



# REPORT CARD ON THE RESOLUTIONS

2019

Abstract

2019 Resolution Responses and Updates

Provincial ASB Committee  
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## Executive Summary

The Provincial ASB Committee has assigned the following grades to responses by government and non-government organizations for resolutions passed at the 2018 Provincial ASB Conference.

Resolution Number	Title	Proposed Grade
1-19	Loss of 2% Liquid Strychnine	Accept in Principle
2-19	Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement	Incomplete
3-19	Deadstock Removal	Unsatisfactory
4-19	Carbon Credits for Permanent Pasture and Forested Lands	Accept in Principle
5-19	Multi-Stakeholder Committee to Work at Reducing the Use of Fresh Water by the Oil and Gas Industry in Alberta	Incomplete
6-19	STEP Program Agricultural Eligibility	Accept the Response
E1-19	Access to Agriculture Specific Mental Health Resources	Unsatisfactory
E2-19	No Royalties on Farm Saved Seed	Accept in Principle

# Introduction

The Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee is pleased to provide Agricultural Service Board (ASB) members and staff with the 2019 Report Card on the Resolutions. This report contains the government and non-government responses to resolutions passed at the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference. The Report Card on the Resolutions includes the *Whereas* and *Therefore Be It Resolved* sections from the resolutions, response, response grade and comments from the Committee for each resolution. The resolutions and responses are also posted on the new Agriculture Service Board website at [agriculturalserviceboards.com](http://agriculturalserviceboards.com). Actions taken by the Committee on current and prior resolutions are also included in this report.

## 2019 ASB Provincial Committee Members

Members	Alternate
Corey Beck, Peace, Chair	Dale Smith
Steve Upham, Northeast, Vice-Chair	Marc Jubinville
Sebastien Dutrisac, Secretary, Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen	Jane Fulton
Morgan Rockenbach, South	Shawn Rodgers
Wayne Nixon, Central	Brenda Knight
Lloyd Giebelhaus, Northwest	Dale Kluin
Brian Brewin, Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA)	
Elden Kozak, AAAF	
Doug Macaulay, Agriculture and Forestry	
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary, Agriculture and Forestry	
Maureen Vadnais-Sloan, Executive Assistant, Provincial ASB Committee	

Responses for many of the resolutions were received late this year due to the provincial election and changeover in government. The Committee has been working with the various government ministries to ensure that responses are received in a timely manner and anticipates that ASBs will be able to provide their input into the grading process earlier next year. The Committee appreciates the comments and grading provided by the ASBs as it helps them appropriately grade each response for advocacy efforts.

The Committee reviewed the responses and assigned one of four grades: *Accept the Response*, *Accept in Principle*, *Incomplete* and *Unsatisfactory*. The Committee considers the quality of each response and grading and comments submitted by ASBs when grading the resolutions. The grades assigned by the Committee are intended to provide further direction for advocacy efforts for each resolution. Please contact your Regional Representative if you have questions or comments about the grade assigned to a resolution or advocacy efforts.

A summary of grading provided by ASBs is attached for information. The Committee appreciates the input of ASBs into the grading process.

## Number of ASBs that Responded

Region	No. of ASBs Responding	% of Region Responding
South	5	28%
Central	5	36%
Northeast	1	9%
Northwest	4	31%
Peace	4	31%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>28%</b>

## 2019 Summary of Grading Responses Submitted

Resolution No.	Accept in Principle	Accept the Response	Incomplete	Unsatisfactory
1-19	19	0	0	0
2-19	1	0	18	0
3-19	2	0	0	17
4-19	18	0	0	1
5-19	0	0	18	1
6-19	0	19	0	0
E1-19	2	1	0	16
E2-19	17	0	0	2

## 2019 Activities

The Committee met four times in person as of September 25. The Committee has additional meetings planned for November and December to prepare for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASBs in 2020.

The Committee has been involved in the review of the ASB Program by Agriculture and Forestry. The Committee appreciates ASBs participation and input into this process and is looking forward to sharing the outcome of this review.

The Committee had the opportunity to meet with the new Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry and Environment and Parks. The Committee appreciated being able to connect with these Ministers and discuss the resolutions. Both Ministers seemed to be very aware of issues related to agriculture and the Committee was able to have good discussion with both Ministers. The Committee feels the Ministers have a better understanding of ASBs and what they do after meeting with them. The Committee is pleased with how the two ministries have started to reach out to the Committee for advice and support.

The Committee continues to try to develop stronger relationships with other agricultural organizations within the province. The Committee sent letters to all industry groups in Alberta in 2019 with the resolutions that passed at the 2019 Provincial Conference. The goal was to inform other organizations of resolutions that we were working on and attempt to find synergies and common ground with these organizations. Several of the organizations contacted replied saying their organizations were working on issues such as mental health and expressed interest in working with the Committee on this issue. Other organizations realized that there needed to be common ground found between ASBs and their organization and have met with the Committee to discuss how we can work together better on issues to benefit farmers and industry. The Committee meeting with the Industry Working Group in July is an example of this. The Industry Working Group has members from the Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions, Alberta Seed Processors and Alberta Seed Growers. One of the main topics of conversation for this meeting was *Fusarium graminearum* and its' management. The Industry Working Group realized that they need to have a better working relationship with ASBs and may be in attendance at the 2019 Regional Meetings to meet ASB members.

The Committee is currently working on a new website specifically for ASBs. The website [agriculturalserviceboards.com](http://agriculturalserviceboards.com) is being developed to fill in gaps created by recent changes to the Agriculture and Forestry website. The Committee felt that this website could be used to increase availability of information to ASBs regarding resolutions and advocacy efforts. All ASBs are encouraged to visit the website and provide input on what they would like to see as part of the new website. ASBs may contact Maureen Vadnais-Sloan, the Committee's Executive Assistant, to provide input on the website.

The Committee appreciates the support from ASBs and encourages them to contact their Regional Representatives as needed.

## Definition of Terms

The Provincial ASB Committee has chosen four indicators to grade resolution responses from government and non-government organizations.

### Accept the Response

A response that has been graded as **Accept the Response** addresses the resolution as presented or meets the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee.

### Accept in Principle

A response that is graded **Accept in Principle** addresses the resolution in part or contains information that indicates that further action is being considered.

### Incomplete

A response that is graded as **Incomplete** does not provide enough information or does not completely address the resolution. Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

### Unsatisfactory

A response that is graded as **Unsatisfactory** does not address the resolution as presented or does not meet the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee

# 2019 Resolutions



**RESOLUTION 1-19**  
**LOSS OF 2% LIQUID STRYCHNINE**

**WHEREAS** Under the authority of the *Pest Control Product Act* and based on the evaluation of currently available scientific information, Health Canada is proposing that products containing strychnine for control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels do not meet the current standards for environmental protection and, therefore, proposed to be cancelled;

**WHEREAS** There needs to be a product available to producers to effectively assist in the control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

Health Canada and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency reconsider their decision and leave 2% Liquid Strychnine on the market available on a permanent basis to agricultural producers to utilize on their farms for control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels.

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA**

On behalf of the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence to her predecessor, the Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, and the enclosed copy of the Agricultural Service Board's "Resolution 1-19: Loss of 2% Liquid Strychnine".

As you may know, the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has completed a consultation on strychnine and associated end use products in order to make a decision on its' future use. I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Office of the Honourable Ginette Pettipas Taylor, as this matter falls under her jurisdiction. I am certain that Minister Pettipas Taylor will give your concerns every consideration.

**HEALTH CANADA: PEST MANAGEMENT REGULATORY AGENCY**

Thank you for your correspondence of February 11th, 2019, addressed to the Honourable Ginette Pettipas Taylor, Minister of Health, regarding the proposed re-evaluation decision to cancel the use of strychnine for the control of ground squirrels. The Minister has asked that I respond on her behalf.

In Canada, pesticides are regulated federally under the *Pest Control Products Act*, which is administered by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA). Our number one priority is to protect the health and safety of Canadians and their environment, including non-target wildlife.

Before a pesticide is allowed to be used or sold in Canada, it must undergo a rigorous scientific assessment process to determine that the health and environmental risks of using the product are acceptable, when used according to label directions. In addition, Health Canada periodically re-evaluates pesticides that are on the market to assess whether they continue to meet the Department's health and environmental standards and hence whether they should continue to be permitted for use in Canada. Health Canada will take regulatory action at any time should unacceptable risks to human health or the environment be identified.

As you are aware, Health Canada published a proposed re-evaluation decision, PRVD2018-13: Strychnine and Its Associated End-use Products (Ground Squirrel Use), in June 2018. This document proposed to cancel the use of strychnine for ground squirrel control due to risks of concern for non-target organisms, including species at risk. As indicated in this document, multiple lines of evidence (risk assessment based on available information, incident reports, information from provinces including information generated through the Integrated Pest Management Committee) indicated that risks of concern for non-target poisonings continue to occur with the use of strychnine. Reliance on strychnine may not be sustainable in the long-term due to the lack of practical mitigation measures to protect non-target organisms.

During the consultation period, several comments relating to the proposed decision were received from the Canadian public and stakeholders, including Agricultural Service Boards, and are currently under review.

Once Health Canada has considered all of the comments and information received from stakeholders and members of the public, a science based approach will be applied in making a final decision.

Please note that there are alternatives to strychnine as mentioned in the consultation document:

- chlorophacinone and diphacinone (multi-feed anticoagulant baits);
- zinc phosphide (non-anticoagulant bait);
- aluminum phosphide (fumigant); and
- white mustard seed powder and sodium alpha-olefin sulfonate (foam).

Should you have further questions regarding pesticides and the federal pesticide regulatory system, please contact the PMRA by telephone at 1-800-267-6315 or by email at [pmra.infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:pmra.infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca).

