

## Progress Report on 2015 Resolutions

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### **2015 AGM General Session Resolutions:**

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP support the National Check-off Levy increase to \$2.50.”  
Zone 1, 2, 3, 4 5, 6, 8

Carried: The board supports the increase in the National Check-off but is concentrating on returning to a non-refundable Service Charge.

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Provincial government to return to a \$2.00 non-refundable Service Charge of which \$0.60 will be put towards a restricted fund for marketing, research and collaboration.”  
Zone 1, 2, 3, 5

Carried: The ABP Executive is in discussions with Marketing Council and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry about returning to a non-refundable Service Charge by 2017.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Provincial government to return to a \$2.00 non-refundable Service Charge of which \$0.60 will be put towards a restricted fund for marketing, research and collaboration, but if that fails go to a \$5.00 check-off.”  
Zone 3

Defeated: The delegates felt it was too soon to make a decision on what the organization will do if a non-refundable Service Charge is not reinstated and wanted to keep their options open.

4. **“Be it resolved that** we approve a non-refundable check-off of \$3.00 per head with a portion of the check-off be dedicated to marketing and research.”  
Zone 5

Redundant: Resolution #2 is more detailed and when it was carried this resolution became redundant.

5. **“Be it resolved that** ABP work on a non-refundable Service Charge with a portion being put in a restricted fund to be negotiated with industry partners.”  
Zone 4

Redundant: Resolution #2 is more detailed and when it was carried this resolution became redundant.

6. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government for the Service Charge be made non-refundable.”  
Zone 4, 5, 6, 8

Redundant: Resolution #2 is more detailed and when it was carried this resolution became redundant.

7. **“Be it resolved that** any increase in check-off must be approved by a majority of Alberta cattle producers.”  
Zone 3

Defeated: There is no efficient or effective mechanism in place to seek a majority approval from producers. We use fall meetings and the delegate body to determine what producers want.

8. **“Be it resolved that** only one member of a family or ranch unit should sit as a delegate or board member in a zone.”  
Zone 6

Defeated: Delegates felt that this resolution was telling producers how to vote. It is up to producers to decide who will represent them.

- 9(a) **“Be it resolved that** ABP ask for actions of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to be more transparent and accountable.”  
Zone 6

Carried: Board needs to get clarity on this issue. As soon as SPCA seizes cattle they are responsible for all of the costs of maintaining the animals. Until we get some clarity on the process we will continue to see cases arise.

- 9(b) **“Be it resolved that** ABP ask the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals that food animals not be assessed with the same scrutiny as pets.”  
Zone 6

Defeated: Delegates felt there was still an opportunity for ABP to work with the SPCA and this should not be realized than the resolution can be revisited at another time.

10. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Provincial government and Alberta Financial Services Corporation to change the pricing methodology used when determining forage compensation rates for production shortfalls and apply the same price discovery methods as are used by AgriStability to establish a market price for forage.”  
Zone 6

Carried: The Safety Net Subcommittee will be addressing this issue with AFSC

11. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to permanently honor the grazing allotments/preference quotas in the Eastern Slopes.”  
Zone 2

Carried: This is in line with ABP policy and the Executive and directors will continue to address this with the appropriate government departments.

12. **“Be it resolved that** ABP continue to work with Alberta Grazing Lease Association, Western Stock Growers Association and the Northern Alberta Grazing Association to lobby and influence present government policy concerning grazing lease matters.”  
Zone 1

Carried: The Board is already doing this and will continue to do so.

13. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government for more funding for testing of all contaminants in fresh farm water wells”  
Zone 8

Carried: The Board will determine what is currently available from the government and then develop a response and a more detailed policy.

14. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to increase the payout for cattle submitted for BSE testing from \$75 per head to \$225.”  
Zone 8

Carried: The board has suggested an increase in the past and will continue to bring the issue forward when speaking with government officials.

15. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government for an increase in funding for wildlife predation.”  
Zone 8

Carried: The Wildlife Committee has been working on this issue and will continue to do so.

16. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government for more wildlife officers for predation action.”  
Zone 8

Carried: The Wildlife Committee is addressing this issue.

17. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta government to provide beef producers’ compensation for predation by coyotes.”  
Zone 2

Carried: The Wildlife Committee is currently working on this issue.

18. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to put coyotes on the Predator list along with wolves.”  
Zone 9

Defeated: This resolution has been made by a couple of zones. The Wildlife Committee has approached the government to add coyotes in the past without success. The delegates defeated the resolution because they wanted to have the freedom to address the coyote problem without government regulations.

19. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta government to restore diagnostic veterinary pathology lab facilities for food producing animals in Northern Alberta (Fairview) in light of the fact that southern and central Alberta have such a service through the Veterinary College in Calgary.”  
Zone 9

Carried: The board has been working on this. There was an initiative in the works but it was dropped when the price of oil fell.

20. **“Be it resolved that** the 2014-2015 ABP audited financial statements and auditor’s report be accepted.”  
Board

Carried: No further action required

21. **“Be it resolved that** the firm of Kingston Ross Pasnak chartered accountants be appointed as auditors for 2015-2016 year-end audit.”  
Board

Carried: No further action required

22. **“Be it resolved that** we continue to work on a plan that embraces beneficial outcomes for both ABP and the Alberta Cattle Feeders Association in our efforts to advance the industry.”  
Board

Carried: The Executive continues to work on this.

23. **“Be it resolved that** ABP move our producer meetings to the end of November and our AGM into January.”  
Floor

Defeated: After some discussion on the various options the delegates agreed that the current format for the fall meetings and AGM were good.

24. **“Be it resolved that** we continue to lobby the provincial government to guarantee farmers and ranchers access to crown land for grazing purposes.”  
Floor

Carried: The Board is working on this issue.

25. **“Be it resolved that** ABP continue to lobby the Government of Alberta to ensure that Occupational Health & Safety inspectors for farming operations are knowledgeable in all aspects of livestock and farm equipment, preferably with practical hands on experience.”

Floor

Carried: The Board is working on this issue.

**2015 Resolutions for Board of Directors:**

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP promote that the brand inspectors use their LIS access to the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency website regarding tracing missing cattle.”

Zone 2

Defeated: ABP Staff have confirmed that the only people at LIS who have access to the CCIA database are the RCMP officers and they need a warrant to gain access.

2. **“Be it resolved that** the ABP Executive contact beef producer groups in NE British Columbia to get assistance in coordinating wolf control efforts by Alberta and BC Fish and Wildlife.”

Zone 9

Carried: The Board has spoken with the BCCA and the BC government in an attempt to resolve the problem.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby all jurisdictions involved with undeveloped road allowances to develop and implement a consistent, fair and equitable policy related to use of undeveloped road allowances in agricultural areas with consideration and awareness of diversity of the province.”

Zone 7

Defeated: Fred Hays, Policy Analyst, was asked to prepare a background paper on this issue which was distributed to the directors. Based on the research done by Hays, it is our understanding that undeveloped road allowances are crown land, but the administration and management of these road allowances is the responsibility of the municipality in which the road allowances are located. This process does leave the treatment of road allowances highly variable and subject to the inconsistencies of local political decisions.

There was much discussion of the resolution among the directors and the Board believes that convincing the provincial government to impose a provincial policy on the administration and management of undeveloped road allowances would be extremely difficult. Furthermore, the current process does work relatively well for many producers and there is a real risk that a provincial policy could have significant adverse effects on these producers.

**2015 Resolutions for Wildlife Committee:**

1. **“Be it resolved that** the Wildlife Committee conduct a survey of producers in the area to document the level of loses.”

Zone 9

Carried: ABP has had discussions with Alberta Fish and Wildlife about wolf predation but they have no plans at this time to develop a program in coordination with the BC Cattlemen’s Association. They have discussed Best Management Practices in dealing with the wolves.

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP Executive and Wildlife Committee meet with the appropriate Alberta government Ministries to ensure that sufficient manpower and resources are allocated to eliminate problem wolf packs.”

Zone 9

Defeated: There is a management area that has been set up and the Alberta Fish & Wildlife have had discussions with the Waterton Biosphere and are exploring setting up a similar model with producers in the north.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta government to allow lease holders to make a deal on their leases with the trapper to trap and snare predators if the trapper is willing to allow them to do so but only if the lease holder has completed a trapping course.”

Zone 5

Defeated: Producers in affected areas need to work with the trappers in those areas to trap the predators attacking their livestock.