

Outcome of resolutions session at MBP's 36TH Annual General Meeting

The following 39 resolutions were presented for debate at MBP's 36th Annual General Meeting on February 5 in Brandon. The resolutions were carried at MBP's 2014 fall district meetings, reviewed by MBP's Resolutions Committee, deemed to be in order and then categorized for debate at the AGM.

In instances where the resolutions were identical or very similar in content and intent, they were combined for debate. There were also three late resolutions provided to MBP following the district meetings. Those were deemed to be in order and debated at the AGM.

Of the 39 resolutions presented for debate, 28 were carried, 10 defeated and one withdrawn. The complete outcome of the resolutions debate follows.

A. ASSURANCE FUND Origin: District 3

1. Whereas increases to livestock dealer bond levels and the current status quo are not acceptable.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers continue to investigate dealer assurance programming.
Mover: Art Petkau
Seconder: Gerry Simonson
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 8

2. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers pursue the dealer assurance program to protect producers from dealer defaults with a mandatory levy on all livestock transactions and the fund should be managed by Manitoba Beef Producers.
Mover: Tom Teichroeb
Seconder: Allen Kopechuk
Outcome: DEFEATED

B. PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT Origin: District 1

3. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship to provide agricultural landowners, whose primary income is from agriculture production, with an annual elk and/or moose hunting licence on their property.
Mover: Ted Artz
Seconder: Caron Clarke
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 6

4. Whereas there are concerns that valuable agricultural land is being purchased by private and public interests and permanently removed from agricultural production, but is left in a state that it could still be used for that purpose.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby governments to ensure that lands held by third parties that are suitable for agriculture, but that have been idled, remain available to producers for these purposes.

Mover: Ron Batho
Seconder: Michael Decock
Outcome: DEFEATED

Origin: District 8

5. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to provide a better brand registry system that is more accessible to the public and which includes clearer guidelines on acceptable brands that will minimize ineffective brandings and negative animal welfare consequences.

Mover: Hugh Blair
Seconder: Tom Teichroeb
Outcome: CARRIED

C. BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS Origin: District 7

6. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby for compensation for livestock abortions sustained as a result of the bovine TB testing process.

Mover: Glen Campbell
Seconder: Ray Armbruster
Outcome: DEFEATED

Origin: District 8

7. Whereas producers in the Riding Mountain Eradication Area are testing their animals for bovine tuberculosis and their actions are benefiting the Canadian beef industry.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the federal and provincial governments to provide proper compensation for the time to muster animals and the loss of animal production due to testing of their livestock for bovine tuberculosis and that the rate be \$16/head.

Mover: Dane Guignon
Seconder: Glen Campbell
Outcome: CARRIED

D. DOMESTIC AGRICULTURE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS Origin: Nearly identical resolutions came forward in Districts 1 and 8 on the following matter and therefore they were combined for debate.

8. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the provincial and federal governments to expand the needs-based forage feed assistance program to include the entire province to assist producers impacted by the 2014 excess moisture crisis.

Mover: Larry Gerelus
Seconder: Randy Bjarnarson
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 1

9. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba in regards to excess moisture deductibles in areas declared disasters, and the increase in deductibles be waived for the year following the disaster.

Mover: Ted Artz
Seconder: Dave Koslowsky
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 2

10. Whereas certain circumstances require efficient and prompt animal health treatment and animal welfare could be compromised, and

Whereas the safety of the producer can be at risk when tagging mature animals.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to ensure reasonable enforcement of CCIA tags when transporting animals to vet clinics for routine or emergency procedures and then returning to the herd of origin, and to provide a venue to hear the concerns from producers to ensure continued support for traceability systems.

Mover: Dave Koslowsky
Seconder: Don Guilford
Outcome: CARRIED unanimously

Origin: District 4

11. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers continue to work with the provincial and federal governments to reopen previously closed markets, as well as the opening of new international markets that will continue to benefit the Canadian and Manitoba beef industry.

Mover: Heinz Reimer
Seconder: Don Winnicky
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 4

12. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation and other lending institutions to review and implement new policies on loans for breeding stock to encourage more uptake by using current prices instead of a 5-year average.

Mover: Heinz Reimer
Seconder: Richard Carr
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 4

13. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to allow the import of all forms of straw into Manitoba from the United States.

Mover: Don Winnicky
Seconder: Heinz Reimer
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 6

14. Whereas there are concerns around the enforcement and compliance policies of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers pursue with the CFIA and other federal officials the need for a third party appeal process for producers who have concerns related to enforcement and compliance policies administered by the CFIA.

