

Resolution 6-24a: Improving the Sustainability of Canadian Apiculture Through Bee Package Imports and the Control of Varroa Mites

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARDS REQUEST

That the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) permit Honey bee shipments from the United States for the purpose of hive repopulation, to combat the depopulation of Canada's Honey Bee hives.

Input:

Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI), as well as the Alberta Beekeepers commission, strongly supports the importation of U.S. bees into Alberta. Through 2022-23 and most recently in an early-February meeting between Minister Sigurdson and CFIA President Paul MacKinnon, AGI has advocated on this issue for Alberta's apiculture industry. AGI has requested the expediting of the CFIA's risk assessment to allow for the import of packaged honey bees from the U.S. to ensure the adequate recovery of honey bee colonies. Alberta provided its input to CFIA by the summer 2023 deadline and is now monitoring the risk assessment and awaiting CFIA's decision.

