

Proposed Resolutions for Debate at 44th Manitoba Beef Producers Annual General Meeting

The resolutions debate at MBP's 44th AGM will take place during the business meeting on the afternoon of Thursday, February 2, 2023 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg.

Five resolutions came forward from MBP's fall 2022 district meetings which were held in odd-numbered districts where director elections were required. As well, a late resolution has been brought forward from the MBP board of directors for consideration.

MBP is also accepting in writing suggested late resolutions for consideration for potential debate until 9 a.m. Friday, January 27, 2023. **Please note:** If the resolution covers off matters on which MBP is already conducting advocacy work, it may be deemed to be redundant and not taken forward for debate so as to ensure there is time to debate resolutions on emerging matters. As well, it is important that proposed resolutions deal with something that is potentially achievable and clearly state the actions you are asking MBP to consider taking.

Late resolutions will be considered for debate at the end of the regular resolutions session, time permitting.

The following resolutions were deemed in order by MBP's Resolutions Committee and organized into categories for debate. Resolutions are proposed to be debated in the order listed below.

As a reminder, voting on MBP resolutions is restricted to producers who are members in accordance with MBP's bylaws. As per the Section 1(1) (b) of the bylaws, membership refers to "Every person who is determined by the Board of Directors to be actively engaged in the raising of cattle in Manitoba, and who pays all fees to the Association in the manner and in the amount imposed on sellers of cattle pursuant to regulations made by the Board of Directors from time to time." What does this mean? It means that if you have requested a refund in the last 12 months you have not paid all fees to the association as set out by the regulations and are not considered a member in good standing.

CATEGORY: PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

1: Whereas wildlife such as deer and elk cause irreparable damage to stockpiled feed during the winter months.

Be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the provincial government to provide financial assistance for a fencing program to reduce the risk of wildlife eating stockpiled feed.

District 9

2: Whereas predation issues continue to be a major concern for producers in Manitoba.

Be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the provincial government to investigate reinstating resources specific to addressing predation related to problem predators, including a rapid response process.

District 11

3: Whereas labour challenges, including the availability of skilled labour, continue to be a major issue in the agriculture sector.

Be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the provincial and federal governments to streamline and/or simplify programs to secure timely access to agricultural workers for Canada.

District 7

4: Whereas some beef producers have been experiencing issues getting timely access to Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation's (MASC) staff to answer program questions, to process claims, etc. due to MASC office consolidations in recent years.

Be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation and the Government of Manitoba to consider reopening some previously closed MASC service centres in order to improve customer service levels to agricultural producers.

District 7

CATEGORY: MISCELLANEOUS

5: Whereas during August 2022 Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) announced its intention to expand its membership base by applying a 1% levy on cattle producers' initial \$26,225.50 in sales, resulting in the deduction of a \$262.50 KAP membership fee plus \$13.12 GST (\$275.62); and

Whereas Manitoba cattle producers already provide financial support for both national and provincial organizations; and

Whereas producers providing KAP with a written "Notice of Objection" as described under Section (26) of *The Agricultural Producers Organization Funding Act* will be exempted from having the KAP membership levy deducted from their sales for a two-year period (any KAP membership levy collected during the two-year exemption period must be refunded).

Be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers utilize its publication *Cattle Country* to publish a copy of Section (26) of *The Agricultural Producers Organization Funding Act*, accompanied by a brief explanation reminding producers that by providing Keystone Agricultural Producers with a written notice of objection they will become exempt from have the KAP membership levy deducted from their sales for a period of two years.

Be it further resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers shall make available to its membership a standard fill-in-the-blanks form that could be used by producers wishing to notify KAP of their objection to having KAP membership fees deducted from their sale.

District 5

Late Resolution Arising From the January 11, 2023 MBP Board of Directors Meeting

L1 Whereas Veterinary Service Districts (VSDs) were developed to provide rural areas of Manitoba with access to consistent and affordable veterinary care, including supporting animal hospitals which provide services essential to many livestock producers; and

Whereas the cost of operating these animal hospitals (such as property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs to and upgrading of the hospitals and equipment, etc.) continues to rise, yet provincial government funding for VSDs to help operate and maintain these clinics has remained static for several years; and

Whereas there has been difficulty in securing veterinary staff to operate these essential rural animal hospitals, which leads to challenges for producers needing to access services locally.

Be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers lobby the provincial government to revisit the funding needs of the Veterinary Service Districts to ensure that the government's annual contribution to them is more reflective of the actual cost of delivering the needed rural veterinary services that are so important to the livestock sector and others.

MBP Board of Directors