**GRADE: Accept in Principle**

## COMMENTS

The Committee graded this resolution as “*Accept in Principle*” as the response from PMRA indicated that a decision is still pending for Re-evaluation Decision PRVD2018-13. PMRA indicated that their response will be science based and included a list of other products that can be used to control ground squirrels. The Committee continues to monitor PMRA’s website for the re-evaluation decision.

The Committee discussed this with the Minister in July and requested support from the Minister to advocate for the continued registration of strychnine. The Minister expressed support for maintaining the registration as he indicated he “hates gophers” and requested the Committee send another letter to PMRA outlining the issues with each of the products, requesting that people that want to use strychnine must undergo mandatory training and to request tracers be put into new batches of strychnine to indicate if it is old or new strychnine responsible for off target poisonings. ASBs commented that there is a need to address the economics of strychnine.

The Committee is concerned because the registration for 2% liquid strychnine expires December 2019. The Committee will continue to advocate for the continued registration of 2% liquid strychnine.

**RESOLUTION 2-19**  
**WILDLIFE PREDATOR COMPENSATION PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT**

- WHEREAS** Predation by carnivores and birds of prey continues to be a problem for ranchers and agriculture producers;
- WHEREAS** Many Municipalities have submitted multiple resolutions in this regard for these same problems;
- WHEREAS** To maintain the credibility of the program, livestock losses must be confirmed by Fish and Wildlife Officers, as killed or injured by predators;
- WHEREAS** The protection of life and property is a priority for the provincial government, which means providing a response to reports of problem wildlife, may sometimes shift the efforts of Fish and Wildlife Officers away from the predator control mandate;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that the Ministers of Environment and Parks, Justice and Solicitor General, and all other relevant government ministries implement an enhanced Predator Compensation Program that could utilize the GPS location and date time features and photo capabilities of smart phone technology to provide photographic or video evidence to assist in the confirmation of livestock death and livestock injury in a timely and prompt manner, and reduce the number of physical site investigations Fish and Wildlife Officers must conduct.

**STATUS: Provincial**

**RESPONSE**

**ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

Through the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) is responsible only for Wildlife Damage Compensation Program and not for the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program; therefore, neither AFSC nor AF is in a position to provide response to Resolution 2-19.

The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program is administered by the Alberta Environment and Parks (AEPs) Fish and Wildlife section, and we will defer to them for response.

**ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS**

The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program accepts electronic photos from producers as supplementary evidence in determining eligibility of compensation claims. Such photos are particularly valuable in cases where key evidence may be lost if not immediately recorded (weather, scavenging, etc.). The protocol for this program is to initiate investigations within 24 hours of notification of a livestock loss due to predation.

Only on rare occasions do response times exceed this protocol, and measures are taken to ensure such delayed responses do not affect decisions about compensation.

Environment and Parks staff evaluate the field investigative response times for the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program on an annual basis, and adjust the program by stationing seasonal problem wildlife technicians in municipalities with the highest incidence of predation. To continue to support producers, in 2018, department staff enhanced the "Ranchers Guide to Predator Attacks" and included additional tools to focus producers on collecting the types of evidence most useful to investigators. Municipalities can order copies of this publication from the department Information Centre by contacting [aep.info-centre@gov.ab.ca](mailto:aep.info-centre@gov.ab.ca).

The department is reviewing several initiatives to reduce livestock losses to predators, including evaluation of proposed program timelines, costs and potential opportunities for stakeholder partnerships.

Mark Heckbert, Provincial Wildlife Conflict Specialist, would be pleased to meet with the ASB Provincial Committee to further discuss any issues regarding the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program. You can reach Mark Heckbert at [mark.heckbert@gov.ab.ca](mailto:mark.heckbert@gov.ab.ca) or at 780-523-6517 (dial 310-0000 for a toll-free connection to any Government of Alberta number).

#### **ALBERTA JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL**

Thank you for your inquiry below with respect to an outstanding response to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee's resolution: 2-19: Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement.

Upon review of resolution 2-19, it was determined that Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) was the more appropriate ministry to respond, given the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program falls under the jurisdiction of that ministry. I am pleased to advise that the ministry of Alberta Justice and Solicitor General did provide AEP with input into their response, prior to the spring provincial election held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

For further updates, please feel free to contact the Deputy Minister's Office of Alberta Environment and Parks.

**GRADE: Incomplete**

#### **COMMENTS:**

The Committee graded this resolution as Incomplete as the response was received in July. The Committee did not have adequate time to review and grade the resolution before meeting with the Minister of Environment and Parks.

The Committee discussed this resolution with the Minister on September 25. The Director of

Fish and Wildlife attended the Minister meeting and replied that the one concern is that it will upset the balance in the current compensation program. Other predators under the compensation program are harvested under regulated programs compared to coyotes that are listed as a nuisance under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act with no limitations on harvesting them. The Minister added that another concern is with money to fund the program. The Minister has met with other groups on this issue and is recommending setting up a working group to look at the compensation program in total.

ASB Comments recommend that the grade be changed to Accept in Principle as the response indicates that photos are accepted as part of their investigations.

The Committee looks forward to working on this issue with Environment and Parks and coming up with a solution that addresses the needs of producers.

**RESOLUTION 3-19  
DEADSTOCK REMOVAL**

- WHEREAS** rendering companies would travel the Province of Alberta picking up deadstock for free and turn the deadstock into by products;
- WHEREAS** Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) was discovered in Canada in 2003;
- WHEREAS** regulatory changes were made to remove Specified Risk Materials from carcasses causing rendering companies to charge a fee for service;
- WHEREAS** producers are trying to limit or manage the cost of removing deadstock and started disposing of deadstock on-farm;
- WHEREAS** on farm disposal of deadstock attracts livestock predators such as coyotes, wolves and bears;
- WHEREAS** large carnivore interaction with farm families has increased, causing public safety concerns;
- WHEREAS** the primary producer bears the cost of regulatory changes for the entire food production chain;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That the Provincial Government compensate producers fifty percent (50%) of the deadstock pick up fees with producers bearing the remainder of costs.

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

The *Disposal of Dead Animals Regulation* (Alberta) provides for several methods of disposal that are acceptable for routine on-farm animal deaths (provided the animal was not infected with a provincially or federally reportable disease and the animal was not euthanized with drugs): by landfill, burial, burning, composting, rendering, and natural disposal. Certain additional conditions are outlined in the regulation that are dependent on the type of disposal method chosen.

While the presence of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in Canada did change the availability of rendering in some locations of the province, this was largely due to a change in the demand for the services in more remote areas, and a subsequent decision by renderers to change the supply of their services. AF has reviewed options to subsidize rendering costs in order to increase the number of samples available for BSE surveillance; the results of this analysis has continued to suggest a lack of return on

investment, with a significant increase in cost and very little increase in the number of samples.

The most valuable samples for BSE surveillance are those collected on-farm, rather than those collected at deadstock/rendering facilities, because of the presence of a disease history for those collected on farm. The BSE surveillance program currently pays producers \$75 per animal to assist with keeping the carcass from predation while testing is performed.

As part of emergency preparedness for foreign animal disease incursions, all farms should consider developing an on-farm disposal program that will work in all seasons. Municipalities could be eligible for funding under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership program for the development of emergency preparedness plans, including option for locating sites to dispose of deadstock. More information is available at:

<https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/>.

#### **GRADE: Unsatisfactory**

#### **COMMENTS**

The Committee graded this resolution as Unsatisfactory as the response did not address the resolution as presented. The focus of the response was for BSE Surveillance but the concern raised by ASBs was regarding predator and human conflicts. The Committee also felt that producers and not municipalities needed funding to help with disposal of livestock.

The Committee analyzed what the potential cost of implementing a program like this would be and determined the cost to be approximately \$10 million dollars to implement a cost share program for rendering services. The Committee used the following assumptions:

- Average number of Alberta cattle: 3.34 million (StatsCan, 2016)
- Normal death loss: 2-3%
- Average cow weight: 1,390 lbs
- Rendering cost: \$0.14/lb (West Coast Reduction Charges)
- Average cost to render 1 cow = (1,390 lb)(\$0.14/lb) = \$194.60 (round up to \$195)
- (3.34 million cows)(3% death loss) = 100,200 animals lost
- (100,200 dead cows)(\$195/cow) = \$19,539,000 = cost to render animals
- reimburse at 50% (resolution ask) = \$9,769,500 or ~\$10 million

The Committee discussed this resolution with Minister Dreeshen and requested assistance with developing a viable rendering industry in Alberta again. The Minister replied budgets were tight in Alberta and there was no funding available for a program such as this. The Minister asked if any of the other provinces were doing a better job of livestock disposal and said the Committee needs to look at what other provinces are doing and what could possibly be done to re-establish the rendering industry and look at a stream that would add value to deadstock removal.



ASB comments varied but there was a consensus that producers should have responsibility for their deadstock.

**RESOLUTION 4-19**  
**CARBON CREDITS FOR PERMANENT PASTURE AND FORESTED LANDS**

- WHEREAS** A significant amount of Carbon is stored within land used for permanent pasture, estimated at ten to thirty percent of the worlds carbon;
- WHEREAS** A significant amount of Carbon is stored within private land associated with agricultural operations that is left forested;
- WHEREAS** There is currently a carbon credit program available for annual crop growers but nothing for permanent pasture or forested lands;
- WHEREAS** Producers with permanent pasture and forested lands should be compensated for their contributions to reducing atmospheric carbon dioxide;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry develop a process to allow farmers and landowners to access carbon credits for land used for permanent pasture, perennial forage crops or land that is left forested.

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

AF recognizes that carbon sequestration will be an important source of emissions reductions, and we support market-based approaches to emissions reductions that compensate producers for doing their part to combat climate change.

Under the *Climate Change and Emissions Management Act* and the associated regulations, Alberta policy is for measurement and mitigation of all greenhouse gases (GHGs). The regulations specify 23 different gases, three of which are common in the agriculture sector: carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane.