Mover: Larry Wegner
Seconder: Ben Fox
Outcome: CARRIED unanimously

Origin: District 6

15. Whereas a significant number of producers who lease agricultural Crown lands have been affected by flooding and excess moisture conditions in recent years; and

Whereas in order to retain their leases producers are expected to continue making payments on the lands, even though they may not be usable.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to review agricultural Crown land policies to ensure that affected producers retain the right to use these lands, at a reduced rental rate, until such time as normal production resumes, and then normal rental rates resume.

Mover: Ron Batho
Seconder: Michael Decock
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 8

16. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby Manitoba Public Insurance for cost effective and/or reduced rates and prompt settlements for commercial trucks hauling livestock and ensure independent, third party arbitrators to settle disputes.

Mover: Tony Atkinson
Seconder: Tom Teichroeb
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 8

17. Whereas many rural wells are contaminated with nitrates and other compounds; and

Whereas there are rural municipalities that cannot access water and it must be hauled in at the owner's expense; and

Whereas many rural residents do not have access to safe, good quality water for both human and livestock consumption.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the federal and provincial

governments for infrastructure dollars for the development of rural water systems.

Mover: Tom Teichroeb
Seconder: Randy Bjarnarson
Outcome: DEFEATED

Origin: *The following resolution was a combination of two separate resolutions arising from Districts 10 and 11 that were very similar in the topic being addressed.*

18. Whereas the Manitoba Trappers program and Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation compensation programs are not effective in eliminating problem wolves and providing compensation due to the requirement of a carcass as proof of loss.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba and Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation for a \$300 incentive for trappers and hunters to deal with wolves in problem areas; and

Be it further resolved that the timeline for trappers be extended to address the problem wolves in defined areas.

Mover: Glen Metner
Seconder: Bill Finney
Outcome: CARRIED unanimously

Origin: District 11

19. Whereas the current compensation provided by Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) for predator-slashed calves does not reflect the true costs associated with supplies, medicine and labour involved in the treatment of the calves when administered by the producer.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby MASC to pay the producer all reasonable costs associated with treating **predator-slashed calves**.

Mover: Glen Metner
Seconder: Ken McKay
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 11.

Note: It was agreed to withdraw Resolution 20 as the delegates believed this specific concern was adequately addressed by Resolution 19.

20. Whereas the current compensation provided by Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) for wolf-slashed calves does not reflect the true costs associated with supplies, medicine and labour involved in the treatment of the calves when administered by the producer.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby MASC to pay the producer all

reasonable costs associated with treating **wolf-slashed calves**.

Outcome: WITHDRAWN

Origin: District 11

21. Be it resolved that the Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to stop the re-location of problem animals from one place to another.

Mover: Glen Metner
Seconder: Caron Clarke
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 13

22. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers continue to lobby the Government of Manitoba for the removal of the 10 per cent deductible on predation claims.

Mover: Ben Fox
Seconder: Glen Metner
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 10

23. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the federal and provincial governments to enable packers to reduce the costs associated with the removal and disposal of Specified Risk Materials to ensure the viability of the packing industry in Manitoba.

Mover: Theresa Zuk
Seconder: Ben Fox
Outcome: CARRIED

E. WATER MANAGEMENT Origin: District 5

24. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers support organizations involved in long-term water management strategies that support enhanced agricultural practices.

Mover: Ramona Blyth
Seconder: Heinz Reimer
Outcome: CARRIED

Note: An identical resolution was carried as follows in Districts 9 and 10 and so the issue was only debated once.

25. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to construct an outlet on Lake Manitoba to match the daily inflow from the Portage Diversion, in order to stop the negative impacts on beef and forage production and the rural economy in Manitoba.
Mover: Fred deLaroque
Seconder: Bill Finney
Outcome: CARRIED

Note: An identical resolution was carried as follows in Districts 9 and 11 and so the issue was only debated once.

26. Whereas the Government of Manitoba prevented water from leaving the Shoal

lakes areas, thus increasing water levels to the point of flooding roads and making them impassable.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to open provincial roads 415 and 416 to alleviate the devastation on the rural economy.

Mover: Fred deLaroque
 Seconder: Dianne Riding
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 11

27. Whereas the Government of Manitoba has put forward two committees to review the Lake Manitoba levels and have accepted their own recommendations to maintain the lake level at 810 to 812 feet asl.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to honour their own recommended operating range for Lake Manitoba of 810 to 812 feet asl.

Mover: Caron Clarke
 Seconder: Glen Metner
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 11

28. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to lower the level of the Shoal lakes with a controlled drain.

Mover: Fred deLaroque
 Seconder: Stewart Tataryn
Outcome: CARRIED

F. TRACEABILITY

Origin: District 14

29. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers support research around new technology related to permanent forms of animal identification.

Mover: Dane Guignon
 Seconder: Dave Matthews
Outcome: CARRIED

Origin: District 14

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

Mover: Stan Foster
 Seconder: Ramona Blyth
Outcome: DEFEATED

G. MISCELLANEOUS

Origin: District 2

31. Be it resolved Manitoba Beef Producers take a serious, proactive, long-term approach to ensure a healthy slaughter plant capacity in Manitoba and Canada.

