2021/2022 Resolutions Update

Resolution:

Be it resolved ABP lobby the provincial government to have AFSC add wildlife damages to swath grazing after Oct. 31 to the present wildlife damage compensation program for annual crops.

Status:

Ongoing – ABP has taken this forward as a suggestion for Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that ABP continue to engage with AFSC to improve the Moisture Deficiency Insurance Program and the Business Risk Management Suite.

Status:

Ongoing – ABP continues to engage with Agriculture Financial Services Corporation to explore continued improvements to MDI and other BRM tools. Augments to MDI are continuing to be made to benefit producers such as their change to monthly pay outs for 2023.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that ABP request CCA to investigate the opportunity to use CCIA reserve funds and/or tag revenue to fund the FMD vaccine bank and/or a voluntary cease movement fund.

Status:

Ongoing - ABP continues to work with Canadian Cattle Association, provinces, and other livestock industries to stress the importance of funding for a fully resourced vaccine bank. ABP is also engaged in ongoing collaborative efforts facilitated by Animal Health Canada to strengthen current FMD response plans and identify potential vaccination protocols.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Government of Alberta to develop an emergency or disaster compensation plan that is automatically triggered when counties declare an agricultural emergency (or state of agriculture emergency or disaster).

Status:

Ongoing - Disaster recovery programs in Canada are funded 60% federally and 40% provincially. An automatic trigger requires additional due diligence as the framework does not have this mechanism in place. Further discovery will be required. ABP is working on program design and BRM programs available for cow/calf producers as auto-triggers should be covered under programming available under Agrilnsurance.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that Alberta Beef Producers support mechanisms where producers can financially or otherwise benefit from their management of grasslands and ecosystems.

Status:

Ongoing – ABP continues to support mechanisms that make sense for producers and is working this topic into its policy update. Working with ECCC as they recognize this need. Additionally, RALP may provide some of these benefits

Resolution:

Be it resolved ABP lobby provincial and federal governments, along with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), to allow export inspection for product shipped to the U.S. to take place at the federally inspected processing facilities, eliminating the need for re-inspection at border crossings.

Status:

Ongoing – This is a major objective of the Canadian Meat Council (CMC). In March 2022, Alberta Beef Producers reached out to CMC to signal support of their efforts.

Resolution:

Be it resolved ABP encourage the removal of all SRM regulations that no longer serve meaningful risk management purposes.

Status:

Ongoing – This was identified as the key priority following Canada's recognition of negligible risk for BSE by the OIE in 2021. Current regulations require segregation and specific disposal of regulated materials from animals over thirty months (OTM). This creates cost when cattle OTM are processed, costs for small plants that cannot segregate OTM and UTM materials, and costs to plants and producers when animals under thirty months (UTM) have conflicting age verification by dentition and records. Modifications have been incorporated into the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) database to address CFIA concerns regarding records with potential errors in age verification.

A risk assessment is underway (funded by the Beef Cattle Research Cattle & CFIA). The results of that risk assessment will be reviewed by industry and CFIA and will hopefully allow us to reach the industry goal of harmonization of SRM regulatory burden with the United States.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Alberta government to provide livestock producers and landowners with damage permits, allowing them to kill a problem grizzly bear. This permit would be issued to producers who have a confirmed livestock kill, constant property damage (e.g. silage bags, grain bins, buildings), or personal safety in yard.

Status:

All removal of grizzly bears is currently illegal as it is considered a species at risk. The Species at Risk Committee was to review new research and determine if grizzly bear could be delisted, however the government suspended the committee. ABP will be meeting with Minister to bring the committee back together to continue to pursue this resolution.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that ABP work with other provincial beef organizations to identify and lobby for the removal of all barriers to interprovincial trade between the four (4) western provinces, so beef can trade freely between jurisdictions.

Status:

Ongoing – Barriers to interprovincial trade will be addressed in the Beef Competitiveness Study, currently underway. A pilot project has been initiated by the Governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan in the City of Lloydminster to look at the feasibility of interprovincial trade.