The development of offset protocols requires careful consideration to ensure they are science-based, verifiable, and robust. Protocols must consider all relevant or affected GHG emissions. Changes in nitrous oxide and methane must also be taken into account, as well as carbon/carbon dioxide. Additional considerations include:

- Establishing science-based baselines;
- Determination of clear, well-defined geographical boundaries;
- Establishing a framework; Identifying monitoring, verification, and reporting requirements;
- Ensuring permanence and avoiding leakage;

- Ensuring proper valuation of credits (quantification of the impact of an action and proper economic valuation);
- Establishing legal and institutional frameworks; and Organizing stakeholders and obtaining 'buy-in\*.

Offsets are measured by the difference in emissions when a producer changes their practices or implements a technology (not in a business-as-usual state); that is, it is not about total carbon in the soil, but how soil carbon is altered with a change in management. Offsets in perennial agriculture crops, for example, include a livestock component. Management changes to produce more forages may promote more cattle (fed on or off the field) releasing more methane and nitrous oxide. The positive change in carbon may, thus, be reduced by the increased production of these other two gases.

AF is currently working with the Alberta Climate Change Office to develop a carbon sequestration protocol for forestry in collaboration with stakeholders. The Government of Alberta may consider developing additional protocols, including permanent pasture or perennial forage crops, as science and policy evolves to make them a market opportunity.

### **ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS**

Environment and Parks administers the Alberta Emission Offset System, and Agriculture and Forestry often provides valuable input into the protocol development process. Currently, the Carbon Competitiveness Incentive Regulation (CCIR) enables the Alberta Emission Offset System. A government-approved quantification protocol is required for activities to generate emission offsets. There are currently no approved protocols for the activities list by ASB (permanent pasture, perennial crops and land left forested).

Organizations interested in developing a protocol for a reduction or sequestration activity may submit a request to develop a protocol to Environment and Parks. Information on the process and the template for submitting a request is available in the "Technical Guidance for Offset Protocol Development and Revision" (July 2018), which you can find by searching for the document's title at <https://open.alberta.ca/publications>.

Environment and Parks evaluates requests and selects protocols to be developed or revised. Factors considered in the selection process include available resources, magnitude of potential reductions, ability to accurately quantify reductions or sequestration, additionality and alignment with policy priorities. The deadline to submit a request is the end of calendar year. If a protocol is not selected, the protocol developer is welcome to submit another request the following year.

Biological sequestration protocols are challenging because the science is still evolving for measurement, monitoring and quantification of land and trees as bouth

sources and sinks for atmospheric carbon dioxide. It is also challenging to quantify incremental reduction or sequestration due to implementing a management practice or technology. There must be an increase in the rate of sequestration compared with the baseline scenario, and the increase must be measured and quantified in a way that meets the rigour of Alberta's regulatory system.

**GRADE: Accept in Principle**

**COMMENTS**

The Committee graded this resolution “Accept in Principle” as the responses indicated that there was consideration for these protocols to be developed. The responses were also clear in outlining how ASBs could start to work on protocols that could be submitted to the government for vetting and approval.

The Committee discussed this briefly with the Minister and were told that Alberta Environment and Parks is currently focusing on large emitters. Environment is planning to undertake consultations for carbon credits once this work has been completed. The Minister said he is very aware of this issue as the grazing associations have been actively advocating for this also.

**RESOLUTION 5-19**  
**MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE TO WORK AT REDUCING THE USE OF FRESH WATER BY**  
**THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY IN ALBERTA**

- WHEREAS** there is a concern about the enormous loss of fresh water (see Reference 1) by the oil and gas industry in the hydro-fracking and water injection processes (see Reference 7 and 8);
- WHEREAS** the oil and gas industry is licensed over one billion cubic metres of fresh water annually;
- WHEREAS** fresh water is a critical resource to Alberta's agricultural producers;
- WHEREAS** free and easy access to fresh water for enhanced oil recovery acts as a disincentive for oil and gas companies to pursue alternate methods such as CO2 injection, light oil hydro-fracking or to drill deeper to locate and pipe saline water (see Reference 3 and 7) for injection purposes;
- WHEREAS** the Brazeau County Agricultural Service Board is concerned with the amount of fresh water used in the fracking and water injection process;
- WHEREAS** the Council of Brazeau County recently moved a Motion requesting a multi-stakeholder committee be struck to look at reducing the use of fresh water by the oil and gas industry;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee request the Government of Alberta to immediately strike a multi-stakeholder committee to work at reducing the use of fresh water by the oil and gas industry in Alberta.

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

AEP, Alberta Energy, and the Alberta Energy Regulator are leading the efforts to minimize the use of fresh water in oil and gas extraction activities. As this resolution has been forwarded to AEP, as well, AF will defer to that department for response.

**ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS**

Water use, including where, when and how much water can be withdrawn, is regulated under the *Water Act*. Diversion licences are granted to applicants when sufficient water is available to meet both ecosystem requirements and the rights of existing licence holders. The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) is responsible for issuing water licences on behalf of the government for energy development activities.

The 2006 Water Conservation and Allocation Policy for Oilfield Injection requires operators to assess alternatives to freshwater prior to applying for a water licence for enhanced oil recovery (water floods) and in-situ operations. This policy made significant improvements to water productivity.

In February 2018, Environment and Parks issued the Directive for Water Licensing of Hydraulic Fracturing Projects - Area of Use Approach (the directive). The directive provides direction to the AER to ensure a consistent approach to water licensing of hydraulic fracturing projects with multi-year operations. The directive requires operators to demonstrate their need for water and to conduct an assessment of alternatives to fresh water. You can find the directive by visiting <https://open.alberta.ca/publications> and searching for "directive for water licensing of hydraulic fracturing."

Because these issues are wide-ranging and complex, I welcome the opportunity to meet with you, along with some of my staff, to discuss these important topics.

#### **ENERGY**

The resolution falls under the jurisdiction of Environment and Parks. I believe they will be reaching out to you shortly.

#### **GRADE: Unsatisfactory**

#### **COMMENTS**

The responses for resolution 5-19 were graded as Unsatisfactory because they did not address ASBs request to strike a multi-stakeholder committee to review. The Committee appreciates that work has been done by Alberta Energy Regulator with the "Director for Water Licensing of Hydraulic Fracturing Projects – Area of Use Approach" to reduce fresh water use but feels that more could be done to reduce fresh water use in the oil and gas industry.

The Committee discussed this with the Environment Minister and the Minister said it could be included as part of the review of the Alberta Energy Regulator. One of the concerns the Minister has been hearing is that landholders, agriculture and communities are able to participate in the process. The Minister said he would bring it up with the Deputy Minister who is currently the head of the Alberta Energy Regulator and they will incorporate it into the review.

The "Directive for Water Licensing of Hydraulic Fracturing Projects – Area of Use Approach" may be found in the Appendix.

**RESOLUTION 6-19**  
**STEP PROGRAM AGRICULTURAL ELIGIBILITY**

- WHEREAS:** Farming operations, whether they are incorporated, or a sole proprietorship can be very labour intensive, especially in the fruit and vegetable sector;
- WHEREAS:** As of October 1, 2018, the minimum wage goes up to \$15.00/hour creating an even greater expense to farming operations with high labour costs;
- WHEREAS:** The STEP program states that “Small businesses must be registered in Alberta and have a valid Alberta Corporate Access Number (ACAN);
- WHEREAS:** Opening up opportunities for students both high school and post secondary for summer employment in the agricultural industry whether the employer is incorporated or not will benefit both employer and employee and support local agriculture, local food production, agritourism, and farmers markets;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

the Government of Alberta review its Summer Temporary Employment Program to include farms and small businesses that are not incorporated.

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**CULTURE AND TOURISM**

Our office had forwarded your previous email to the Ministry of Labour to reply on our behalf our Ministry as this resolution would fall under their mandate. I have attached a copy of the response that was sent out on March 22, 2019.

**ALBERTA LABOUR**

Thank you for your February 12, 2019 email, providing a copy of the February 4, 2019 letter regarding Resolution 6-19, passed at the 2019 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference. I am responding on behalf of the Government of Alberta, as a provincial election is currently underway.

I appreciate that the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee recognizes the importance of the Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP). STEP provides students with the opportunity to build meaningful work experience, increase their skills and workplace knowledge and help prepare them for the future.

Currently, to be eligible to participate in STEP, businesses must be incorporated or registered under provincial or federal legislation. Small businesses within the province must be registered in Alberta, have been operating for no less than one year (from the

date of application) and have an Alberta Corporate Access Number (ACAN), which is used for verification and validation purposes. Employers that do not meet the eligibility criteria cannot be funded through STEP, regardless of their industry.

When providing funding to employers to hire students, it is important that all organizations are verified to ensure they meet all program requirements. Application assessment includes verifying the position is in Alberta, verifying the business is registered in Alberta (as noted above) and is in good standing with Alberta's health and safety legislation, and confirming that all other eligibility criteria is met.

Please be assured Labour is committed to monitoring our programs to support workers and employers, including STEP, and your organization's feedback will be taken into consideration.

You may be pleased to know Labour has a network of Workforce Consultants across the province who work with employers, including farm and ranch owners, to address their workforce needs. Employers may contact the Employer Hotline at 1-800-661-3756 to get connected with a Workforce Consultant in their area and learn about programs and supports available to them.

Agriculture and Forestry also provides programs and services that may assist farm operators, including the Summer Farm Employment Program, which provides opportunities for full-time farm work experience for young people. Employers are encouraged to call the Agriculture and Forestry contact centre at 310-FARM or visit their website at [www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/general/progserv.nsf/all/pgmsrv35](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/general/progserv.nsf/all/pgmsrv35) to learn more about this and other programs that are available for the current year.

Employers considering applying for the Canada Summer Jobs Program, available through the Government of Canada, can find more information at [www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html) or call 1-800-935-5555.

If you have comments about the Canada Summer Jobs Program you may wish to contact the Honourable Patricia Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, at:

Honourable Patricia A. Hajdu  
Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Email: [Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca)  
Phone: 1-613-996-4792



Thank you again for writing and for the opportunity to respond. I trust this information will be of use to you.

**GRADE: Accept the Response**

**COMMENTS**

The response answered the question so the Committee assigned it a grade of “Accept the Response”. The Committee was pleased that the Ministry of Labour said that they would consider this resolution as part of their review process for the STEP. The Committee hopes that Labour will consider changing STEP in the future to benefit producers that are not incorporated and appreciated that Labour provided information for other programs that producers could access.

**EMERGENT RESOLUTION E1-19**  
**ACCESS TO AGRICULTURE-SPECIFIC MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES**

- WHEREAS** Agriculture is economically essential, both provincially and federally, and agriculture needs healthy farmers to function;
- WHEREAS** Agriculture is a stressful occupation, which has become especially clear with three consecutive years of poor harvests, livestock feed shortages and other effects of climate change;
- WHEREAS** Despite mental illness diagnoses increasing, a large stigma exists around mental illness and asking for help which is especially prominent in industries like agriculture where members are isolated and have a distinct workplace culture of not requesting help;
- WHEREAS** Alberta does not have an agriculture-specific mental health crisis line, although neighbouring provinces do (e.g. Saskatchewan);
- WHEREAS** 310-FARM is a well-known and commonly utilized number that can direct callers to an abundance of resources, but only offers agronomic information during office hours;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That the Provincial Government of Alberta facilitates the formation of a free, year-round, all hours, mental health crisis hotline, dedicated to the agriculture industry, providing farmers with direct access to uniquely qualified professionals and resources, whom have both an understanding of mental health issues and agriculture-specific stresses.

**FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

That the Provincial Government of Alberta secure long term, sustainable funding for the operation and maintenance of this mental health crisis hotline.

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

AF appreciates Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards interest in this important topic. Indeed, a 2016 study from the University of Guelph found that 45 per cent of farmers had high stress, while 40 per cent said they would feel uneasy asking for professional help. Thirty-five per cent of Canadian producers could be classified as depressed and 58 per cent of producers meet the criteria for anxiety (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2016/06/farmers-need-want-mental-health-heipsurvey/>).

While this study does not offer any Alberta-specific data, Farm Management Canada recently released an "Expression of Interest" to industry stakeholders interested in contributing to an industry-wide, national study on the connection between mental health and farm business management (<https://fmc-gac.com/announcements/cpt/rei-mh-fbm/>). Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards may consider responding to this call as a means of providing an Alberta perspective, and to further validate the need for the proposed service.

At this time, there is no funding available for a mental health crisis hotline dedicated to agriculture. AF is committed to reaching out to Alberta Health in the coming months to discuss potential options and strategies to address the concerns of mental health as they specifically relate to the agriculture industry in Alberta.

## HEALTH

I appreciate the comprehensive information the Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Committee provided in the *Resolution E1-19: Access to Agriculture Specific Mental Health Resources*, and am pleased that the findings are aligned with the approach we are taking to support Albertans who live in rural communities. I understand that agriculture is a stressful occupation with unique mental health concerns.

I assure you that improving mental health supports for farming families in rural communities is a priority for our government. There are a number of activities underway that focus on rural communities.

- Currently, the 211 database (mentioned in your resolution), covers about 65 per cent of the province. It is being expanded to cover the whole province so people can get information about addiction and mental health services that are close to home, especially in rural areas.
- Alberta Health Services is increasing mental health service delivery to rural and remote communities through telehealth services. Telehealth is also used for specialized service delivery in rural areas (e.g., child psychiatry, psychogeriatrics, opioid services) in combination with local Alberta Mental Health staff.
- Alberta Health provided grant funding to, and is working closely with, the Canadian Mental Health Association to improve community-led mental health supports in rural areas. Over the next three years, 150 rural communities (including towns, villages and Indigenous communities) will develop and implement local action plans to improve addiction and mental health services. We are looking forward to seeing the results.
- There have been 40 free Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) for Seniors training sessions offered across Alberta, including rural areas, with more to come. MHFA is an evidence-based course that supports participants to respond to emerging and crisis mental health issues in the people they serve, their co-workers, friends and families.
  - It has been recognized as an effective tool for farming communities, and training is also being offered through Farm Credit Canada.

- We are also piloting and evaluating e-counselling options and expanding the Mental Health Capacity Building in Schools program to 18 more schools, including in rural and remote areas of the province, bringing supports to 100,000 children across the province.

Additionally, the Mental Health Help Line provides a province-wide, 24/7 telephone service. This is a confidential, anonymous service that offers help for mental health concerns, including crisis intervention, information about mental health programs and services, and referrals to other agencies, if needed.

There are also agriculture specific health supports available to farming families in Alberta:

- 4-H Farm Management Canada has just launched their Healthy Living initiative, a two-year program available to all 4-H Clubs in Canada. The first year of the program will focus on providing mental health supports to children and youth in collaboration with partners such as the Kids Help Phone. Information is available on their website at <https://4-h-canada.ca>.
- Farm Credit Canada has a program, Rooted in Strength, that focuses on breaking the stigma of mental health support in the farming community and providing resources to farming families. Information about this program is available on their website at [www.fcc-fac.ca/en/ag-knowledge/wellness.html](http://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/ag-knowledge/wellness.html).
- Do More Ag is a not-for-profit organization focusing on mental health in agriculture, that offers resource listings and works with partner organizations across Canada. Information about this organization is available on their website at [www.domore.org](http://www.domore.org).

I commend you for your advocacy on this matter and appreciate the time you have taken to bring this concern to my attention. The information you have provided will help to ensure that our health care system remains responsive to the needs of all Albertans.

## **GRADE: Unsatisfactory**

### **COMMENTS**

The Committee graded this response Unsatisfactory as it does not meet the expectations of the Committee. The Committee appreciates the response from Alberta Health as it shows commitment to supporting mental health resources for rural municipalities through expansion of various initiatives already in place. The Committee is disappointed that there wasn't an indication of agriculture specific training to be included as part of the expansion of these initiatives to provide better support for producers.

The Committee discussed this with the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and the Minister said that providing additional, agriculture specific training for existing help lines is something that could be considered. The Committee plans to work with Rural Municipalities of Alberta

and other organizations to advocate for agriculture specific resources for mental health.

ASBs commented that the Committee should accept the Minister's recommendation for a proposed study and highlighted that there are resources currently available in Alberta. ASBs also indicated that they thought there could be more done to help with mental health and that long term sustainable funding needed to be secured with a commitment for resources specific to agricultural producers.

**EMERGENT RESOLUTION E2-19  
NO ROYALTIES ON FARM-MADE SEED**

- WHEREAS** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) are considering implementing a system to collect royalties on farm saved seed;
- WHEREAS** Paying royalties on farm saved seed will increase the price of seed and decrease profit margins for farmers;
- WHEREAS** Royalties on farm saved seed could limit seed choices for farmers as seed companies move to deregister old varieties, which could mean farmers would be forced to pay royalties and to grow only newer varieties;
- WHEREAS** AAFC and CFIA have not outlined details on how much a royalty would be, how it would be collected or how potentially \$100 million in royalties would be dispersed;
- WHEREAS** Farmers currently pay check-offs on almost all grains they deliver to elevators, some of these funds are funneled through the Western Grain Research Foundation (WGRF) and used for variety breeding programs;
- WHEREAS** Also, the WGRF Endowment Fund has received the CN and CP rail overages & penalties under the maximum revenue entitlement program every year since 2000 and had a balance of just under \$132 million at the end of 2017. This money has been collected from farmers via excessive freight charges, and could be used to fund research;
- WHEREAS** The purpose of Agricultural Service Boards is to improve the economic welfare of the farmer and a royalty system has potential to decrease farmers' ability to be profitable and make sound agronomic decisions;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency abandon the proposal to implement the adoption of End Point Royalties (EPR's) or farm saved seed "trailing royalty contracts".

**STATUS:** Provincial

**RESPONSE**

**CANADA FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY**

Thank you for sharing your letter of February 11, 2019, which includes the seed royalty resolution (Resolution E2-19: No Royalties on Farm Saved Seed), passed by the

Agricultural Service Board. I appreciate you taking the time to write to me about this important matter.

As you may be aware, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency were asked by the Grains Value Chain Roundtable, a consultative body with broad representation from across the value chain, to launch public consultations on two proposed seed royalty models. The purpose of these proposed “value-creation” models are to stimulate greater investment and innovation in Canada’s cereal sector. The first phase of the consultative process was launched in late 2018 and is an initial step in what government views as a multi-stage discussion process.

The Government of Canada understands that many farmers place considerable value on their ability to save seed and often choose specific crop kinds and varieties that allow for replanting of saved seed in subsequent years. At the same time, a large number of agriculture sector stakeholders have signaled a desire for Canada to consider some form of value-creation model that would allow increased investment in wheat variety development by both public and private breeders across the country. Many producers see increased investment in research and breeding as key to ensuring the long term profitability and competitiveness of Canada’s cereals sector.

The government remains open to hearing all perspectives on this matter, and will consider the feedback heard to inform next steps in the consultative process.

#### **GRADE: Accept in Principle**

#### **COMMENTS**

The Committee feels that since the consultation is ongoing that the grade “Accept in Principle” is most appropriate. The Committee encourages all ASBs to continue to monitor and provide input into this consultation.

The Committee discussed this with the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. The Committee recommended that an end user tax on products like bread, rather than royalties on producers that use the seed, be implemented. The Committee asked the Minister why Canadian researchers can’t access funds from WGRF for public plant breeding programs. It seems that WGRF has funds but no one seems to know how the money is being spent. The Minister replied that the Committee needs to work on a plan to present to WGRF on how money should be spent to support public plant breeding programs.

