

RESOLUTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) held its 14 annual district meetings throughout the province in October and November. These meetings provided producer members with information about policies, issues and actions undertaken by MBP.

Following are the resolutions that have been proposed and carried at the MBP district meetings. Some districts are not listed because they chose not to bring forward resolutions to the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).

It is important to draw attention to a number of resolutions that deal with the provincial check-off. If the members present at the AGM approve one of the resolutions that propose an increase in the check-off amount, the approved increase will come into effect July 1, 2014.

There are also resolutions dealing with the refundability of the provincial check-off. Changes to

the refundability of the provincial check-off, such as those proposed in the following paragraphs, would also require amendments to the *Cattle Producers Association Act* and can not simply be realized by a vote of members at the AGM.

Note that some districts have adopted similar resolutions. These may be combined for debate and voting purposes at the AGM.

MBP has also published these resolutions online at www.mbbeef.ca to help ensure that beef producers in Manitoba are aware of the changes that have been proposed by members attending the district meetings.

These resolutions will be voted on at the MBP Annual General Meeting, February 4-5, 2014 in Brandon. Please attend the meeting to vote.

District 2 - October 29, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers increase the provincial check-off by \$1 per head.

District 4 - November 8, 2013

1. Whereas the reclassification of anaplasmosis by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency will result in decreased surveillance and support to producers; and

Whereas this disease can result in significant and ongoing costs for the beef industry.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to ensure that adequate surveillance, laboratory facilities and producer supports are in place to adequately deal with this disease.

2. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to amend the *Cattle Producers Association Act* to make the check-off non-refundable.

District 5 - November 15, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers increase the provincial levy by \$1 per head.
2. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to change the refundability of the provincial check-off so that only 50 per cent of the check-off can be refunded.
3. Whereas the Community Pasture Program provides an environmentally sustainable use of the land and the process has been provided to manage that land retaining the same principles.

Whereas the community pastures provide a valuable resource for the preservation of species at risk.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to remove the school tax rebate cap for the community pastures.

District 6 - November 7, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers increase the provincial check-off \$0.50 per head in 2013-14 and that there be another \$0.50 per head increase in 2015/16.
2. Whereas freeze-up and snowfall do not happen at the same time every year and;

Whereas Manitoba's manure management regulations do not have adequate flexibility;

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producer lobby the Government of Manitoba to build flexibility into manure management regulations to accommodate fluctuations in weather conditions.

District 7 - November 18, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers increase the provincial levy by \$1 per head.

District 9 - November 13, 2013

1. Whereas the flooding of the Shoal lakes and Lake Manitoba caused significant damage to fence lines on both Crown and private land.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to provide support for the repair of these fence lines; and

Be it further resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to take measures to ensure that lake levels remain below levels that caused the original damage.

2. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers increase the provincial check-off by \$1 per head.
3. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to provide the support necessary to continue the Community Pasture Program.

District 10 - November 6, 2013

1. Whereas "night lighting" (*See note) poses a significant safety issue for both people and livestock in rural Manitoba.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship and the RCMP to ensure that regulations prohibiting "night lighting" are universally enforced throughout the province.

*Note: Night lighting is the illegal practice of hunting at night using lights.

2. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers continue to lobby the Province of Manitoba for the policies and programs required to ensure the continuation of the Community Pasture Program in Manitoba.
3. Whereas rural Manitobans depend on a reliable power supply for their personal safety, as well as to ensure proper care for their animals; and

Whereas a lack of timely emergency repairs puts both people and livestock at risk.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro to ensure that emergency services to rural Manitoba are improved from current levels.

District 11 - October 28, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba for full disclosure, transparency and accountability for the producer and government funds collected by the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council.
2. Whereas elk can cause significant damage to crops and fences.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship to issue more elk tags for game hunting in regions where elk are known to cause problems.
3. Whereas the Government of Manitoba made a commitment to fully compensate producers for losses incurred in the 2011 Lake Manitoba flood and for ongoing losses beyond 2011.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers remind the Government of Manitoba that this ongoing compensation has not been forthcoming; and

Be it further resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to meet this commitment.
4. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to return all drainage inlets into Lake Manitoba to pre-2011 flood levels as is directed by *The Emergency Measures Act*.

District 12 - November 12, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby to have needless injectors funded through the Growing Assurance – Food Safety On-Farm program under Growing Forward 2.
2. Whereas McDonalds is continuing to utilize 100 per cent Canadian Beef;

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers carry, free of charge, McDonald's advertising in *Cattle Country* to show our appreciation for McDonald's support.
3. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers demand a full accounting and audit of all the activities of the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council (MCEC), from the inception of the organization through to the end of the MCEC check-off on September 1, 2013.

District 13 - November 4, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers continue to lobby the federal and provincial governments for a \$15 per head mustering fee to compensate producers in the Riding Mountain Eradication Area (RMEA) who participate in TB testing.
2. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba for full compensation, including the cost of raising an animal, for predation losses.
3. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers work to increase the understanding of the requirements for organic beef production.
4. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers provide services only for beef producers who are members in good standing of the association.

District 14 - November 1, 2013

1. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the federal and provincial governments to provide the RFID tags at no cost.

Note: No resolutions in Districts 1, 3 and 8.

