



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Minister of Agriculture
Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

February 12, 2018

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

Dear Mr. MacPherson:

Thank you for your email of February 1, 2018, regarding the resolutions carried at the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) Semi Annual Meeting on January 25, 2018. The following responses are included for the resolutions pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Resolution 1: That the SSGA lobby the Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) to offer fire insurance coverage for grass and forage in conjunction with their existing forage insurance programs.

Response: Following consultation with producers and industry, SCIC has been investigating fire insurance for pasture land. SCIC recognizes the risk producers have from the impact of pasture fires. SCIC is currently in the process of evaluating its current forage insurance products and determining the appropriate insurance mechanism to be able to provide fire insurance on pasture land. The goal is to have an insurance product available for protecting pasture from fire for the 2018 growing season.

Resolution 3: That the SSGA lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to have Western Livestock Price Insurance Program (WLPIP) participants have the same payment terms as all other SCIC programs.

Response: The four western provinces, along with the federal government, work together to deliver the WLPIP to livestock producers in those provinces. SCIC has been working with the SSGA on improving WLPIP since it was introduced to Saskatchewan

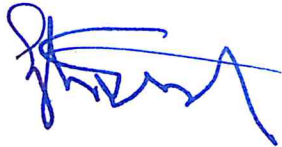
producers in 2014. Currently, when producers purchase a WLPIP policy, they are required to pay the premium immediately either via credit card or cheque. SCIC customers have the ability to defer paying their premium and not have interest charged on their outstanding balance until after the growing season. SCIC recognizes the difference in how producer premiums are paid between the Crop Insurance Program and WLPIP. A recent feasibility study conducted as part of the evaluation of the WLPIP pilot identified the cattle industry's desire to have premium payments charged similar to how Crop Insurance premiums are charged. SCIC is currently working with other WLPIP partners to investigate if additional options can be provided to livestock producers for paying the premium when a price insurance policy is purchased.

Resolution 4: That the SSGA lobby the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada to provide coverage through AgriRecovery for labour and equipment costs for producers for the loss of fences from wildfires.

Response: The Ministry of Agriculture and SCIC have assessed the damage and losses from the wildfires to determine the appropriate course of action. Our Government has donated \$100,000 in matching cash donations to the SSGA Wildfire Relief Fund to help farmers and ranchers impacted by the fires. The Ministry of Agriculture provided grants of up to \$10,000 to affected rural municipalities to support the disposal and burial of deadstock. The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP) is providing financial assistance to producers that suffered damages to "tame and native lands" intended for grazing as a result of the recent wildfires. Affected producers can now apply through PDAP for up to \$30,000 in assistance for providing feed or transporting affected livestock. A claimant must meet all the program's eligibility criteria which can be found at www.saskatchewan.ca/PDAP#eligibility. Currently, the Ministry is not looking to implement AgriRecovery for the wildfires in Saskatchewan. The Ministry will continue to monitor the impact of the fires and determine if additional measures need to be taken in the spring. Producers enrolled in AgriStability and Crop Insurance are encouraged to contact SCIC to take advantage of the interim payments and to file a Crop Insurance claim in situations where this may be appropriate.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lyle Stewart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lyle Stewart
Minister of Agriculture

cc: Honourable Warren Kaeding, Minister of Government Relations