

## Western Stock Growers' Association



### **Resolution 2026-01**

**Whereas:** WSGA has a Resolution passed in 2025 to work with the Government of Alberta to do a cost/benefit study of abolishing the CFIA and investigate a Made in Alberta solution to replace the CFIA

**Whereas:** The industry has lost confidence in CFIA's ability to properly represent or demonstrate industry knowledge in various animal health issues including BSE, ostrich farm liquidations, TB investigations and the implementation of new traceability regulations

**Whereas:** The Alberta cattle industry has the best traceability system in North America

**Be it resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association continue to garner support across industries and amongst decision makers for a Made in Alberta solution to replace the CFIA.

### **Resolution 2026-02**

**Whereas:** WSGA has a Resolution passed in 2025 to work with the Government of Alberta to do a cost/benefit study of abolishing the CFIA and investigate a made in Alberta solution to replace the CFIA

**Whereas:** Historically, the CFIA operated its animal health portion under the Department of Agriculture

**Whereas:** The industry has lost confidence in CFIA's ability to properly represent or demonstrate industry knowledge in various animal health issues including BSE, ostrich farm liquidations, TB investigations and the implementation of new traceability regulations

**Whereas:** The Alberta cattle industry has the best traceability system in North America

**Be it resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association work with other industry organizations to request the animal health responsibilities of CFIA be transferred back from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Agriculture with governance from industry representatives such as veterinarians, producer representatives, industry health



specialists in cooperation with trade experts and any implemented rules on traceability and trade protocols be vetted and approved through industry prior to implementation.

**Be it further resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association work with other industry organizations to request the process to amend the Traceability Regulation changes be terminated.

### **Resolution 2026-03**

**Whereas:** Livestock deaths and injuries in Alberta due to grizzly bears, have trended upward for the past two decades. From 2016 to 2023 there were over 750 losses due to grizzly bear predation, with nearly \$1,000,000 being paid out in compensation. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year confirmed livestock deaths and injuries due to grizzly bear predation rose to 120 head. Attacks on humans in Alberta have trended upwards as well.

**Whereas:** Mature male (boar) and female (sow) grizzly bears are territorial and maintain large ranges and have forced younger adolescent grizzly bears out of their home ranges in the Eastern Slopes of the Rocky Mountains. Breeding aged grizzly bears have now established ranges and territories in Alberta's ranch and farmland.

**Whereas:** The Alberta Government has still not created an effective methodology to successfully manage the grizzly bear population. Nor has the government permitted a trophy hunt for grizzly bears since 2005 and has placed a full ban on trophy hunting grizzly bears since 2006.

**Whereas:** Trophy hunting mature (past prime of life) big game animals and predators, allows for a genetically healthier, and appropriately managed population. Which creates improved biodiversity and protection for humans, livestock and native species.

**Be it resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association encourage the Government of Alberta, specifically the Minister of Forestry and Parks to re-establish a trophy grizzly bear draw and hunt in Alberta.



## **Resolution 2026-04**

**Whereas:** Excessive ungulate wildlife populations continue to plague Alberta ranchers who carry the grazing and feed costs with minimal wildlife damage compensation

**Whereas:** Proposals from the Alberta Government such as allowing center fire rifles into WMU zones that are traditional bow zones are likely ineffective due to lack of hunter permission

**Whereas:** The current system of using a priority draw system to issue tags to random hunters does not increase the wildlife harvest

**Be it resolved that:** Western Stock Growers' Association encourage the Ministry of Forestry and Parks to create a deeded landowner tag program where landowners can issue tags to known hunters based on a percentage of wildlife counts. These tags would extend outside of regular hunting seasons.

## **Resolution 2026-05**

**Whereas:** Grasslands continue to be converted to monoculture crops resulting in a decrease in biodiversity within Alberta

**Whereas:** The cattle industry is limited in its ability to regrow the herd due to lack of available forage, forage acres and grasslands

**Whereas:** Grazing rental rates on deeded land have doubled or tripled in many areas of the province creating affordability issues

**Whereas:** According to Stats Canada statistics, forage acres have been reduced by half in the last 20 years

**Whereas:** The Government of Alberta directly owns approximately 60% of the land in the province

**Whereas:** Forest fires have devastated much of Alberta lands in recent years on mostly public lands such as in Jasper Park and Fort McMurray as well as other areas

**Be it resolved that:** The province explore allowing more and extended grazing on public lands for reasons of fire control and proper undergrowth management.



**Be it further resolved that:** The province reveal its land ownership portfolio and consider lands that might be eligible for potential grazing, increased crown land lease potential and cooperative grazing strategies on crown land holdings.

### **Resolution 2026-06**

**Whereas:** The Mature Asset Strategy on mature and expiring oil and gas wells developed by the Provincial government task force headed by oil industry insider David Yager did not include direct involvement from the ranching industry who are major landholders in the province of Alberta where these mature assets are held

**Whereas:** The Rural Municipalities and Alberta Surface Rights Federation revealed many issues with the process and outcomes of the Mature Asset Strategy proposals

**Whereas:** It appears that liabilities will be downloaded onto Municipalities and local taxpayers rather than the guilty parties allowing these Mature Assets to expire without proper reclamation or acceptance of liability by those that incurred the liabilities

**Be it resolved that:** WSGA engage with the province, David Yager and other interested parties to revisit this proposed strategy with proper landowner consultation prior to any policy changes and address any landowner impacts and liability concerns.

### **Resolution 2026-07**

**Whereas:** Ranchers' access to water is governed by the Water Registration Act of 1994 which only allows priority access due to first access and no actual rights to the water on their private lands

**Whereas:** Public and residential water uses always supersede livestock water uses in developed areas

**Whereas:** The cattle industry cannot rebuild or bank on multi-generational ranching opportunities without full assurance of continued access to water on their private lands

**Be it resolved that:** WSGA maintain a campaign to strengthen rancher rights to water access on their private lands, continue to educate landowners about registering their water and advocating the province for more license opportunities that are multigenerational in nature to allow the growth and rebuilding of the depleted ranch and cattle industry.



## **Resolution 2026-08**

**Whereas:** The Western Stock Growers' Association was formed under special legislation

**Whereas:** The Western Stock Growers' Association is not a registered charity and therefore cannot give tax receipts for donations

**Whereas:** There is a need to manage the verification and trading of Eco-system Services

**Be it resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association form a foundation that can give official tax receipts for donations and can operate commercial business for the betterment of the industry and Western Stock Growers' Association members.

## **Resolution 2026-09**

**Whereas:** Inflation in Alberta has risen by approximately 26% between 2015 and 2024

**Whereas:** The Western Stock Growers' Association membership fees have not increased in some time

**Whereas:** Membership recruitment and retention is becoming increasingly difficult in a world where so many things are vying for producer's attention

**Whereas:** The current structure of membership fees is as follows:

1-150 head	\$150
151-500 head	\$200
501-1,000 head	\$350
1,001 or more head	\$500
Feeders and sheep	\$150
Corporate (non-ranching)	\$500
Associate (non-voting)	\$100
Non-member newsletter subscription	\$50
(membership is based on previous year's sales)	



**Be it resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association increase the membership fees to the following structure:

250 and under	\$250
251 – 749	\$500
750 and over	\$1,000
Corporate (non-ranching)	\$1,000
Associate (non-voting)	\$250
Non-member newsletter subscription	\$100
(membership is based on previous year's sales)	

**Be it further resolved that:** The Western Stock Growers' Association board designate a director to be in charge of member recruitment and renewals and reimburse that director at a rate of 20% per membership recruited or renewed when the member has to drive to the ranch of the recruited or renewed membership and 5% when the recruitment or renewal can be completed over phone, text or email.