

Dear Mr. MacPherson,

Please see Mr. Anderson's responses to SSGA's 2017 Semi Annual meeting Resolutions below.

Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association 2017 Semi Annual Meeting Resolutions 1

Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
Serving the Saskatchewan Cattle Industry Since 1913
2017 SEMI ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday January 25, 2017
Queensbury Convention Centre
Regina, Saskatchewan

Resolution #1

WHEREAS the internet is an essential tool for cattle producers for buying, selling, marketing, age verifying, recording, registering cattle, and more; and

WHEREAS access to high speed internet in rural locations across Saskatchewan is substandard and inconsistent.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to develop a long-term, effective solution to provide reliable high speed internet service to rural areas.

Carried

As government we provided funding for this and we understand its importance to rural families and producers.

Resolution #2

WHEREAS it is becoming increasingly more difficult for young families who wish to acquire ranching properties in Saskatchewan; and

WHEREAS the economic atmosphere has undergone some major changes in the last four to five decades making it onerous for young aspiring ranch families to acquire capital; and

WHEREAS a joint venture is a financial vehicle which could somewhat level the playing field. Joint ventures are an agreement by which two or more parties share the risk of transition or rollover of property and assets. Both Buyer and Seller assume some degree of risk going forward with such an agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA encourage the Government of SK to investigate and pursue the use of binding, legal, transparent Joint Ventures as a tool in the transfer of land and livestock assets from seller to buyer.

Carried Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association 2017 Semi Annual Meeting Resolutions 2

We believe that there should be a wide variety of options available to beginning farmers in order to give them tools that will work for their situation as they enter farming or ranching. Land transfers and the importance of young farmers in the vitality of our agricultural industry were studied at committee as part of the Next Agriculture Policy Framework.

We believe that there should be a wide variety of options available to beginning farmers in order to give them tools that will work for their situation as they enter farming or ranching.

Resolution #3

WHEREAS Canadian grasslands and agricultural lands are a significant carbon sink; and

WHEREAS the Government of Canada is planning to implement a national carbon tax.

BE IT RESOLVED that SSGA lobby the Government of Canada to recognize the carbon sequestration capability of grasslands and agricultural lands and fairly compensate landowners for these benefits and farming practices.

Carried

The carbon sequestration capability of grasslands and agricultural lands should be recognized by the Liberal government. We will continue to advocate for the fair compensation of landowners.

Resolution #4

WHEREAS the implementation of a national carbon tax will increase production costs and put the Canadian Beef industry at competitive disadvantage to other beef exporting nations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the Government of Canada to reverse its decision to implement a price on carbon by 2018 until adequate research and consultation have been completed.

Carried

We will continue to work to support producers like the Canadian Beef industry by opposing the Liberal's price on carbon.

Resolution #5

WHEREAS soil organic carbon is a precursor of soil productivity in both annual cropland and grasslands.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby both the federal and provincial governments to conduct research into methods of increasing soil organic carbon.

Carried

Innovation and the environment are priority areas of the new Agricultural Policy Framework.

Resolution #6

WHEREAS each and every agricultural production unit has its own unique set of circumstances and constraints and every agricultural decision maker needs to be free to make decisions based on his/her unique circumstances without outside coercion.

BE IT RESOLVED that SSGA, as a representative of cattle producers, engage the federal and provincial governments to keep cross compliance to minimum to reduce the risk of unduly influencing producers management decisions.

Carried

Saskatchewan will make this decision. We recommend that SSGA lobby the provincial government.

Resolution #7

WHEREAS invasive weeds are difficult to control and cause added expense and labour to farms and ranches.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the Government of SK to provide adequate funding to all transitioned former PFRA pastures to implement weed management plans to limit the further spread of invasive weeds.

Carried Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association 2017 Semi Annual Meeting Resolutions 3

Resolution #8

WHEREAS AgriStability coverage levels and margins were reduced under Growing Forward 2; and

WHEREAS producer participation has been decreasing due to reduced coverage levels.

BE IT RESOLVED that SSGA lobby the Governments of SK and Canada to restore AgriStability coverage levels and margins to previous levels for the Next Policy Framework.

Carried

The Liberal government is responsible for putting the new Agricultural Policy Framework program together. We have urged them to review the components including AgriStability so that they work for producers.

Office of David Anderson
Member of Parliament for Cypress Hills – Grasslands
Opposition Critic for Agriculture and Agri-Food
and International Human Rights and Religious
Freedom

Room 618 Justice Building, House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Office | Bureau: (613) 992-9313 Fascimile | Télécopieur: (613) 992-5508
E-mail | Courriel: david.anderson.a4@parl.gc.ca