ASB Comments varied with some expressing support for a royalty system to encourage industry to research and develop new varieties with others expressing strong support to abandon the royalty proposal.

# Update on Previous Years' Resolutions

## 2018 Resolutions

### **1-18: Environmental Stream Funding of the Agricultural Service Board Grant Grade: Accept in Principle**

Update from Doug Macaulay, Manager, Agricultural Service Board Unit, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry:

AF has discussed this resolution and whether to change timelines in the Terms and Conditions so they align with our fiscal year (April 1-March 31) from the current (January 1 – December 31). After much discussion we have decided to continue to align with the MGA and therefore will not be changing the timelines in the Terms and Conditions at this time.

RESOLUTION 1-18 ENVIRONMENTAL STREAM FUNDING OF THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD GRANT: <https://agriculturalserviceboards.com/previous-year-resolutions/2018-resolutions/#jump-resolution-1-18>

I would be available to discuss this decision in more detail at our next ASB Provincial Committee meeting.

### **2-18: Appeals to the Minister Under the Weed Control Act and Agricultural Pests Act Grade: Unsatisfactory**

Resolution 2-18 requested that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) amend the Agricultural Pests Act and Weed Control Act to hear and determine appeals to the Minister within a 30 day time frame. AF's response indicated they were not supportive of a legislated time frame as they needed appropriate time to conduct investigations in a manner that was transparent and evidence based. The resolution response indicated that AF was willing to review their process to determine if there was a way to hear and determine appeals in a more timely manner. AF announced to the Committee and AAAF in March 2019 that outlined a pilot program for appeals made under the *Weed Control Act*. The intent of this new process was to reduce the time for a decision to be made for appeals made to the Minister.

The Ministerial Review process pilot project outlined that all appeals would be an in person hearing process. The hearing would be overseen by an adjudicator with legal training and who was familiar with agriculture. The adjudicator would review the appeal and make their



recommendation to the Minister for the outcome of the appeal.

The Committee discussed the pilot project with ADM Curran at their March meeting and expressed their concerns with the process but decided it would be best to let the pilot project proceed and review the outcomes once the first review had gone through the new process.

The Committee understands that one appeal to the Minister has gone through this process. The Committee plans to meet with the municipality involved and ADM Curran to review how the process worked and if it was fair to all parties involved. The Committee will continue to advocate for changes to be made to the Ministerial Review appeal process until a process that benefits AF and ASBs is created.

This process has been included as part of the review by the government's "Red Tape Reduction Action Plan".

#### **4-18: Weed Control on Alberta Vacant Public Lands Within Green Areas** **Grade: Incomplete**

The Committee brought this up with the Minister. The Minister replied that he didn't have adequate knowledge in this area and this was the first time that this issue had been brought up with him. The Minister's staff replied that this was part of the Public Lands program but they would have to look into funding and budgets more. The Minister appreciated this being brought to his attention and said he would investigate more. The Committee reminded him of his responsibility under the *Weed Control Act* and how everyone needs to be involved with working to manage regulated weeds.

#### **5-18: Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement** **Grade: Accept in Principle**

The Committee discussed the Wildlife Predator Compensation program in some detail with the Minister of Environment and Parks and the Director of Fish and Wildlife. The Committee is pleased that the Minister is considering a review of the Predator Compensation Program with a working group that would include ASBs. The Committee looks forward to participating in this working group and will continue to advocate for changes to be made to the Predator Compensation Program based on resolutions brought forward by ASBs.

#### **6-18: Review of Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) Crop Insurance Program** **Grade: Unsatisfactory**

Reviewing AFSC was listed as a priority for the new government. The document "Alberta Strong and Free" on page 28 states that the government will "streamline the Agriculture Financial services Corporation to improve services and responsiveness to farmers." This review has been started as part of the government's "Red Tape Reduction Action Plan".

AFSC's lending mandate has been reviewed as part of this plan and to date the decision has been made to implement the AFSC lending mandate that was approved in January 2018. This new mandate will provide assistance to agriculture processors, producers and agri-businesses. Implementation of this mandate includes establishing an agribusiness lending group to work with agricultural producers. (Source: alberta.ca)

The Committee continues to monitor this resolution and advocate for more changes to be made to AFSC as part of the "Red Tape Reduction Action Plan" to make AFSC programs more responsive to farmers.

### **11-18: Organic Food Testing and Labeling**

#### **Grade: Accept in Principle**

Resolution 11-18 requesting Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) advocate for better labelling of organic products and for additional testing to be conducted by CFIA and other agencies to assure organic claims are true. The response from AF indicated that they were working on a new Act to endorse the national standard while CFIA responded that they do routinely and randomly check products that claim to be organic to ensure that all products meet the Canadian Organic Regime (COR). The Committee graded this resolution as "Accept in Principle" based on the fact that a new Act was in development regarding organic standards.

The "Supporting Alberta Local Food Sector" Act was passed on May 30, 2018. This Act now requires all producers that claim their food is organic to be certified and meet the COR standards. Producers previously could claim their food was raised to be "organic" in Alberta without having any proof of certification.

The Committee appreciates the work completed by the government to pass this Act and supports the new requirement for all organic producers to be certified to meet the COR requirements and feels that this will decrease the number of products falsely being advertised as organic.

The Supporting Alberta Local Food Sector is found at:  
<http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/s23p3.pdf>

Relevant sections of the Act are found in the Appendix.

### **1-17: Vegetation Management on Alberta Provincial Highways**

#### **Grade: Accept in Principle**

The Provincial Committee continues to monitor the progress made by Alberta Transportation in carrying out the vegetation management plan implemented in 2018. This is a four year plan and the Committee plans to meet with Alberta Transportation in 2020 to review the plan.

### **3-17: Incorporating Agriculture and Agri-Food Education in the Classroom**

**Grade: Incomplete**

The Committee continues to monitor Alberta Education's curriculum review and provide input as needed. The Committee strongly support the work being done by organizations such as "Ag for Life" that provide resources for teacher to incorporate agriculture into their classrooms.

The Committee has not had an opportunity to meet with the Education Minister to discuss this resolution.

### **E3-17: Eradication of Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Prevalent in Bison Within and Surrounding Wood Buffalo National Park**

**Grade Unsatisfactory**

The Committee discussed this with the Minister and his response was that it was complicated by legislation related to Species at Risk. His department continues to monitor it but feels that not much can be done due to federal Species at Risk legislation.

Parks Canada has released a plan that addresses bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis as part of their recovery strategy for wood buffalo in the park. Details on their strategy can be found at the link below or the 2018 Report Card on the Resolutions.

[https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nt/woodbuffalo/decouvrir-discover/science\\_nature/bison](https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nt/woodbuffalo/decouvrir-discover/science_nature/bison)

## Expiring Resolutions

The Provincial Rules of Procedure state in section 3(10) that the Provincial ASB Committee will actively advocate for resolutions for a period of five years. Any expiring resolutions that an ASB wishes to remain actively advocated for must be brought forward for approval at the next Provincial ASB Conference.

The following resolutions are set to expire December 31, 2019.

<b>Resolution Number</b>	<b>Resolution Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>
1-15	Adapt Crop Insurance to Protect Clubroot Tolerant Varieties	Unsatisfactory
2-15	Pest Control Act - Clubroot	Accept in Principle
3-15	Standardized Clubroot Inspection Procedure	Accept in Principle
4-15	Additional Funding for Municipalities dealing with Prohibited Noxious Weeds that come from Outside the Province of Alberta	Accept in Principle
5-15	Maintaining Canada Thistle ( <i>Cirsium arvense</i> ) as a Noxious Weed under the Alberta Weed Control Act and Regulation	Accept in Principle
8-15	Monitor Ergot Levels in Livestock Feeds	Accept in Principle
9-15	Elk Quota Hunt	Accept in Principle
10-15	Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer availability	Accept in Principle
12-15	Agriculture Plastics Recycling	Unsatisfactory
14-15	Management of Farm and Agricultural Leases	Accept in Principle
15-15	Farm Property Assessment	Accept in Principle
E1-15	Fusarium Graminearum Management Plan	Accept in Principle

## Updates on Expiring Resolutions

### **Resolution 9-15**

The Committee had an opportunity to discuss resolution 9-15 with the Minister of Environment and Parks. The Committee expressed concern with the number of elk in parts of the province and requested additional action for managing elk within those areas. The Minister replied that some of the problem is the conflict between hunters and landowners not allowing hunters to go onto their land. That being said, the Minister said there were several things his department was looking at including allowing extra landowner tags, possibly having multiple elk seasons for hunting, and including requiring producers prove they allowed reasonable access to land for ungulate management for producers seeking 20 year grazing leases or elk fencing.

### **Resolution 12-15**

The Committee also discussed resolution 12-15: Agriculture Plastics Recycling with the Minister and thanked him for the pilot project that started in 2019. The Minister indicated that he was excited about the pilot project and looking forward to seeing the outcome of the results. He indicated that he planned to look at making the program permanent once he saw results from the first year of the project. He indicated that he had been talking with Saskatchewan about their program and felt that a similar program in Alberta would be of benefit to the province.

