

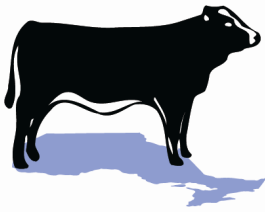


2013 RESOLUTION RESPONSES

Enclosed you will find the response letters to the 2013 resolutions for your review:

- 13-01 Beef Nutritionist
- 13-02 Forage Insurance
- 13-03 New Liskeard Research Station
- 13-04 Species at Risk Compensation
- 13-05 Abattoir Upgrades
- 13-06 Feeder Finance Administration
- 13-07 Cable Restraints
- 13-08 Leadership Development
- 13-09 OCA Future Funding
- 13-10 Animal Care Education
- 13-11 Legislative Powers of the OSPCA
- 13-12 Animal Welfare Assistance
- 13-13 Coyote Cull
- 13-14 Cooking Instructions
- 13-15 Consumer Education in Schools
- 13-16 CCIA Producer Pin's on Shipping Manifests
- 13-17 Tire Disposal Fees
- 13-18 Forage Research
- Refer to CCA 13-19 Inspection Harmonization





July 16, 2013

13-01

Mr. Darrell Saunders, President
Grey County Cattlemen's Association
RR3, 725246 Sideroad 22A
Markdale, ON NOC 1H0

Dear Darrell,

Re: *Beef Nutritionist Position at the University of Guelph (UoG)*

The Ontario Cattlemen's Association (OCA) Board of Directors has reviewed the following resolution from Grey County, passed at the OCA AGM in February of this year:

WHEREAS *the University of Guelph does not have a Beef Nutritionist and this limits capacity for Research in Ontario,*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *work with OMAFRA and the University of Guelph to attain a full time highly Qualified Beef Nutritionist and Research Personnel.*

The need for a full time beef nutritionist position at the University of Guelph (UoG) has been identified as a priority by our Board of Directors, by OCA's Research Committee, and by our grassroots members via resolutions which garnered near unanimous support at the 2013 Annual General Meeting this past February. In response, OCA has attempted to address this issue through a number of avenues.

The newly created Livestock Research Innovation Corporation (LRIC), formed to streamline investment in livestock research in Ontario, has identified the Beef Nutritionist position as a major gap in beef research capacity and as a top priority for LRIC. As such, LRIC has repeatedly conveyed the need for a full time Beef Nutritionist to senior administrators within OMAF and the UoG. In addition, OCA has vigorously lobbied key decision makers within the Ministry of Agriculture and the University of Guelph as well as government and opposition MPPs on numerous occasions. The need for a full-time nutritionist was one of our top three lobby points at our annual Queen's Park BBQ this spring.

OCA will continue to pursue this issue until a long term commitment by OMAF and the University of Guelph is made to attract and retain highly qualified beef research personnel. OCA is disappointed with the progress that has been made on this issue to date but commits to continue to push for constructive dialogue and a positive outcome.

OCA will report back on any further action on this matter.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling, President

cc: OCA Board of Directors Jack Chaffe
Don Hargrave Jairus Maus
Sean McGivern Curtis Calhoun
Murray Brodhagen Craig McLaughlin
David Campbell Scot Legge
Doug Laidlaw David McGonegal



December 10, 2013

Cory Van Groningen
 President, Haldimand Cattlemen's Association
 378 Concession 7 Road
 Cayuga, ON N0A 1E0

Dear Cory,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors recently reviewed the following resolution from Haldimand County:

WHEREAS *hay and forage is an important crop for Ontario Cattlemen, and*
WHEREAS *there are more perils than rainfall to a hay and forage crop,*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *develop recommendations and vigorously pursue Agricorp and other stakeholders to insist upon development of a proper insurance program for Ontario hay and forage crops.*

The Beef Farmers of Ontario would like to thank Haldimand County Cattlemen's for bringing this resolution forward. The Ontario Forage Insurance Rainfall program has long been criticized for its inability to adequately protect forage producers against the many weather related perils that impact forage production. The drought that occurred in Ontario in 2012 revealed many of the shortfalls associated with the current program and provided a clear signal to government that revisions were needed. As a result, the Honourable Ted McMeekin, then Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs initiated a review of the Ontario forage rainfall program in 2012 with the creation of the Forage Rainfall Advisory Committee, for which BFO has representation.

Based on the advice and input of this Advisory Committee, Ontario forage producers can expect a number of enhancements to be included in the 2014 forage rainfall program.

Enhancements for the 2014 program year include:

- An increase in the rainfall to yield correlation from 1:1 to 1:1.5. This change will better reflect the relationship between the amount of rain received and the estimated forage growth used in calculating claims;
- The addition of a minimum daily threshold of 1mm to recognize losses due to evaporation (any daily rainfall less than 1mm will be omitted);
- A higher claim trigger. Claims will now be triggered at 85% of historical rainfall as compared to 80% currently;
- The addition of a price index to reflect higher replacement costs when supply is short;
- An increase in forage values for hay and pasture.

