



Government
of
Saskatchewan

Minister of Agriculture
Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

February 5, 2015

Chad MacPherson, General Manager
Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
PO Box 4752
REGINA SK S4P 3Y4

Dear Mr. MacPherson:

Thank you for your email of January 26, 2015, regarding the resolutions carried at the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association 2015 Semi Annual Meeting on January 22, 2015. The following responses are included for the resolutions pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture:

Resolution #2:

Ministry officials discussed funding enhancement options for on farm food safety and biosecurity initiatives with Coy Schellenberg, Saskatchewan's Verified Beef Production (VBP) program coordinator, in November, 2014. At that time, VBP indicated they would be putting forward funding enhancement proposals for both program areas. That proposal has not yet been submitted to the Ministry. Once the Ministry receives a proposal, it will be reviewed to determine if enhancements to the existing programs should be made.

Resolution #3:

The Ministry of Agriculture has forwarded this resolution to the Ministry of Environment, as the Ministry of Environment is the lead Ministry for the province regarding Species at Risk legislation.

Resolution #4:

Our government is currently considering a review of the legislation governing farmland ownership in the province.

Resolution #5:

Agriculture awareness and social license are strategic priorities for the Ministry of Agriculture. The goal of the Ministry's agriculture awareness strategy and initiatives is to ensure agricultural producers in Saskatchewan earn and maintain public trust and the social license to operate. One key initiative is the establishment of Farm and Food Care Saskatchewan, an organization representing producer organizations, agribusinesses and government, with the goal of cultivating consumer awareness and appreciation of farming and food production in the province. It is the Ministry's view that many strong voices in agriculture advocacy will improve the public perception of agriculture and eliminate the need for additional legislation. The Ministry currently oversees legislation under

The Agricultural Operations Act, 1996, protecting farmers from nuisance claims where the owner or operator uses normally accepted agriculture practices with respect to the agriculture operation.

Resolution #6:

This resolution should be addressed by the University of Saskatchewan.

Resolution #7:

It is positive that the SSGA is supporting the concept of developing a Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence at the University of Saskatchewan. I look forward to seeing the recommendations from the Livestock and Forage Steering committee, which you are a member of.

Resolution #8 and #9:

The Ministry of Agriculture has forwarded these resolutions to the Ministry of Economy.

Resolution #10:

The Grow Requested Own Use Program (GROU) is a program developed by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency. The program applies exclusively to agricultural pesticides where the exact same formulation exists on both sides of the Canada/United States border. Biologicals or inoculants, like those required for minor use legumes, are regulated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and as such are not subject to GROU. For more information about the process for registering minor use forage inoculants, please contact Terry Kowalchuk, Forage Crops Provincial Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture, at 306-787-7712 or terry.kowalchuk@gov.sk.ca.

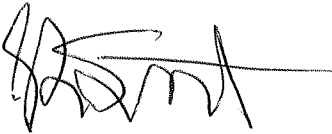
Chad MacPherson

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Once again, thank you for your letter and the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lyle Stewart', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lyle Stewart

Minister of Agriculture

cc: Honourable Bill Boyd, Minister of Economy
Honourable Scott Moe, Minister of Environment
Terry Kowalchuk, Forage Crops Provincial Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture