

## Mandatory Livestock Inspection Resolution to be Debated at MBP's 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Manitoba Beef Producers' (MBP) board of directors is bringing forward a resolution for debate at MBP's 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) about the potential for mandatory livestock inspection services in Manitoba. See below.

Resolutions will be debated and voted upon by eligible producers during the business portion of the AGM which is taking place the afternoon of February 20th at the Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre at 1808 Wellington Avenue in Winnipeg.

There is no charge to attend the business and knowledge transfer portions of the 46<sup>th</sup> AGM, but banquet tickets are \$60 each plus service fees. Pre-registration is respectfully requested to assist MBP with meal counts. To register go to: <https://mbbeef.ca/events/46th-annual-general-meeting-presidents-banquet-and-tradeshow/>

Additionally, if you are unable to attend the AGM to take part in the mandatory livestock inspection discussion, MBP still values your feedback and we have created a general survey on this website to solicit producers' views on it. *Please note that this separate survey is not a formal vote on the proposed resolution, but rather it is designed to provide MBP with more producer feedback on this topic.*

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LS7LMFD>

Frequently asked questions about livestock inspection: <https://mbbeef.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2024-MBP-Fall-District-MTG-Livestock-Inspection-FAQ-FINAL.pdf>

### Mandatory Livestock Inspection Resolution

**MBP Board Resolution 1:** Whereas cases of theft or fraud related to Manitoba's cattle industry have proven very costly and disruptive for the affected parties, and can undermine the confidence of lenders, investors and buyers when undertaking livestock-related transactions in Manitoba; and

Whereas livestock inspection – a tool used to help demonstrate ownership using various cattle identification methods – can be an important means of deterring theft and fraud, thereby helping to better secure livestock-related commerce; and

Whereas inspection could potentially provide other value-added elements for Manitoba producers, such as the provision of digital manifests and helping to facilitate movement reporting and traceability requirements; and

Whereas Livestock Services of Saskatchewan (LSS) has an established history of conducting livestock inspections on Manitoba cattle on an as-needed, fee-for service basis and could be in a position to expand this service; and

Whereas the existing livestock inspection levels in Manitoba currently only cover a limited volume of total cattle-related transactions in the province, and

Whereas the legislative and regulatory environment could be improved in Manitoba to facilitate matters such as livestock inspectors being able to detain cattle or to direct the dealer to hold the sales proceeds until ownership of inspected cattle is verified; and

Whereas Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) has been investigating the various steps needed to potentially create a mandatory livestock inspection system in Manitoba, including factors such as: cost framework; required

provincial legislative or regulatory changes; the service provider and logistics for expanding inspection; the value-added potential from inspection; engaging with other value chain members about their expectations and/or concerns; whether there are funding opportunities to help offset costs of implementing expanded inspection; the possible creation of a Livestock Investigations Unit tasked with investigating livestock-related crimes that could help support the work of livestock inspectors; and more; and,

Whereas MBP has been working to raise awareness of the merits of expanded livestock inspection, including at its fall 2024 district meetings where the majority of those producer attendees indicated a strong level of interest in and support for expanded inspection services as a means of helping to deter theft and fraud, as well as to potentially capture other value-added opportunities; and

Whereas if the Government of Manitoba is to make the legislative and/or regulatory changes, as well as other mechanisms necessary to support the implementation of mandatory livestock inspection it will want to be confident that the majority of the province's cattle producers are in favour of such a move.

Therefore be it resolved to recommend that Manitoba Beef Producers now ask the Government of Manitoba to work with value chain members to take the necessary steps needed to implement mandatory livestock inspection in Manitoba, including: making required legislative and/or regulatory changes; working with the prospective delivery agent on a service agreement; determining if funding can be secured to help offset the cost of an expanded inspection system; deciding whether an investment can be made to support the creation of a Livestock Investigations Unit; and, any other steps required to move this initiative forward in the most responsive, efficient and cost-effective manner.

### **Eligibility to Vote on Resolutions**

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.