... /2



Enhancements for the 2015 program year include:

- The ability to select multiple rainfall stations. Producers will be able to split their coverage between multiple rainfall stations (up to three).

In addition to these changes the Forage Rainfall Advisory Committee will continue to evaluate enhancement options with Agricorp and OMAF to ensure better coverage and greater risk protection is provided to Ontario forage producers. The full list of recommendations made by BFO to Agricorp can be found on our website under Policy and Issues.

Part of the Committee's ongoing discussions will involve further investigation of a yield-based forage insurance program similar to what is offered under crop insurance. In order to determine the feasibility and optimum model for measuring yield, Agricorp has committed to implementing a yield collection trial in 2014 that will utilize volunteers of all forage end users across the province. I would encourage any producer interested in participating in this forage trial to contact Richard Horne at the BFO office.

An effective forage insurance program that will protect producers against the many risks associated with forage and pasture production is certainly needed and is something we will continue to pursue. However, the pursuit of a truly effective program that can address these needs is a large and complex task, and one that will take time. BFO will continue to pursue alternative forage insurance models and further enhancements to the current forage insurance program with Agricorp and OMAF and will update you on any progress made in this regard.

You can expect more detailed information on the 2014 program revisions to be made available in early January.

I hope this summary provides an adequate description of the measures being taken to address your request.

Yours truly,



Dan Darling
President

cc: BFO Board of Directors
Brent Everets
Glynn Waterton
Sean McGivern
Don Hargrave
Darrell Saunders





January 27, 2014

Brad Noyes
 President, Temiskaming Cattlemen's Association
 RR 1, 162104 Wool Mill Road
 Belle Vallee, ON P0J 1A0

Dear Brad,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors recently reviewed the following resolution from the District of Temiskaming:

WHEREAS *the New Liskeard Agricultural Research Station provides valuable information on cow-calf and forage production in the province of Ontario, and*
WHEREAS *the northern region of the province is very well suited for beef cow production,*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *consider supporting the efforts of the local committee to ensure the continuation of the livestock research at the New Liskeard Agricultural Research Station and the Emo Agricultural Research Station.*

BFO has had a long standing commitment to the New Liskeard Agricultural Research Station (NLARS) and to the other research stations that operate in northern Ontario. We are, however, deeply concerned by the growing trend exhibited by both levels of government to consolidate research facilities and cut agricultural R&D spending. The loss of the Kapuskasing facility was disconcerting and our industry simply cannot afford to lose another facility in the north, particularly as BFO embarks on an aggressive, multi-ministry strategy for agricultural expansion in the area.

Over the past 12 months a number of meetings between BFO and key decision makers from Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF), the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) and the University of Guelph have occurred to discuss beef research and the intellectual and institutional capacity needs for Ontario. New Liskeard has often been a focal point of these meetings. A subsequent meeting between these groups has been set for February to discuss the northern expansion project and the need for viable facilities in the north to ensure the expansion project, and the broader development goals, are successful. Moving forward, NLARS could act as a key hub for beef research and development efforts providing an important information and demonstration site that could be used to drive the beef expansion strategy for Northern Ontario. BFO has and will continue to support this message.

Part of BFO's strategy to support the efforts of the local committee has been to help secure beef research projects at the facility. We are pleased to confirm that four separate research projects to be conducted at NLARS have been approved for funding in 2014. These projects vary in length from 1-3 years and will help ensure the facility remains active for the short-term. We will continue to promote the use of this facility to drive research investment at NLARS in our future calls for research projects.



Our efforts to assist the local committee also included a summer tour of the area where senior BFO Directors and our Executive Director, Dave Stewart, had the opportunity to meet with members of the committee to discuss the future of northern beef production and the NLARS facility. We will continue to support the activities of the local committee to the best of our ability with the resources we have at our disposal.

The Beef Farmers of Ontario would like to thank the district of Temiskaming for bringing this resolution forward. Industry development in northern Ontario has been identified as a priority by our Board of Directors. We hope to be able to report more on our efforts to expand the beef industry in northern Ontario in the coming years.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President

Cc: Kerry Walton
Ron Bonnett
Greg Seed
Bill Groenheide
Ken Macleod
Cleve O'Malley
BFO Board of Directors





October 22, 2013

David McGonegal
 President, Renfrew County Cattlemen's Association
 RR 2, 3262 Beachburg Rd.
 Pembroke, ON K9A 6W3

Dear David,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors has reviewed the following resolution from Renfrew County, passed at the AGM in February of this year:

WHEREAS *the Bobolink and the Eastern Meadowlark have been added to Ontario's species at risk list, and*
WHEREAS *a temporary exemption came into effect on June 3, 2011 that allows agricultural activities where Bobolinks and Eastern Meadowlarks habitat to continue during a three year transition period, and*
WHEREAS *during the time study of both short and long term approaches of Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark protection on the agricultural landscape will be reviewed, and*
WHEREAS *the Bobolinks' and Eastern Meadowlarks' main habitat is largely fencerows, pasturelands and with the highest densities occurring in larger, inter-connected hayfields and natural grasslands, and*
WHEREAS *thousands and thousands of acres across parts of Ontario have been taken out of open grasslands, fencerows removed and converted to intensive growth of cash crops; thus completely discouraging the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark in those specific area. This appears to be the real reason why the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark are now an endangered species, and*
WHEREAS *one MNR representative has been quoted, "Most of the endangered species are found in south western Ontario. (this are of intensive agriculture and cash cropping), and*
WHEREAS *family farms who are good conservationists and continue to provide a landscape for the habitat and feed of the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark should not be punished by restricting certain farm practices when intensive agricultural practices are allowed to continue in area of Ontario*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *campaign to address the lack of compensation offered to farmers when wildlife refuges (for certain birds, animals) is required on agricultural lands.*

BFO staff met with representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in July to discuss the Endangered Species Act and its impact on beef producers. Included in our discussion were many of the same issues and concerns referenced in your resolution. In addition, and in response to the bobolink and eastern meadowlark listing on the species at risk list, the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark Round Table Advisory Group was formed. BFO Director, Gerald Rollins, has been a member of the Advisory Group since its inception.

We are extremely pleased with the progress that the Advisory Group has made and we are happy to report that we fully expect a permanent solution that will enable a long term exemption for agriculture to be announced soon. As referenced in your resolution, a three year temporary exemption was




granted to farmers for “*normal farm practices*” in 2011. We anticipate a formal announcement for a long term agricultural exemption tied with a voluntary stewardship incentive program to be announced soon. We believe this approach will provide the flexibility and support needed to allow farmers to assist with the protection and recovery of bobolink, eastern meadowlark and other species of conservation concern on a voluntary basis without jeopardizing the normal farming practices of those who choose not to participate.

The Advisory Group is also currently involved in the development of a novel benefits exchange program. The program will help connect farmers interested in protecting habitat to developers looking to offset detrimental development activities. This type of arrangement presents a significant and growing revenue generating opportunity for producers who choose to take advantage.

It is our hope that our activities to date demonstrate our commitment to addressing your concerns and the concerns of our membership.

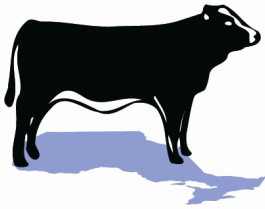
Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and the last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President

cc: BFO Board of Directors
Craig McLaughlin
Tim Tabbert





May 21, 2013

13-05

Laurie Nicol, Executive Director
Ontario Independent Meat Processors
7660 Mill Road, RR 4
Guelph, ON N1H 6J1

Dear Laurie:

The following resolution was brought to the floor and passed at the Ontario Cattlemen's Association's annual general meeting in February of this year:

13-05 ABATTOIR UPGRADES

WHEREAS the local food movement in Ontario expresses a desire to buy produce (beef) from local suppliers, and

WHEREAS this demand for local produce (beef) continues to grow every year and plays an important role in the distribution of quality safe food (beef), and

WHEREAS local processing plants (abattoirs) are experiencing difficulty and frustration with both new regulations and increased high operating costs to meet those regulations, and

FINALLY WHEREAS to address the growth of the local food movement in Ontario, it is necessary to have fully licensed processing plants (abattoirs) in rural areas, in proximity to local livestock producers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA work towards insuring that the local established processing plants and new processing plants (abattoirs) be given sufficient Government financial assistance and encouragement to upgrade their established facilities and/or establish new ones where needed.

As this is an issue facing provincial abattoirs, we are referring it to your organization for an appropriate response. Please keep me advised of any progress on this matter and feel free to contact the OCA office if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling, OCA President



October 22, 2013

Brad Noyes, President
 Temiskaming County Cattlemen's Association
 RR1, 162104 Wool Mill Road
 Belle Vallee, ON POJ 1A0

Dear Brad,

Re: Feeder Finance Administration

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors has reviewed the following resolution from the Temiskaming County Cattlemen's Association, passed at the OCA AGM in February of this year:

WHEREAS *the Feeder Finance Program in Ontario is a valuable component of the cattle industry in the province, and*

WHEREAS *the cost of the annual audit has risen by 32% from 2009-2011 and is the second largest expense behind labour for most Cooperatives, and*

WHEREAS *annual audits are not required for Feeder Finance Cooperatives in other jurisdictions*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *consider working with the Feeder Finance Committee, along with OMAFRA, to investigate methods of streamlining and reducing the administrative burden of the Feeder Finance Clubs.*

BFO staff met with the executive director of the Ontario Co-Operative Association (ON Co-op) to discuss how audit fees are an unnecessarily costly burden for smaller Feeder Finance Co-operatives. This is an issue facing some other types of co-operative associations, but it does not affect a significant portion. It is unlikely that the government has an interest in reducing oversight in an area that does not affect the majority of co-operative associations.

I am pleased to inform you that BFO and OMAF staff met several times to discuss possible ways of improving the Feeder Finance Program. On July 22, 2013 BFO (*formerly OCA*) made a formal request to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to open the Order in Council regarding the Ontario Feeder Cattle Loan Guarantee Program.

The two primary reasons for our request to open and amend the Order in Council 1314/2011 (OIC) are to provide for the inclusion of the Ontario Breeder Finance Co-operatives under the Ontario government guarantee and to allow for an increase of the maximum loan limits for Feeder Finance Co-operatives from \$250,000 to \$500,000 for existing members and from \$50,000 to \$100,000 for new members. As well, while the OIC is open for amendment, we proposed a few other changes which we believe will obviate the need to revisit the OIC for some time.



We know this model of self-governing co-operatives works for farmers and we look forward to reporting back to you with good news from the provincial government regarding this request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and the last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President





May 3rd, 2013

13-07

Charlie Sytsma, President
Grenville Cattlemen's Association
127 Eighth Line Road, RR 3
Athens, ON KOE 1B0

Dear Charlie:

The following resolution was brought to the floor and passed at the Ontario Cattlemen's Association's annual general meeting in February of this year:

The Relaxing Cable Restraint Pilot Project in Leeds and Grenville began in the spring of 2012 is scheduled to continue for one year. The goal of the project is to assess the effectiveness of using relaxing cable restraints to capture coyotes involved in livestock predation and the impact the device may have on other species and domestic pets. The project involves setting relaxing cables restraints on travel corridors on farms that have experienced livestock predation.

WHEREAS the research must be done before this viable tool can be legalized for use in Ontario, this tool has been proven to be the most effective tool in catching problem predators in other jurisdictions, and **WHEREAS** the Relaxing Cable Restraint will be beneficial for all cattle producers with problem predators **THEREFORE BEIT RESOLVED THAT OCA** support this project monetarily up to \$5,000.

This resolution was discussed at the April 2013 meeting of the OCA Board of Directors. The Board is pleased to offer up to \$2000 for the completion of this project, pending a project progress report that includes:

- a brief summary of the project to date
- what work remains
- planned project end date
- how OCA money will be used to complete this project

We trust that this reply to the above resolution indicates OCA's commitment to following the direction provided by our grassroots membership at the AGM and demonstrates that we are dedicated to science-based research that benefits the broader Ontario cattle industry.

Feel free to contact the OCA office if you have any questions regarding the comments in this letter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail on the "g".

Dan Darling, OCA President



October 22, 2013

Rose Stewart
 President, Dundas County Cattlemen's Association
 RR1, 13033 County Road 13
 Winchester, ON K0C 2K0

Dear Rose,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors has reviewed the following resolution from Dundas County, passed at the AGM in February of this year:

WHEREAS *leadership development is important for the future of the agriculture industry, and*
WHEREAS *OCA ran a very successful and well accepted leadership program for the development of future OCA and Ontario beef farmer leaders,*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *continue to develop and implement an ongoing leadership program for Ontario beef farmers.*

We are pleased to inform you that a decision was made at the August BFO Board of Directors meeting to support the development and implementation of a BUILD leadership development program to be offered to producers in 2014. A Leadership Advisory Committee comprised of BFO board and staff has begun preliminary discussions on the program roll-out and communications strategy.

The future of the agricultural business relies heavily upon the strong leadership abilities of those within the industry. We are extremely excited to be able to offer this program again in 2014. The Board's commitment to the development of young leaders will ensure that participants of this program gain the skills, confidence, and expertise needed to foster innovative and creative thinking within and beyond BFO, for years to come.

To help ensure the continued success of the leadership program we challenge all county associations to encourage and promote participation of the program within their local communities. Be on the lookout for more information on the roll-out of the BUILD leadership development program in early 2014.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling
 President

cc: BFO Board of Directors Jim Shaw Henry VandenBroek





January 27, 2014

Mike Swidersky
 President, Dufferin Cattlemen's Association
 RR 5, 681317 260 Sideroad
 Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0

Dear Mike,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors recently reviewed the following resolution from Dufferin County:

WHEREAS *the Ontario Cattlemen's Association performs a vital role in representing Ontario Beef Producers and their industry partners, and*

WHEREAS *the herd size in Ontario has decreased, and*

WHEREAS *the funding for the Ontario Cattlemen's Association is heavily dependent on the number of Cattle in the Province*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *examine their current revenue structure and assessment levels in order to ensure adequate funding of Association's future activities.*

The Beef Farmers of Ontario would like to thank Dufferin County Cattlemen for bringing this resolution forward. The current and future financial stability of the Association is something the Board of Directors carefully examines on a frequent basis. With the decrease in herd size and the increase in operating expenses BFO's ability to maintain services at their current levels will become more challenging.