## Current Resolutions

1-15	Adapt Crop Insurance to Protect Clubroot Tolerant Varieties	Unsatisfactory
2-15	Pest Control Act - Clubroot	Accept in Principle
3-15	Standardized Clubroot Inspection Procedure	Accept in Principle
4-15	Additional Funding for Municipalities dealing with Prohibited Noxious Weeds that come from Outside the Province of Alberta	Accept in Principle
5-15	Maintaining Canada Thistle ( <i>Cirsium arvense</i> ) as a Noxious Weed under the Alberta Weed Control Act and Regulation	Accept in Principle
8-15	Monitor Ergot Levels in Livestock Feeds	Accept in Principle
9-15	Elk Quota Hunt	Accept in Principle
10-15	Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer availability	Accept in Principle
12-15	Agriculture Plastics Recycling	Unsatisfactory
14-15	Management of Farm and Agricultural Leases	Accept in Principle
15-15	Farm Property Assessment	Accept in Principle
E1-15	Fusarium Graminearum Management Plan	Accept in Principle
1-16	Proactive Vegetation Management on Alberta Provincial Highways	Unsatisfactory
2-16	Reinstate Provincial Funding for the Canada and Alberta Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Surveillance Program	Unsatisfactory
3-16	Agricultural Plastics Recycling	Accept in Principle
5-16	Climate Stations	Accept in Principle
6-16	Compensation for Coyote Depredation	Accept in Principle
8-16	Species at Risk Act (SARA)	Accept in Principle

E1-16	Bill 6: Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers	Accept in Principle
1-17	Vegetation Management on Alberta Provincial Highways	Accept in Principle
2-17	Ensuring Competition for Seed and Crop Protection Products	Incomplete
3-17	Incorporating Agriculture and Agri-Food Education in the Classroom	Incomplete
E3-17	Eradication of Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Prevalent in Bison Within and Surrounding Wood Buffalo National Park	Unsatisfactory
1-18	Environmental Stream Funding of the Agricultural Service Board Grant	Accept in Principle
2-18	Appeals to the Minister Under the Weed Control Act and Agricultural Pests Act	Unsatisfactory
4-18	Weed Control on Alberta Vacant Public Lands Within Green Areas	Incomplete
5-18	Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement	Accept in Principle
6-18	Review of Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) Crop Insurance Program	Unsatisfactory
7-18	Crop Insurance for Alberta Fruit Producers	Accept the Response
9-18	Farm Direct Marketing of Eggs and Products Using Eggs	Accept in Principle
10-18	Proposed Federal Tax Changes	Accept the Response
11-18	Organic Food Testing and Labeling	Accept in Principle
1-19	Loss of 2% Liquid Strychnine	
2-19	Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement	
3-19	Deadstock Removal	
4-19	Carbon Credits for Permanent Pasture and Forested Lands	
5-19	Multi-Stakeholder Committee to Work at Reducing the Use of Fresh Water by the Oil and Gas Industry in Alberta	
6-19	STEP Program Agricultural Eligibility	
E1-19	Access to Agriculture Specific Mental Health Resources	
E2-19	No Royalties on Farm Saved Seed	

# Appendix



## Resolution 4-19

Directive for Water Licensing of Hydraulic Fracturing Projects – Area of Use Approach  
February 22, 2018

Source: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/directive-for-water-licensing-of-hydraulic-fracturing-projects-area-of-use-approach>



<b>Title:</b>	<b>Directive for Water Licensing of Hydraulic Fracturing Projects – Area of Use Approach</b>
<b>Number:</b>	<b>AEP, Water Quantity, 2018, No.1</b>
<b>Program Name:</b>	<b>Water Policy</b>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>February 22, 2018</b>
<b>This document was updated on:</b>	

### Scope and Applicability

This directive does not replace or override requirements specified in other guidelines, directives, regulations, policies or legislation in effect at the time of application for a licence under the *Water Act*.

This directive applies to hydraulic fracturing projects, typically with a longer development horizon, which are planned to occur over a specified geographic area and that have ongoing water needs over the life of the project. These projects are generally distinguished by:

- an operating area that is identifiable and constrained by mineral tenure rights held by an applicant;
- multiple hydrocarbon wells to be developed within those specific and defined geographic areas;
- hydrocarbon wells that are completed using multi-stage hydraulic fracturing techniques; and
- well pad and hydrocarbon well development that is staged to occur over many years.

For this type of oil and gas project, there are unique characteristics warranting development of a tailored approach to water licensing. These include:

- most of the water being required prior to the operating phase of each hydrocarbon well (i.e. used initially only for the fracturing of a formation, with no ongoing water need in the hydrocarbon production phase of the well);
- the exact surface location of each hydrocarbon well over the life of the project not being known at the outset of the project; and
- the surface areal extent of where an operator is authorized to explore and develop for oil and gas being known and defined by the mineral tenure rights.

A distinguishing characteristic is the longer-term need for water over the life of a project, where use at a single location is short-term, and the ongoing water use is characterized by spatial movement in progression to the next hydrocarbon well development location.

## Intent

This directive provides direction to the Alberta Energy Regulator to ensure a consistent approach in evaluating the various factors regarding water licensing of hydraulic fracturing projects with multi-year operations occurring over an area of use constrained by mineral tenure rights. The directive also provides direction to applicants when preparing licence applications under the *Water Act*.

## Background

Mineral tenure rights held by oil and gas companies can span a wide range of land areas, from multiple sections of land and up to many townships in size. As a consequence, multi-stage hydraulic fracturing projects are generally planned in a sequence of development and can extend over larger geographic areas.

The conventional approach for licence applications, typically for smaller areas or projects where the details of the surface locations of water use are provided at the application stage, is difficult to apply to longer-life multi-stage hydraulic fracturing developments. Traditionally, applications to divert water for oil and gas wells have been handled on a "well-by-well" basis by issuing temporary diversion licences for each well completion, or for each well pad development. However, this approach generally would not explicitly consider potential cumulative effects within long-life projects; and also does not provide sufficient regulatory certainty or incentive for applicants to consider longer-term investments in infrastructure that could reduce the overall impact of activities.

To better enable the policy outcomes around water use and conservation by the energy sector, longer term, multi-year licences are the preferred water allocation approach for multi-stage hydraulic fracturing projects. These types of projects require greater flexibility regarding use of water, where the project areas are known at the time of application but exact locations where water will be applied become known as development plans are finalized and operational phases commence. There is a need to:

- balance avoidance of speculation in the water resource with flexibility regarding how the precise locations of water use are identified;
- clarify the areal considerations and requirements for licences, including the information the proponent is required to provide for these types of applications;
- demonstrate that the projected and likely impacts of a project within an area have been adequately assessed, considered, and can be mitigated.

## Purpose of Licensing using an Area of Use Approach

The purpose of developing this directive for hydraulic fracturing projects is to allow operational flexibility by a licensee within specific and defined geographic areas of oil and gas development, while remaining within provisions of the *Water Act*.

Compared to the traditional licensing approach (obtaining temporary licences for each well), this directive is intended to enable better management of water resources; planning for longer-term infrastructure and supply options; and address water supply risk for operators.

This directive provides a set of consistent considerations and requirements for implementing this tailored approach to issuing a licence. This directive does not preclude other types of *Water Act*

authorizations such as temporary diversion licences, preliminary certificates and approvals, which continue to be used when appropriate to the circumstance of an application.

### Alternatives Assessment

It is expected that proponents will seek the use of alternative water sources before considering the use of non-saline water for their projects. Alternative water sources include, but are not limited to, recycled flowback, recycled municipal or industrial wastewater, saline groundwater, groundwater containing hydrocarbon compounds (excluding methane) and/or non-water technologies. As part of the application submitted under this directive, proponents must include an alternatives assessment that demonstrates no other economically and environmentally feasible water sources are available over the proposed term of the licence. The *2006 Water Conservation and Allocation Guideline for Oilfield Injection* provides guidance on conducting alternatives assessments.

### Demonstrated Need for Water

To address potential speculation in the water resource, the licence application must demonstrate the need for the allocation of water being requested by providing, at a minimum, the following information:

- Project area, including the mineral lease boundaries to be developed and any boundaries of major river basins as defined in the *Water Act*.
- Development plan for the project (concept/scoping level) that identifies the well density needed to develop the resource (e.g. #wells/section).
- Schedule of development (concept/scoping level) that identifies the potential annual water need from year zero to the anticipated end of the project.
- Total volume of water needed per well (e.g. m<sup>3</sup>/well). The information must be sufficient (provide data, models, assumptions) for justification of the allocation request.
- Number of years expected to complete the project.

Ongoing demonstration of the need for water is required through the life span of the project, within a reporting period specified by the Director. As a condition of the licence, licensees must be required to report supporting information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- The volumes of water diverted from the source; the volumes of water used; and the water use per energy well, compared to estimates submitted with the application and any previous reports;
- For the upcoming reporting period, an estimate of the monthly volume of water that is expected to meet the needs of the project operations;
- Changes to the:
  - mineral lease boundaries within the project area; and
  - well density plan;that may result in a change from the original schedule of development, which would affect the timelines required to complete the project.

Licences must include a condition that allows for Director-initiated amendments to reduce the allocation of water and/or reduction in the term of the licence.



Prior to considering a reduction of volume and/or reduction of the term by the Director, a 30-day written notice (or other time period specified by the Director) will be sent to the licensee requesting additional information that justifies the ongoing and future water needs under the current allocation. If there has been a consequential deviation from an operator's development plan and water need cannot be demonstrated, the Director must have the discretion to amend the annual allocation (volume, rates of diversion, timing) and/or the licence term may be reduced.

The Director also has ability to apply both statutory (preliminary certificates) and administrative (licence conditions) instruments to provide necessary regulatory oversight and controls to manage water needs that may change over time or are subject to variable conditions (for example, "ramping-up"/phasing; economic factors; conditional buildout).

### One Point of Diversion per Licence

Water licences issued under this approach should be limited to one Point of Diversion per licence from either a surface or a groundwater source. The recommended procedure limits applications to one point of diversion with one priority-of-use date per licence, as a means to limit opportunities for speculation in the resource.

With respect to groundwater sources, for the purpose of this directive one Point of Diversion is a well or multiple wells contained within the equivalent area of one quarter section and completed within the same aquifer.

### Appurtenance

Appurtenance<sup>1</sup> conditions in water licences are mandatory. The licence condition must specify appurtenance to land or undertaking; it cannot be both. A licence is typically appurtenant to the Point of Diversion, which determines where a diversion is taking place within a basin. The Point of Diversion is the precise physical location where water is withdrawn from a specified source. A licence may also be appurtenant to a Point or Points of Use, which is description or specification of where water that has been diverted may be used or applied.