Mover: Bill Acheson
 Seconder: Dave Koslowsky
Outcome: DEFEATED

Origin: District 5

32. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers acknowledge support to all organizations and businesses in form of visual recognition that are promoting and selling Manitoba and/or Canadian beef.

Mover: Ramona Blyth
 Seconder: Heinz Reimer
Outcome: DEFEATED

Origin: District 10

33. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to impose a minimum fine for the first offences for convictions related to cattle theft and/or the intentional destruction of cattle to \$2,500 per animal.

Mover: Theresa Zuk
 Seconder: Heinz Reimer
Outcome: DEFEATED

H. MANITOBA CATTLE ENHANCEMENT COUNCIL

Origin: District 10

34. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to ensure that a forensic audit will be conducted on the financial affairs of the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council and that the results be made public.

Mover: Theresa Zuk
 Seconder: Stewart Tataryn
Outcome: CARRIED

I. OPERATIONAL

Origin: District 13

35. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers investigate moving to a one day Annual General Meeting.

Mover: Ben Fox
 Seconder: Caron Clarke
Outcome: DEFEATED

Origin: District 5

36. Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers' Annual General Meeting be open to members in good standing.

Mover: Ramona Blyth
 Seconder: Heinz Reimer
Outcome: DEFEATED

J. LATE RESOLUTIONS

37. Whereas night lighting is a dangerous practice that poses a real danger to cattle producers and their cattle; and

Whereas the 2014 Manitoba Hunting Guide states "Status Indians may not discharge a rifle or shotgun at night where it is dangerous to do so"; and

Whereas the above statement indicates that Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship deems night lighting and the discharge of rifles and shotguns at night

to be a safe practice in some unspecified areas of Manitoba; and

Whereas Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship has failed to define safe or unsafe night hunting areas of Manitoba.

Be it resolved Manitoba Beef Producers shall lobby Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship to produce and make public a map that clearly displays those areas of Manitoba in which Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship deems night lighting to be a safe practice; and

Be it further resolved MBP shall request Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship produce a list of those jurisdictions in Canada that consider the discharge of rifles and shotguns at night (night lighting) to be a safe hunting practice.

Mover: Fred Tait
 Seconder: Heinz Reimer
Outcome: CARRIED

38. Whereas numerous acts and regulations govern livestock production in Canada, including ones setting out specific environmental policies and procedures around manure management; and

Whereas when it comes to environmental regulations there is a lack of continuity around specific parameters between the Prairie provinces, such as stocking densities, or the variation in what constitutes an animal unit in Alberta (one cow, two feed cattle) versus Saskatchewan (one cow, 1.5 feeder cattle) versus Manitoba (0.8 beef cow, 1.3 feeder cattle); and Whereas differences

between these three provinces around similar types of environmental regulations means Manitoba producers can incur significant added costs to meet the province's regulatory requirements compared to their counterparts in Alberta and Saskatchewan, and

Whereas having a level playing field on the regulatory side is important to the competitiveness of all beef producers.

Be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba to work toward the harmonization of regulations with the western provinces to ensure Manitoba's beef industry remains competitive.

Mover: Ben Fox
 Seconder: Richard Carr
Outcome: CARRIED

39. Whereas Manitoba Hydro is either constructing new transmission lines (Bipole III) or in the process of finalizing routes for new transmission lines (proposed Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project), lines and towers that will traverse valuable agricultural lands used for livestock, forage and crop production; and

Whereas Manitoba's agricultural producers deserve meaningful assurances from the Government of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro that the construction and ongoing maintenance of these lines will not result in adverse impacts to their operations, such as biosecurity risks, impediments to production, reduced land values and potential liability issues, among other factors; and

Whereas agricultural producers believe that Manitoba Hydro and its agents should be engaging in ongoing two-way discussions with affected producers about potential transmission line routing and tower placement to ensure the least possible disruption to their livestock and other agricultural operations; and

Whereas all Manitoba agricultural producers are entitled to fair compensation, either when hydro transmission lines and towers cross their land or when their land is expropriated for such projects.

Therefore be it resolved that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the Government of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro to provide detailed assurances that the following will be made available to all agricultural producers: ongoing and substantive two-way discussions about transmission line routes and tower placements; fair compensation, either for line and tower placement on producers' land or in the event of expropriation; a choice of payment methods; access to an independent appeal process producers can use if they are not satisfied with decisions around line and tower routing placement or in relation to compensation or expropriation payments; and, an ongoing mechanism to address any concerns that may arise as lines and towers are built, put into use and maintained.

Mover: Dane Guignon
 Seconder: Don Winnicky
Outcome: CARRIED

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