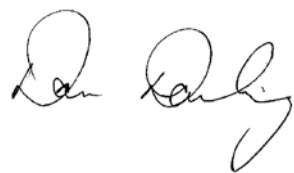
In order to address rising costs and declining income while maintaining BFO's core services, and enhanced support for the Ontario Corn Fed Beef and Sharecost programs, the BFO Board is seeking an increase to the mandatory checkoff by \$1.00. Notice of this proposed change appeared in the publication ad for the 2014 Annual General Meeting and was presented at the county AGM's in January. In order for this change to occur two-thirds of the voting delegates at the AGM must vote in favour of the \$1.00 increase. The provincial government must also approve any change to the license fee structure under the Beef Cattle Marketing Act (BCMA).

BFO strongly believes that a \$1.00 increase to the mandatory checkoff will ensure a stable amount of funding for the Association's activities for the foreseeable future. The last checkoff increase occurred in January of 2008 when the levy was raised from \$2.25 to \$3.00.

I hope this update provides an adequate response to your concerns. BFO will continue to strive to provide the best value for your check-off dollars with our existing resource base.

Yours truly,

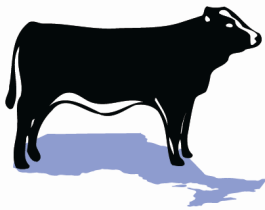


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and the last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President

Cc: Barry Pletch
Jim Partridge
John Stirk
BFO Board of Directors





September 6, 2013

Doug Laidlaw, President
Perth County Beef Farmers Association
RR1, 6558 Line 78
Atwood, ON N0G 1B0

Dear Doug,

The following resolution, initiated by Perth County, was brought to the floor and passed at OCA's annual meeting in February of this year:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *work with other livestock groups to change the legislation so the power cannot be abused by SPCAs.*

OCA supports and has representation on the recently created Agricultural and Animal Welfare Task Team formed to improve the way farm animal welfare calls are handled in Ontario and to improve relationships between farm animal agriculture industries, government and the OSPCA. The Chief Veterinarian for Ontario, Dr. Greg Douglas, chairs the committee and also includes representation from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Dairy Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Pork, the Chicken Farmers of Ontario, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Ontario SPCA, the Ontario Veal Association, the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency, and Farm and Food Care Ontario.

In addition, a small committee of OCA Directors and Staff has been formed to review the OSPCA Act and provide recommendations on how best to address the concerns raised by industry. A copy of these recommendations will be distributed once they are approved by our Board of Directors. These recommendations will also provide background for future discussions with government on the best way to address animal care calls on Ontario beef farms.

We are also pleased to inform you that the OCA and the OSPCA have recently come to terms on a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will help facilitate the flow of information between OCA and OSPCA regarding beef cattle care complaints against, and inspections on, Ontario beef farms. The MOA will also enable a process to be established whereby joint OCA-OSPCA inspections are possible. The broader intent of the MOA is to foster a positive working relationship between the OSPCA and OCA.

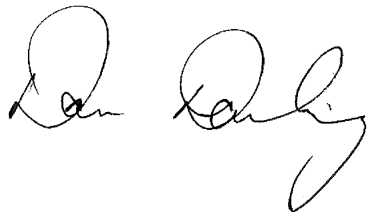
Specifically, the MOA will:

- **Enable the OSPCA to report the nature and outcome of calls involving cattle operations to OCA.** *Currently, OCA does not receive information regarding OSPCA inspections or visits to Ontario beef farms. Reporting requirements are a positive step forward.*

- **Enable the OSPCA to work with OCA to reduce tension of inspections by having qualified industry peers attend inspections at cattle farms.** *OCA intends to utilize our trained Helpline representatives to assist the OSPCA during on-farm inspections and to provide support and advice to the producer as needed.*
- **Will help provide education and awareness of the Beef Code of Practice to farmers and OSPCA inspectors.** *OCA's Helpline representatives will provide insight and clarity on what is and what is not acceptable industry practice. In addition, bi-annual joint OSPCA-Helpline training sessions will help foster a new era of understanding and knowledge sharing between the two organizations.*

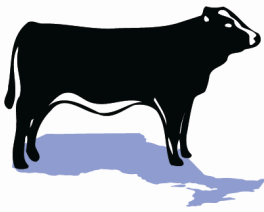
It is our hope that our activities to date demonstrate our commitment to addressing your concerns and the concerns of our membership. While this process is ongoing, we are committed to finding workable solutions for the beef industry and will continue to advocate for our members' rights.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail on the "g".

Dan Darling
President

Cc: OCA Board of Directors
Murray Brodhagen
Linda Brodhagen
Joe Daunt



13-12

September 6, 2013

Doug Laidlaw, President
Perth County Beef Farmers Association
RR1, 6558 Line 78
Atwood, ON N0G 1B0

Dear Doug,

The following resolution, initiated by Perth County, was brought to the floor and passed at OCA's annual meeting in February of this year:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *provide substantial assistance to individual livestock producers facing legal charges by the OSPCA.*

OCA generally refrains from intervening or financially supporting individuals or corporations involved in legal disputes. However, you may be interested to know that the OCA and the OSPCA have recently come to terms on a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will help facilitate the flow of information between OCA and OSPCA regarding beef cattle care complaints against, and inspections on, Ontario beef farms.