For licensing of multi-stage large scale hydraulic fracturing projects, the licence must be appurtenant to the Point of Diversion only. These types of licence are not made appurtenant to a Point of Use. The use and application of water is regulated separately with licence conditions, specifying a point of use or points of use as a bounded area.

The Point of Diversion must be known at the time of application and can only be amended in accordance with provisions in the *Water Act* under section 54(1)(b)(vi). The appurtenance statement in the licence regarding the Point of Diversion should refer to land and not the undertaking, as:

- reference to land is more appropriate given the nature of these projects, which are limited and described by access to mineral rights based on surface locations; and
- consistent interpretation based on AEP's *Guidelines Regarding Appurtenance* would be expressed as appurtenant to lands for industrial projects involving mineral extraction.

<sup>1</sup> Appurtenance means belonging to; accessory or incident to; adjunct to; appended or annexed to. Refer to AEP's *Guidelines Regarding Appurtenance* for additional explanation.

## Point of Use

This water licensing approach for multi-stage hydraulic fracturing projects allows for a generally described and spatially limited Point of Use Area to be identified at the time of application. The Point of Use becomes specified when water is applied during the term of the licence. Various aspects regarding the Point of Use must be incorporated into licences using this approach as described below.

### Point of Use Area Boundary

The applicant must identify the sub-surface mineral lease area(s) that the application is based on and held at the time the application is submitted and where water will be used for drilling and completion (i.e. hydraulic fracturing) purposes. The Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area is a principal component of a specific Point of Use Area, identified within the licence. Multiple sub-surface mineral lease areas to be included under one licence shall generally be contiguous with or in close proximity to one another.

**The Point of Use Area is the extension of the Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area to the surface, with a small and justifiable buffer that allows for related ancillary surface activities related to the hydraulic fracturing project, that require water.** Examples of these activities are road access and maintenance, dust suppression, construction, related infrastructure, etc. The Point of Use Area should generally align with the licensee's mineral leases to be held under the project water licence and it must encompass all of the Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area of the licensee. This is best identified in the licence and application using a detailed map, diagram or similar visual identification, which can be referenced as a Plan in the licence. The licence must specify the purpose(s) and uses for which water may be applied within the Point of Use Area, and within the Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area as appropriate.

The Point of Use Area can only be amended in accordance with provisions in the *Water Act* under Section 54.

Watershed boundaries should be identified on maps or diagrams; any major river basin boundaries (reference Section 10, *Water (Ministerial) Regulation*) must be identified in applications. Transfer of water across the boundary of a major river basin is restricted by Section 47 of the *Water Act*, requiring a special Act of the Legislature to authorize the issuing of such a licence. To avoid triggering special provisions required for inter-basin transfer of water, the boundary of the Point of Use Area must be indicated on plans and clearly identified as constrained to within the same major river basin as the Point of Diversion.

### Size of Point of Use Area

The Point of Use Area should be no larger than the equivalent area of 16 townships. The Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area will be equal to or smaller than the Point of Use Area and will comprise one or more contiguous areal block(s) generally corresponding with mineral leases within the Point of Use Area held by the operator at the time of application for a water licence.

The Director may consider a larger Point of Use Area than the specified maximum in this directive, if there is clearly demonstrated net environmental benefit compared to assessed alternatives (for

example; a reduced or less significant spatial footprint; fewer independent water sources needed; ability to use a source with less potential for adverse impact).

### **Specified Upon Use**

Within a reporting period specified by the Director, the licensee is required as a condition of the licence to report the specific surface locations where the water allocation under the licence was used for the hydraulic fracturing project within the Point of Use Area. These surface locations must align with the Point of Use Area in the licence.

### **Altering Point of Use Area**

The Point of Use Area can only be amended as provided for in the *Water Act*. A new licence must be obtained for new Point of Use areas. The Point of Use Area boundary cannot be expanded. A reduction in the Point of Use Area can be authorized through a licence amendment.

### **Altering Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area**

Any proposed changes to the Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area must be submitted to the Director for consideration. Director discretion in accordance with section 54(5) of the *Water Act* will determine if the changes are significant enough to require an amendment, or if a simple update to the plan is sufficient.

#### *Addition*

In circumstances where new mineral leases are acquired within the existing Point of Use Area, the licensee must submit an application under the *Water Act* to amend the Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area in the licence. In such cases small additional areal block(s) can be proposed as new sub-surface mineral lease area(s) within the original Point of Use Area. The proposed sub-surface mineral lease area(s) shall be contiguous with or in close proximity to the original sub-surface mineral lease area(s), and shall apply to the same target formation(s).

An application to amend cannot request an increase in the volume of the diversion of water specified in the licence. If a change in the Sub-surface Mineral Lease Area results in a need for additional water, a new licence is required.

#### *Disposition*

The removal of a sub-surface mineral lease area, usually due to the sale, transfer or expiry of a mineral lease, may require an update to the plan on the licence. The Director may consider a reduction in allocation volume or a change in diversion rate or timing to reflect the disposition of the lands, if it materially affects the schedule of development for the project. Depending on the extent of the removal of sub-surface mineral lease area(s), a reduction in the Point of Use Area may also be required by the Director.

Other operators who have acquired new mineral leases under such circumstances (i.e. through the disposition of others) must apply for a separate water licence for those newly acquired leases.

## Term Length

Unless otherwise established in a water guideline or subject to an amendment of the *Water (Ministerial) Regulation*, the term of a licence under this approach is 10 years or less. Licensees can submit applications to renew licences for subsequent terms of up to 10 years. The Director must also specify when a licence is not subject to further renewal. Other terms or conditions may be revised in accordance with Section 59 of the *Water Act*.

## Water Release

A general expectation of hydraulic fracturing activity is an effectively fully consumptive process, where water, makeup waters and flow back are generally mixed throughout the process and injected or eventually disposed of, and not returned to the environment. Circumstances of well drilling and completions are not always fully predictable and there may be potential for water, capable of discharge back to environment, to be generated.

Based on authorization procedures already in general use, this directive requires that potential water return be addressed through the use of standard licence conditions. Licensees must be required to ensure that prior to any discharge or release of fresh or non-saline water to the environment:

- all applicable protocols and recommended practices to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species are implemented (including the possibility that no release can be made, regardless of satisfying all other water release criteria);
- water must meet acceptable surface water quality and groundwater quality guidelines;
- the return is made to a watershed where the original diversion took place;
- licensees employ erosion prevention and other environmentally precautionary measures; and
- consent of immediate and downstream landowner(s), as appropriate, is obtained.

## Policy and Regulatory Alignment

Licences issued under this approach may be subject to the requirements of new or updated policies or regulatory tools that are developed in the future. Furthermore, this directive may be updated in the future to ensure alignment with new or updated policies or regulatory tools that are developed.

Original signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: February 16, 2018

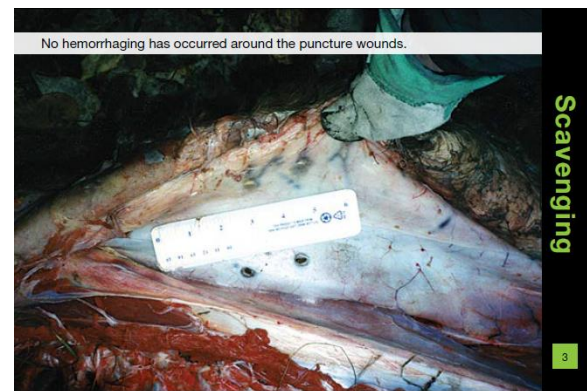
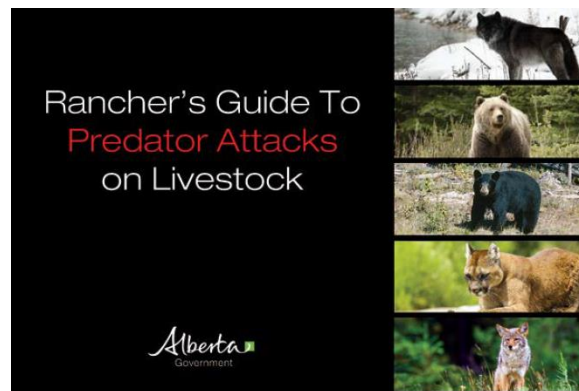
Karen Wronko, Executive Director  
Water Policy  
Environment and Parks



# Resolution 5-18

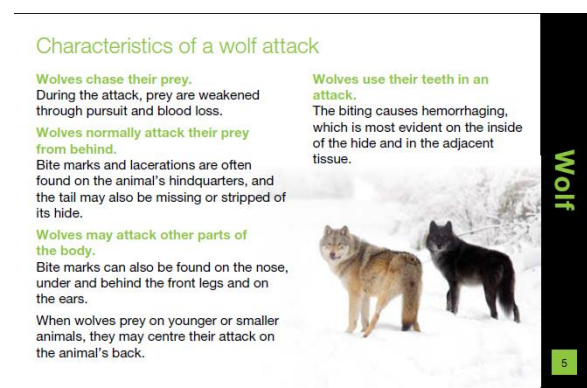
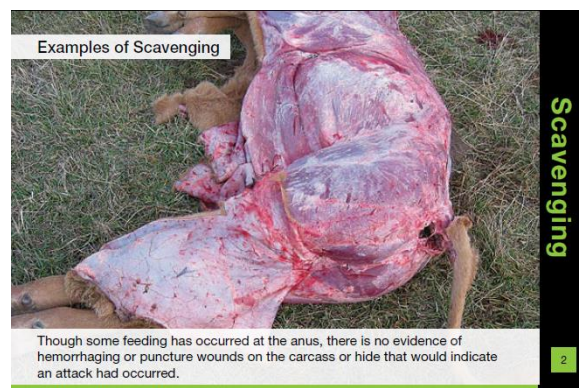
## Rancher's Guide to Predator Attacks on Livestock March 2018

