

Progress Report on 2016 Resolutions

2016 AGM Financial Resolutions

1. **“Be it resolved that** the 2015-2016 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 Pasnak chartered accountants be appointed as auditors for 2016-2017 year-end audit.”

Board

Carried: No further action required

2016 AGM General Session Resolutions:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP support the development of a levy or deposit on agricultural plastics to make agricultural plastic recycling viable in Alberta.”

Zone 6

Defeated: There are some municipalities that already offer recycling for ag products. This resolution would penalize producers who already have the means to recycle their agricultural plastics.

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to have the Classroom Agriculture Program curriculum included in the Alberta Education core curriculum at primary, junior high and high school level, with age appropriate information.”

Zone 8

Defeated: There are currently volunteers that go into the schools to talk to Grade 4 students about agriculture for the Classroom Agriculture Program. ABP supports the Beef in the Classroom program allowing representatives to speak with students from Grade 8 to 12 about the benefits of coking with beef. Delegates felt that unless the teacher is familiar with agriculture and either knows the correct information or researches the issue to get the correct information they could do more damage than any good that would come from such a program.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, with all their powers, when imposing a quarantine order be instructed to use all the available resources (including but not limited to) to expand or find more lab space to speed up the process of testing which at times may mean testing other species that may, if not tested, be the source.”

Zone 1

Redundant: The delegates passed a motion that Resolutions 3, 5, 6 and 7 be declared redundant as the required action had already been completed or was in the process of being done.

4. **“Be it resolved that** ABP continue to lobby both provincial and federal politicians to find a bridge finance solution to cover operating and animal welfare expenses for producers that find themselves caught in the animal health quarantine until a permanent program can be designed.”

Zone 1

Carried: Through the efforts of the Executive this goal was reached. The delegates carried the resolution so that if any future animal health quarantines arise this step will already be in place to help address financial strain to producers.

5. **“Be it resolved that** ABP and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association lobby all levels of government in Canada and Alberta as well as the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), to ensure that in the case of a CFIA created quarantine, the said quarantine not be allowed to create either a financial hardship to the producers, or an animal welfare problem.”

Zone 9

Redundant:

6. **“Be it resolved that** ABP with Canadian Cattlemen’s Association lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to develop a compensation program for producers with herds quarantined that covers the costs of any animals destroyed or maintaining the animals during the quarantine.”

Zone 2

Redundant:

7. **“Be it resolved that** ABP on behalf of the entire industry hold the Canadian Food Inspection Agency accountable for any additional costs of reportable disease investigations incurred because of delays in declaring/determining quarantine circles.”

Zone 2

Redundant:

8. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby government and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to test wildlife populations in the recent TB case area and treat the wildlife like the index herd.”

Zone 2

Defeated: During the controlled hunts last fall/winter at the Suffield base, fish and wildlife staff provided hunters with detailed information about signs of tuberculosis infection to be aware of while dressing carcasses. Over 1250 elk were harvested during the hunts, and while hunters did report some carcasses, no carcasses had lesions consistent with bovine tuberculosis. Of these 1250, 400 heads were more closely examined as part of chronic wasting disease surveillance for signs of bovine tuberculosis infection in lymph nodes under the jaw by veterinary pathologists. Again, no lesions were found to be consistent with bovine tuberculosis. The province and CFIA are currently discussing a more comprehensive wildlife surveillance program in the area.

9. **“Be it resolved that** anyone appointed to a board or committee of another organization by ABP be a sitting delegate of ABP at the time of the appointment.”
Zone 8

Defeated: The organization needs to have the ability to appoint the best person for the job, someone who will be the best representative for the industry.

10. **“Be it resolved that** anyone elected to Canadian Cattlemen’s Association be a sitting delegate of ABP at the time of the election.”
Zone 8

Defeated: Alberta is allowed 7 directors on the CCA Board five of those directors are elected directly from the ABP delegate body plus 2 non-delegates. The non-delegates that run for election have been past delegates who were elected to the CCA Board and wish to continue their work for Alberta producers and ABP.

11. **“Be it resolved that** ABP continue efforts with the Alberta Cattle Feeders Association (ACFA) to build a single and mutually agreeable modern governance and funding model for Alberta’s beef industry that can be presented to the Minister of Agriculture for ratification by the end of 2017.”
Zone 2, 7

Defeated: ABP Executive have put forward numerous alternatives without any acceptance from ACFA. Our Executive will continue to work with them but will also continue to move toward a non-refundable service charge.

12. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to restore the non-refundable check-off for beef cattle in Alberta.”
Zone 5

Carried: The ABP Executive and Board of Directors are working towards this goal with Marketing Council

and Alberta Agriculture & Forestry. amendments have been proposed to the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act (Bill 9) allowing for the return of a non-refundable service charge through a plebiscite. Bill 9 has been passed in Legislature.

13. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the provincial government to reinstate the non-refundable \$2.00 check-off.”
Zone 5

Carried: The ABP Executive and Board of Directors are working towards this goal with Marketing Council and Alberta Agriculture & Forestry.

14. **“Be it resolved that** ABP not support the \$1.50 increase to the National Levy until the Provincial Check-Off becomes non-refundable once again.”
Zone 1

Defeated: The increase to the National Levy is important and needs to be approved despite what it may do to ABP refunds. The increase to the National Levy has been approved and the ABP Board of Directors will be asking the Marketing Council to initiate the increase as of April 2018.

15. **“Be it resolved that** ABP increase the portion of the National Check-Off that goes to the Beef Cattle Research Council to \$0.30 until the time that the National Check-Off is increased to \$2.50.”
Zone 3

Carried: The Board of Directors submitted the increase for the Beef Cattle Check-off to the Marketing Council. Delegates approved the increase at the Semi-Annual General Meeting in June and Marketing Council approved the increase which will come into effect on April 1, 2018. ABP cannot increase BCRC’s portion of the check-off until April 2018 so the board declared the motion redundant.

16. **“Be it resolved that** that ABP investigate potential sources of revenue beyond check-off.”
Zone 5

Carried: The motion asks that ABP investigate potential sources. This does not bind the ABP Board of Directors but does give them other options. Other sources of funding could potentially be used to fund the Semi and Annual General meetings.

17. **“Be it resolved that** ABP actively and aggressively communicate to Canadian Food Inspection Agency that no new legislation or regulation be enacted without consultation and agreement with industry organizations.”
Zone 6

Carried: ABP discusses new legislation or regulations with CFIA. A number of current regulations have been vetted within CFIA.

18. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta government to present actual economic and financial changes that would create economic improvement under the proposed carbon tax.”

Zone 7

Carried: There is huge economic and financial benefits to the economy because of the tax but there are few studies done to reflect it. ABP has contributed funding to a study on the *‘Implications of Carbon Pricing for Canada’s Beef Sector’.*”

19. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the government of Alberta to implement a program that would pay agricultural producers for carbon sequestration that occurs on their land.”

Zone 8, 9

Carried:

20. **“Be it resolved that** ABP encourage the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association to lobby the Federal government to implement a program that would pay agricultural producers for carbon sequestration that occurs on their land.”

Zone 8, 9

Carried:

21. **“Be it resolved that** ABP support Lethbridge County cattle feeders by opposing the Lethbridge Country Infrastructure levy and seeking a provincial solution to municipal taxation and infrastructure issues.”

Zone 2

Carried: ABP is working with ACFA and the Alberta government about diverse ways for Lethbridge County to raise the money they need to upgrade their infrastructure without penalizing the cattle feeders.

22. **“Be it resolved that** ABP encourage the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association to support the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association efforts in lobbying the Chicago Mercantile Exchange to improve the transparency and responsiveness of the Live and Fed Cattle Futures Market.”

Zone 3

Carried:

23. **“Be it resolved that** ABP explore, as an issue management problem, possibly change Terms of Use to more easily facilitate exchange of information on

stolen/recovered animals that are tagged with a Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) tag. For example, allowing the Livestock Investigators access to CCIA information through database.”

Zone 3

Carried: Currently the RCMP officers working in the Livestock area of LIS can only access producer information with a warrant. ABP is exploring different ideas.

24. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the government to allow for compensation for livestock shot by unknown persons any time of the year and not just during hunting season.”

Zone 9

Carried:

25. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby government to increase the number of tags per cow elk hunting tags in high elk density areas and also to extend the hunting season significantly in those areas.”

Zone 8

Carried:

26. **“Be it resolved that** ABP requests in the event of a Canadian Food Inspection Agency imposed quarantine that a protocol be in place to begin bridge financing to the quarantined premises for costs incurred throughout the quarantine period and ensuing restriction period.

Floor

Carried: This happened in theory through AgriRecovery.

27. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to ensure CFIA compensation reflects the interruption of business for the length of quarantine until ensuing restrictions are lifted.”

Floor

Carried: These costs should be handled through existing BRM programs.

28. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to have an emergency response protocol in place to be able to respond immediately to all disease emergencies.”

Floor

Carried: CFIA already has protocols in place to deal with disease emergencies. The issue of speed of response has been discussed with CFIA and addressed.

29. “Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government to encourage the retention of native lands (including grasslands and forests), in order to enhance our ecosystems through a reward program such as carbon credits.”
Floor

Defeated:

Carried: The Safety-net Subcommittee is working with Growing Forward to ensure it programs remain supportive of the Alberta beef industry

5. **“Be it resolved that** ABP use social media to get our story out, possibly hiring a social media staff same as the politicians do for campaigns.”
Zone 5

Carried: ABP has hired a Communications and Marketing Assistant whose role will be to maintain an ABP presence in various social media outlets.

2016 Resolutions for Board of Directors:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP have the Agency immediately begin the process of amending the Agency proclamation to establish a representative Board of Directors for the Agency appointed by the provincial funders and the importers.”
Zone 3

Carried: This issue is ongoing and ABP is working to achieve this goal

2. **“Be it resolved that** ABP do its due diligence necessary to either have the provinces that are clawing funds back refrain from said practice or study the impact of clawing a similar amount of funds back for either provincial research or marketing and promotion for Alberta beef.”
Zone 1

Defeated: ABP does not support clawbacks of national funds but did not believe that further penalizing our national agencies by withholding funds from marketing and research programs was appropriate.

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP being the largest contributor of the national levy and understanding the value of the national levy to research, marketing and promotion ask that the Canadian Cattle Association, a policy organization, relinquish the lead role to the staff and board of the National Check-off Agency as they are the legally authorized federal organization charged with the enforcement of collection of the levy.”
Zone 1

Defeated: CCA has no role or involvement any decisions that are made at the Agency.

4. **“Be it resolved that** ABP work with the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association to see that the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program is renewed in the new Growing Forward framework.”
Zone 5

6. **“Be it resolved that** ABP organize a meeting with the Alberta Feeders Association and other interested parties with the intent of finding ways to eliminate hot iron branding as a requirement for financing feeder cattle.”
Zone 3

Defeated: The Feeders Associations of Alberta require producers to brand their cattle for security purposes. The FAA have faced several disputes this year due to unbranded cattle. It is the banks who are financing the feeder programs who insist on brands.

7. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby Alberta Agriculture and Forestry to remove current regulations limiting the number of animals Alberta farmers and ranchers can harvest for personal consumption per year.”
Zone 3

Carried: Hays prepared background information for the resolution and noted that there is nothing limiting the number of animals that may be harvested for personal use, but there are restrictions on what can be done with the meat from these animals. The report Hays presented to the Board can be found in the Semi-report.

8. **“Be it resolved that** if ABP is sending representation to the Alberta Grazing Lease Association that there be one representative from the Grazing Lease Zone 1 and Grazing Lease Zone 2 for both the advisory and operations committee of the Alberta Grazing Lease Association.”
Zone 7

Defeated: ABP has had two delegates represent them on the Advisory Committee; one from the south and one from the north. They have always tried to have representatives from across Alberta.

9. **“Be it resolved that** ABP oppose the introduction of Round Up Ready alfalfa varieties.”
Zone 7

Defeated: ABP does not feel they should be interfering in the market place.

Defeated: This is a private management issue and not something ABP should be involved in.

10. **“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby government to ensure governance and management is in place at Alberta Financial Services Corporation.”
Zone 2

Carried: The Alberta government is in the process of appointing a new Board of Directors to AFSC.

11. **“Be it resolved that** funds budgeted for Marketing and Education and a full-time staff person be forwarded to Canada Beef with funds currently being utilized for education programs and producer promotion being retained by ABP.”
Zone 4

Defeated: A new Marketing and Education Manager has been hired and he will be developing a new campaign for ABP which he is presenting to the delegates at the June Semi-Annual meeting.

12. “Be it resolved that ABP continue to support the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef.”
Zone 4

Carried: This is an ongoing project.

2016 Resolutions for Cow Calf Council:

1. **“Be it resolved that** ABP work with Alberta Environment and Parks and Agriculture and Forestry to define appropriate husbandry practices to minimize livestock losses from carnivores. As such a carnivore compensation program could be investigated with the province, including those losses from coyotes that would link incentives with good husbandry practices.”
Zone 9

Defeated:

2. **“Be it resolved that** “Be it resolved that ABP investigate ways to compensate producers for providing wildlife habitat.”
Zone 4

Carried: The Cow Calf Council is currently working on compensation programs to present to government for consideration

3. **“Be it resolved that** ABP investigate the pollution problems in the Three Creeks area, find out why cattle are getting sick, coming home thin and open.”
Zone 9