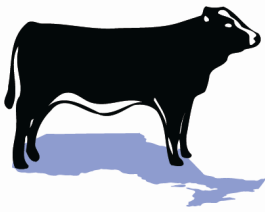
The MOA will also enable a process to be established whereby joint OCA-OSPCA inspections are possible which will hopefully reduce tensions during visits by the OSPCA by having qualified beef industry peers present during inspections and in the event charges are laid. Trained OCA helpline representatives will provide support, advice and other assistance to the best of their abilities as needed during animal care cases involving beef cattle.

I trust this update provides sufficient evidence that your resolution is being acted upon.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling
President

Cc: OCA Board of Directors
Murray Brodhagen
Joe Daunt
Francis Weitzel



July 20, 2013

13-13

Earl Briggs, President
Simcoe Cattlemen's Association
1602 Old Barrie Road E
Hawkestone, ON L0L 1T0

Dear Earl:

The following resolution was brought to the floor and passed at the Ontario Cattlemen's Association's (OCA) annual general meeting in February of this year:

13-13 COYOTE CULL

Simcoe

Moved by: Darrell Hill

Seconded by: Jim Roberts

BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA lobby the Ontario Government, the M.N.R., and OMAFRA to allow a limited "paid for hunt" cull program for coyotes in regards to their predation and resulting livestock kills in Ontario.

The Ministry of Natural Resources will not consider a "paid for hunt" coyote cull program.

In Ontario coyotes are open for hunting year-round south of the French River and the season is September 15th to March 31st north of the French River. The only exception is counties bordering on Algonquin Provincial Park, where it is illegal to kill any coyotes or wolves. The requirements are that the hunter must have a gun license, a small game license and the permission of the property owner. There is no limit on how many coyotes a hunter meeting these criteria can kill.

Further, the Ministry of Natural Resources allows producers to kill coyotes and other small game such as raccoons at any time of the year if their livelihood or property is threatened, provided the producer has a gun license.

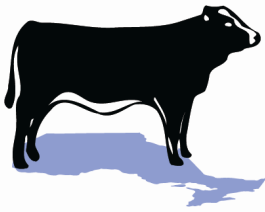
OCA recommends producers invite experienced hunters onto their property if their farming operation is experiencing increased predation due to coyotes.

Feel free to contact the Ministry of Natural Resources or the OCA office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling, President

cc: Doug Shelswell, AC Simcoe
Darrell Hill, mover
Jim Roberts, seconder



July 20, 2013

Kevin Bovey
President, Frontenac County Cattlemen's Association
RR#1, 3328 Latimer Road
Elginburg, ON KOH 1M0

Dear Kevin,

The following resolution was brought to the floor and passed at OCA's annual meeting in February of this year:

13-14 COOKING INSTRUCTIONS

WHEREAS the recall of beef because of e-coli contamination paints a negative image of the total beef industry, and **WHEREAS** the process of mechanical tenderization of specific cuts of beef increases the risk of e-coli contamination **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA** lobby CFIA and the Retail Council of Canada to include cooking instructions on the labels of tenderized meat products that better educate the consumers of beef.

I am pleased to inform you that on May 17th, Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, along with representatives from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada, announced that all Federally-inspected plants will have to label mechanically tenderized meat products and include cooking instructions. The new labelling requirement should be in place before the end of summer.

OCA is pleased to support this labelling initiative. If you have any further questions regarding the new labelling requirements, please contact me or any of the staff at the OCA office.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling
President

cc: *Jeff Peters*
Dave Perry



October 22, 2013

Bill Groenheide, President
 Thunder Bay County Cattlemen's Association
 Box 429, 1789 Highway 595
 South Gilles, ON P0T 2V0

Dear Bill,

Re: Consumer Education in Schools

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors has reviewed the following resolution from Thunder Bay County Cattlemen's Association, passed at the AGM in February of this year:

WHEREAS educating students on modern agriculture has far reaching benefits, and
WHEREAS the Dairy Farmers of Ontario run a successful milk education program in elementary schools across Ontario, and
WHEREAS there is opportunity to collaborate and combine resources with DFO to include a beef education component to this program,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA approach the Dairy Farmers of Ontario to develop a joint Dairy-Beef Education program to promote health and nutrition and increase agricultural awareness in our schools based on the successful DFO model.

BFO and the staff of Dairy Farmers of Ontario (DFO) met to discuss this resolution and to investigate opportunities for collaboration with the successful Dairy Farmers of Ontario model. Their model consists of 45-minute interactive lessons that are designed specifically for the Kindergarten to grade 6 curriculums. The Dairy Farmers of Ontario offer this program, presented by an Ontario Dairy Educator, free of charge to schools. DFO has a large investment in their program that BFO cannot match.