Source: <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/b5bee14e-1339-48b7-9388-b71bc6d378d1/resource/8fbc1c21-cb35-4485-8df8-439c8e83e7b7/download/ranchersguidetopredatorattacks-mar2018.pdf>



Predation or Scavenging?	
Bears, wolves, cougars and coyotes can be scavengers as well as predators.	
Evidence of Scavenging	Evidence of an Attack
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There may be no blood on the ground around the carcass, or blood may have drained onto the ground from body cavities such as the nose.</li> <li>Lacerations and puncture wounds found on the hide's exterior do not show corresponding signs of hemorrhaging on the interior of the hide or in adjacent tissue.</li> <li>The body may be curled up with the legs tucked in, indicating the animal died of disease or other condition not related to predation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There may be blood on the ground indicating the animal bled when attacked. Blood stains may be spread widely around the dead animal. There may be a blood trail.</li> <li>Lacerations and puncture wounds on the hide's exterior will show corresponding signs of hemorrhaging on the interior of the hide and tissue. Blood may also drain from puncture wounds.</li> <li>The body may be stretched out in an unnatural position.</li> </ul>

Common Attack Zones on Adult Livestock					
Indications: hemorrhaging/bruising/lacerations/tears/bite marks/crushed bones					
	Wolf	Grizzly Bear	Black Bear	Cougar	Coyote
Tail	X				X
Hindquarter/Groin	X				X
Flank	X				X
Behind and under front leg	X				X
Withers		X	X		
Spine		X	X		
Neck		X	X	X	X
Throat				X	X
Skull		X	X	X	
Spacing between canine teeth	1½-2"	2-3"	1½-2½"	1½-2¼"	1-1 3/8"
Diameter of canine tooth punctures	¼"	¼"	¼"	¼"	1/8"







**Characteristics of a bear attack**

**Bears ambush their prey.**  
In the attack, bears will not usually pursue their prey over long distances. However, once the animal is dead, they may drag it some distance to feed under the protection of cover.

**Bears normally attack their prey from the top of the animal.**  
Lacerations may be left by the bear's teeth when it bites and by its claws when it attempts to grip its prey during the attack.

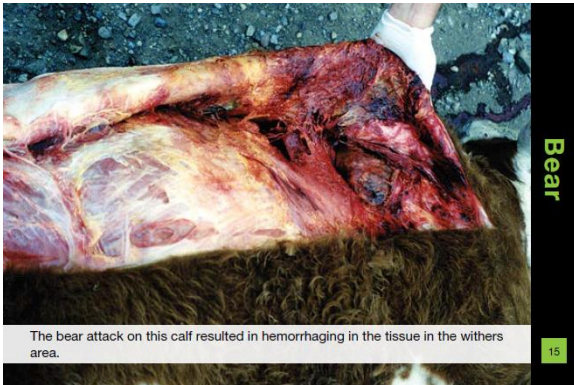
**Bears are opportunistic hunters and feeders.**  
Bears will take advantage of any food source when they have the opportunity to do so. Both black and grizzly bears are known to prey on all age classes of cattle, as well as swine and sheep. Because grizzlies are larger, they may prey on larger animals, such as mature cows. Black bears prey more heavily on calves. Unlike wolves and cougars, bears often eat the stomach contents (rumen) of livestock.

**Bear**

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### Characteristics of a cougar attack

**Cougars stalk their prey.** When hunting, cougars sneak up on prey and then rush it from a short distance away. They will not pursue their prey over long distances. However, once the animal is dead, they may drag it some distance to feed under the protection of cover.

**Cougars are efficient hunters.** Cougars normally kill their prey in one of two ways: by biting at the head and neck to crush the skull and neck bones, or by biting at the throat to crush the windpipe.

**Cougars use their strength and sharp claws to grip their prey.** In a struggle, cougars are normally strong enough to maintain hold on their prey with minimal re-adjustment. Lacerations may not show marks from all five of the

cougar's claws. The claw marks are knife-like, with very clean edges.

**Cougars prey on a variety of livestock.** Cougars typically attack sheep, goats, horses and exotic animals, such as llamas and alpacas.

**Cougars feed on organ meat first.** Cougars feed on the heart, lungs and liver first. They use their teeth to chew out a clean entryway rather than tearing at the tissue. Before feeding, cougars pluck out the wool or hair from the hide. Unlike bears, cougars do not normally eat the stomach, intestines or their contents.



**Cougar**

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## Characteristics of a coyote attack

**Coyotes attack in a manner similar to both wolves and cougars.**

Coyotes commonly hunt as individuals, but like wolves, may also hunt in packs, attacking their prey from the rear. Like cougars, they may also suffocate their prey by crushing the windpipe.

Coyotes are smaller than other predators and will leave smaller punctures and lacerations. Lacerations and puncture marks may also show the coyote needed to re-adjust its grip on its prey during the attack.

**Coyotes normally take prey that is smaller.**

Sheep, goats and young calves are susceptible to coyote predation.



Coyote

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## The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program

The livestock covered under the program are cattle, bison, sheep, swine and goats. Horses and exotic animals, such as llamas, alpacas or mini-donkeys, are not covered.

Producers may qualify for compensation when livestock are killed or injured by a grizzly or black bear, wolf, cougar or eagle. Attacks by coyotes or incidents of post-mortem feedings are not covered by the compensation program.

Costs relating to both medications and veterinarian fees can be compensated up to the value of the injured animal.

If producers suspect that a predator has killed or injured their livestock, they are advised to contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife office of Justice and Solicitor

General as soon as possible. Call the Report-A-Poacher hotline at 1-800-642-3800 to reach a Fish and Wildlife officer. An investigator will examine the animal. The producer may be advised to move or cover the animal prior to the investigator's arrival, which will help ensure that evidence is not lost due to scavenging.

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The puncture wounds on this sheep are typical of a coyote attack. The inter-canine spacing of 1" is less than the inter-canine spacing of a cougar.

Coyote

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## You can help

**Report suspected livestock losses early.** Losses must be reported within 3 days in order to be eligible for compensation under the **Wildlife Predator Compensation Program**. Early detection and reporting allows for more effective mitigation and control actions that may limit further livestock losses.

**Share information with your neighbours.**

Communicating information concerning livestock losses to predators may allow for others to increase vigilance, mitigation and husbandry practices and may limit additional livestock losses.

**Preserve evidence.**

While the protection of public safety and property is a priority, if there is a delay in completing the investigation, collection of photographic evidence from the scene may preserve important evidence that can be lost due to scavenging, further decomposition and other environmental factors.

**Ensure your safety and do not approach a livestock carcass if it is not safe. Do not disturb the scene or livestock carcass.**

Use the form and ruler on the next pages to guide in the collection of evidence which can supplement the investigator's findings.

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Puncture marks are smaller and lacerations are narrower than those left by a wolf.

Coyote

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## Reporting

Claimant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Investigated: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Loss: Qtr ☐ S ☐ T ☐ R ☐ W ☐

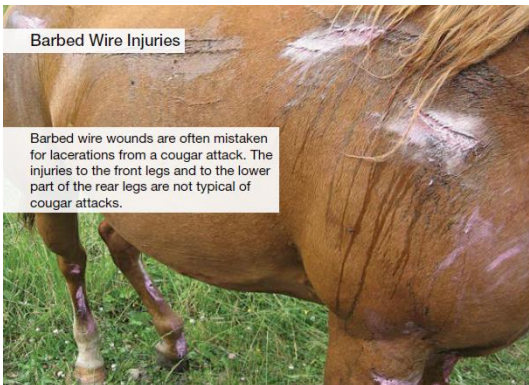
Loss Reported By: \_\_\_\_\_

Dead Livestock:	Age	Sex	Weight	Number Killed
Photos Taken: Y/N				
Overall Scene with Carcass <input type="checkbox"/>		Evidence of Struggle <input type="checkbox"/>		
Evidence of Blood at Site <input type="checkbox"/>		Predator Tracks at Site - Ruler <input type="checkbox"/>		
Location of Attack <input type="checkbox"/>		Spacing of Bite - Ruler <input type="checkbox"/>		



## Barbed Wire Injuries

Barbed wire wounds are often mistaken for lacerations from a cougar attack. The injuries to the front legs and to the lower part of the rear legs are not typical of cougar attacks.



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## Notes

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A Rancher's Guide to Predator Attacks on Livestock provides ranchers with information about wolves, bears, cougars and coyotes and the attack characteristics specific to each predator. This guide is meant for informational purposes only. Call your nearest Fish and Wildlife office if you have questions about preventing predation, or if you suspect that a predator has killed your livestock.

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978-1-4601-1561-9 (Online Edition)  
Revised March 2018



## Resolution 11-18

### Local Food Act (excerpt)

Source: <http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/s23p3.pdf>

## Part 2 Organic Agricultural Products

### Definitions

7 In this Part,

- (a) “advertise” means to directly or indirectly promote the sale of an agricultural product;
- (b) “certification body” means a body that is accredited by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency that is responsible for the certification of agricultural products under the *Organic Products Regulations*;
- (c) “certification record” means a record of certification obtained in accordance with section 8;
- (d) “organic product” means an agricultural product that is certified by a certification body as meeting the *Organic Products Regulations*;
- (e) “vendor” means a person who offers for sale agricultural products.

### Certification

8 A producer or processor who advertises, labels or offers for sale an agricultural product that is produced or processed in the Province for sale in the Province as an organic product must hold the appropriate certification for that product in accordance with the *Organic Products Regulations*.

### Prohibition

9 No person shall advertise, label or offer for sale an agricultural product produced or processed in the Province for sale in the Province using the term “organic”, “biologique”, “organically grown”, “organically raised”, “organically produced” or similar words, including abbreviations of, symbols for and phonetic renderings of those words, or any other term prescribed in the regulations unless the producer of the agricultural product holds the appropriate certification for that product in accordance with section 8.