2018.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP support the development of a calf mortality program, based on Bob Dublanko's proposal.”

Zone 6

Defeated: Because of possible countervail issues the board did not feel that this specific program was one they could support. They did pass and carry a resolution to investigate the development of a cost shared calf mortality program.

4. **“Be it resolved that** ABP encourage the Canadian Beef Check-off Agency to include the contributing provincial members onto their board.”

Zone 2

Defeated: There is concern that some of the provinces that sit on the board do not contribute to the resources used in running it. Without members from each province on the Agency Board, we likely would not have all provinces collecting the national check-off and would not be able to collect a levy on imports.

5. **“Be it resolved that** ABP is directed to ask the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association officers to review remuneration for John Masswohl and Dennis Laycraft for their excellent service to the industry. Further, that a succession plan be established for further continuance of good governance within our industry.”

Zone 2

Defeated: We are not aware of any issues regarding remuneration and it is not ABP’s place to interfere with CCA Human Resources.

6. **“Be it resolved that** ABP pull their funding from Alberta Farm Animal Care for the 2018 and subsequent years and use the funding to sponsor beef related projects for the cattle producers of Alberta.”

Zone 8

Defeated: There is no real good reason to remove funding from a program that is needed and worthwhile.

2017 Resolutions for Cow Calf Council:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP promote environmental reuse of Ag Plastic and promote the awareness of its

increasing danger to livestock and encourage research on a solution.”

Zone 2

Carried: An ABP board member has been working with Alberta government officials on the Agriculture Recycling Group to develop a recycling program for Alberta. They have applied for funding for the group and ABP will be sending in a letter of support.

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP in an effort to support our ranchers in areas affected and experiencing issues with wolves, that ABP hold workshops to assist those producers in wolf management. Topics could include experiences with wolf management and education, marksmanship, trapping education and explanations of tools available for use in the control of wolves.”

Zone 5

Carried: Fish & Wildlife have various programs and controls that have been used to address the growing wolf issue in Alberta. Any programs developed needs to apply province wide. Council members suggested that the Directors from zones that are experiencing problem wolves contact Fish & Wildlife to set-up workshops for producers.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta government for protection against prosecution for producers or their paid workers in the event of a predator attack of the livestock they protect including but not limited to protected species. If an injury or kill has occurred and the initial incident has been reported and a case file opened with Alberta Environment and Parks.”

Zone 9

Defeated: There was support for the intent of the motion, but council members would like the procedure and intent to be more defined.

4. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government that: i) suspects of alleged illegal actions shouldn't have to wait more than 2 months to know if they will be charged with regards to a possible infraction dealing with wildlife; and 2) Fish & Wildlife officers should be made to deal with the removal of the predator(s) at the time of the original investigation.”

Zone 9

Defeated: The council understands that the Alberta government has up to 2 years to bring forward charges and while the members felt this was an unacceptable length of time, they did not feel that this was a fight that would represent a good investment of producer dollars and ABP time. ABP continues to work with

Fish & Wildlife officials to improve their response to predator issues.

2017 Resolutions for Research Committee:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP initiate research to determine a safe level of glyphosate in forage and grain rations for beef cattle.”

Zone 7

Defeated: The resolution was debated by the Research Committee at the February meeting and defeated. The rationale for defeating this resolution lies in the fact that this research has already been completed. Health Canada carefully evaluates pesticides for use on both food and livestock feed before approvals. Federal legislation prohibits the sale of any feed that presents a risk of harm to human or animal health or the environment.

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta government about the continuing emissions and pollutants that occur around industry that is affecting human health and livestock health and thriftiness.”

Zone 9

Defeated: The rationale for defeating this resolution was the vague wording. It is unclear as to which emissions or pollutants the resolution is asking ABP to lobby against, nor are the alleged human and livestock health problems detailed. Under the assumption that this resolution is referring to oil and gas production, ABP recognizes that the Alberta Energy Regulator is the appropriate organization to deal with individual complaints.

2017 Resolutions for Animal Health:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP investigate why sodium iodine is not available to vets to treat lumpy jaw.”

Zone 9

Karin Schmid, ABP Beef Production Specialist, investigated this issue and found that due to low sales volume, manufacturers in the United States and Canada have ceased production of sodium iodide. This is unlikely to change in the near future. There have been discussions with Alberta Veterinary Laboratories/Solvat to manufacture some small run batches, however; this would make the price of sodium iodide much higher than it was previously.

Alberta Veterinary Laboratories/Solvat is now manufacturing sodium iodine so it can now be purchased from them.