However, we are in the process of updating BFO's current educational materials with the new organizational name and logo. We understand the value and importance of having current and relevant resources for educational purposes and we will be looking to expand and update our resources in the near future. If there are specific materials that the Thunder Bay County Cattlemen's Association would like for communicating the nutritional benefits of beef and awareness of beef practices, we would welcome your feedback.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling
 President

cc: BFO Board of Directors Jason Reid Holly Tuck





January 27, 2014

Bob Bennett
 President, Huron County Beef Producers
 RR 1, 89833 McIntosh Line
 Gorrie, ON NOG 1X0

Dear Bob,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors recently reviewed the following resolution from Huron County:

WHEREAS *applying missing CCIA tags is dangerous and can cause unnecessary carcass bruising just prior to slaughter, and since most farm chutes are designed for lighter and younger animals, and*
WHEREAS *on direct to packers sales of cattle, carcasses maintain their identification to the point of grading, and*
WHEREAS *individual PIN's are or will be assigned to all cattle farms,*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT *on direct to packer sales, OCA and CCA work with CCIA to lobby to investigate the feasibility of CCIA producer PIN's on shipping manifests as an alternative to applying missing RFID tags to cattle.*

BFO would like to thank the Huron County Beef Producers for submitting this resolution. The issues that come with tagging animals with missing RFID tags at processing facilities is a problem of which we are well aware and is something we are actively seeking to resolve.

The recommendation to include producer Personal Identification Numbers (PIN's) on shipping manifests as an alternative to applying missing RFID tags to cattle is one we have put forward multiple times. As an alternative to producer PIN's, BFO also recommended investigating a method of sealing trucks shipping direct to packer. Neither this suggestion nor the producer PIN recommendation gained traction with CFIA. This past November BFO representatives met with CFIA to discuss these recommendations and other issues relevant to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). This issue was also discussed by BFO representatives with our counterparts at the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) and the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA). As federal traceability regulations are developed there will be further opportunity for each of these groups to publicly direct attention to this issue.

On a positive note, CFIA did clarify that in the event that an approved RFID tag is lost or falls off en route to an abattoir the producer should not be fined or forced to retag the animal so long as there is proof that the animal was properly tagged prior to arrival at the abattoir, and the abattoir records sufficient information for the animal to be traced if the need were to arise. In addition, the animal does not need an approved tag in the rare occasion when tagging an animal is dangerous and there is a risk of injury or

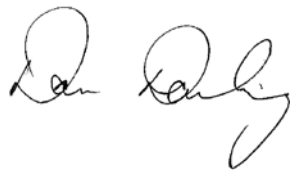


death to either the person doing the tagging or to the animal. For example, a bull may be too wild to tag.

CFIA inspectors make assessments based on their discretion to determine when an animal is too dangerous to safely apply a tag and when there is clear evidence (a hole in the ear) that the animal was properly tagged prior to transport. With either situation it is clear that these rules are not being applied in a consistent or uniform manner by CFIA inspectors. We are pleased, therefore, to report that CFIA has committed to incorporate the issue of tagging, safety with retagging and lost tags in future training sessions with CFIA inspections, both new and old.

BFO will continue to pursue this issue and will update you on any progress in this regard.

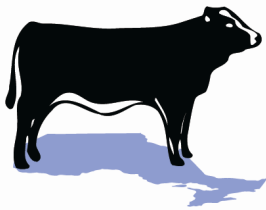
Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and the last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President

Cc: Matt Shortreed
BFO Board of Directors





May 21, 2013

John Buis, President
Kent Cattlemen's Association
7796 Seventh Line East
Chatham, ON N7M 5J6

Dear John:

The following resolution was brought to the floor and passed at the Ontario Cattlemen's Association's annual general meeting in February of this year:

13-17 TIRE DISPOSAL FEES

WHEREAS Ontario tire stewardship (OTS) is planning to increase the tire disposal fees on large tires April 1, 2013, and

WHEREAS tractor tires will be increased by \$180 each and combine tires will be an additional \$300 each, and

WHEREAS this is a significant increase in tire costs to all farmers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA, along with general farm organizations, work toward having this proposed increase minimized.

I am pleased to inform you that as of April 1st, 2013, class 6 and 7 agricultural tires (70-250kg) carry a \$47.04 stewardship fee per tire, while class 8 or higher agricultural tires (over 250 kg) command a \$182.28 stewardship fee per tire.

This is considerably less than the sharp increases that were first proposed thanks to the lobbying efforts of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. OFA worked with Ontario Tire Stewardship to create a reasonable and realistic reclassification for agricultural tires weighing less than 250kg.

