



Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
Serving the Saskatchewan Cattle Industry Since 1913

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday June 10, 2014
Convention Centre
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

Resolution #1

WHEREAS the *Provincial Lands Act* is going to be updated.

BE IT RESOLVED that SSGA lobby the provincial government to recognize the value within provincial government crown grazing leases and provide ability for producers and lenders to utilize this value for security purposes.

Carried

Resolution #2

WHEREAS the federal government has issued an emergency order and recovery plan to save the Greater Sage Grouse; and

WHEREAS the ranching community is bearing the brunt of the cost and labour of implementation; and

WHEREAS there has been little or no consultation directly with ranchers; and

WHEREAS there is no method addressing West Nile Virus or predators or other causes of decline.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the Federal Minister of Environment to delay the emergency order until there has been meaningful consultation with the ranching community.

Carried

Resolution #3

WHEREAS our government has moved to protect the Greater Sage Grouse; and

WHEREAS their policies will cause undue financial stress on ranchers.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the Government of Canada to fairly compensate producers for their financial hardship.

Carried

Resolution #4

WHEREAS the provincial government has given hunters the right to access the former PFRA lands without permission after November 1st; and

WHEREAS biosecurity for noxious and invasive weeds or animal diseases are readily spread by various means of transportation; and

WHEREAS fire is a major issue.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the provincial government to modify the regulations to allow management of the former PFRA pastures to control access by any means other than by on foot.

Carried

Resolution #5

WHEREAS the government is not in favor of ad hoc programs to cover drought and flood; and

WHEREAS the government continues to enhance Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation programs for grain and pulse growers to manage risk.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the federal and provincial governments to enhance existing SCIC forage insurance programs to provide better risk management coverage for forage crops from incidents of drought and flood.

Carried

Resolution #6

WHEREAS SSGA life membership fees have been \$1,000 for the past twenty years.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA life membership fees be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

Carried

Resolution #7

WHEREAS the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) allows for financial compensation in support of voluntary conservation agreements; and

WHEREAS current government policy involving SARA makes species at risk and their required habitat a liability to landowners and land managers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SSGA lobby the federal and provincial governments to enable the sections of the SARA act that support voluntary conservation agreements that are fully compensated and recognized by the act.

Carried

Resolution #8

WHEREAS the *Animal Pedigree Act* provides credibility for Canadian genetics in domestic and international markets; and

WHEREAS repealing the *Animal Pedigree Act* could negatively impact purebred cattle producers ability to export genetics to international markets.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the Government of Canada to retain the *Animal Pedigree Act*.

Carried

Resolution #9

WHEREAS the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) recently switched to a centralized import number distribution centre; and

WHEREAS livestock importers have been experiencing significant delays while trying to obtain import numbers, which is impeding commerce and creating additional expenses in the importation process.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the CFIA to streamline the import permit application process allowing importers to obtain permit numbers in a timely fashion, similar to pre-existing turnaround times.

Carried

Resolution #10

WHEREAS there is a resurgence in cattle rustling.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA host a reward fund with rewards up to \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons stealing livestock from a SSGA member.

Carried

Resolution #11

WHEREAS there is an acute shortage in Saskatchewan for agriculture labour, particularly year round permanent labour with skills needed for livestock production; and

WHEREAS there is also an acute shortage of labour for meat processing in Alberta, where Saskatchewan cattle producers rely on value added operations to send their cattle; and

WHEREAS the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) has been successful in the past in supplementing labour in the agriculture and meat processing sectors as a last resort when employers have been unable to find enough Canadians to fill vacancies; and

WHEREAS there has been abuse of the TFWP in other sectors and the Federal Government is expected to make significant changes to the program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SSGA support the Government's efforts to reform the TFWP so that employers may not routinely replace Canadians, but at the same time maintain a viable foreign worker program and immigration system designed to alleviate chronic and legitimate labour shortages as exist in the livestock and meat processing sector.

Carried

Resolution #12

WHEREAS leafy spurge is a difficult weed to control and causes added expense and labour to farms and ranches.

WHEREAS leafy spurge is appearing along provincial highways and right of ways.

BE IT RESOLVED that the SSGA lobby the SK Ministry of Highways to take the necessary steps to eradicate leafy spurge on their right of ways and ditches.

Carried