Feel free to contact the OCA office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Yours truly,

Dan Darling, OCA President



October 22, 2013

Evan Debney
 President, Kenora Cattlemen's Association
 PO Box 146, 20499 Hwy 17
 Oxdrift, ON POV 2J0

Dear Evan,

Re: Forage Research

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors has reviewed the following resolution from Kenora, passed at the AGM in February of this year:

WHEREAS *there is limited forage research being done in Ontario, and*
WHEREAS *one additional grazing day is approximately \$3.3 million in feed savings, and*
WHEREAS *forages are the basis of beef industry rations, and*
WHEREAS *Canadian research in forages has been identified as a priority by CCA and CFGA (Canadian Forage and Grasslands Association),*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *support forage research and lobby other organizations to support and promote forage research.*

At the BFO Research Committee meeting in April *Forage Research* was added to the list of research priorities as a subsection of the *Production Efficiency* theme. The need for greater focus on forage breeding and management research to improve forage productivity was also identified as a priority area at the inaugural Beef Research Priority Planning session held in June and hosted by the Livestock Research and Innovation Corporation (LRIC). The results from this session will form the Ontario Beef Research Investment Strategy 2013-2018 and will guide Ontario beef research investment for the next five years.

In addition, BFO recently committed \$45,000 over three years to a new forage research project led by Dr. Carole Lafreniere and Dr. Yousef Papadopoulos that will evaluate performance of new grass-legume mixtures and their associated impact on beef cattle performance. This project is being conducted at the New Liskeard Agricultural Research Station and will soon complement a second forage project recently approved by the BFO Board. The project, led by Dr. Ira Mandell, will examine supplementation strategies to improve the utilization of forages in beef cattle production. BFO has committed \$114,914 over two years in support of this project.

We will continue to support forage research to the best of our ability through the BFO Beef Research Program and through programs like Growing Forward 2 to address priority outcomes identified by our



members. Furthermore, we will continue to promote forage research through our membership and involvement with the Ontario Forage Council.

I hope this summary provides an adequate description of the measures being taken to address your request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and the last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President

cc: BFO Board of Directors
Roger Griffiths
Paul Brown





January 27, 2014

Gavin Valentine
 President, York County Cattlemen's Association
 2730 Vandorf Side Road
 Gormley, ON L0H 1G0

Dear Gavin,

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) Board of Directors recently reviewed the following resolution from York County:

WHEREAS *Canada and the United States have two different inspection standards, and*
WHEREAS *this causes the Canadian beef Industry added expense and inconvenience because of SRM handling differences*
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA *lobby the CCA to have this matter resolved and the Inspection System harmonized to the benefit of both parties*

The Beef Farmers of Ontario would like to thank the York County Cattlemen's Association for submitting this resolution. The push for a harmonized inspection standard between the United States and Canada is one of BFO's top federal lobby priorities. The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) has also supported the push for harmonized standards for several years.

At the spring meeting of the National Beef Value Chain Roundtable (BVCRT), BFO raised the inspection harmonization issue. The following is an excerpt obtained from the February BVCRT meeting minutes: *Enhanced Feed ban (EFB) Review - CFIA provided an update on the development of the EFB 2012 Review. This review will help inform the development of the BSE Roadmap. Since October 2012, a multi-stakeholder working group has been created, and the CFIA has drafted the terms of reference for this Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. This committee will provide strategic direction as well as recommendations to CFIA about potential program efficiencies and changes to the related programs, policies, regulations; including possible harmonization with the US SRM regulations.*

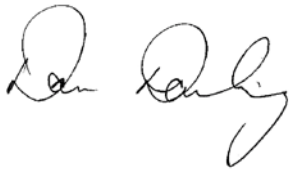
In addition, the joint government-industry EFB Working Group, co-chaired by CFIA and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), have been tasked with finding ways to reduce the costs associated with SRM removal including: assessing technologies available to remove specific components from slaughtered animals; making regulatory amendments to enable differences between the list of SRM to be removed from food and from animal feed; permitting wider use of composted SRM and SRM use in fertilizers; and exploring options such as destruction technologies to generate less waste. At the fall 2013 BVCRT meeting CFIA presented its preliminary report on the review of the EFB and of SRM removal policies but did not provide specific recommendations. It is our understanding that the full report and recommendations will be released publicly in 2014.



The SRM cost implications are clear and the disadvantage to the Canadian beef industry is obvious. Regrettably, until Canada's BSE status is elevated from "Controlled Risk" to "Negligible Risk" equivalent to the United States little evidence exists from our conversations federally that the government has any political will to move away from the current SRM removal requirements. Canada could be approved for Negligible Risk status as early as spring of 2016 based on the measures we have in place and through surveillance that demonstrates those measures are effective. We are optimistic that the disparity between SRM policies in Canada and the United States will be reduced if not eliminated should Canada be approved for Negligible Risk status. This in itself does not guarantee any movement.

I hope this summary provides an adequate description of the measures being taken to address the gap between SRM policies in the United States and Canada. BFO will continue to raise this issue with our counterparts at the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA), at the National Beef Value Chain Roundtable (BVCRT) and with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "Darling" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Darling
President

Cc: Arthur Schickedanz
Don Taber
Ted Taber
BFO Board of Directors

