

OFA AGM Resolutions

Dundas Farm Safety

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture lobby the Ontario Ministry of Labour and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs to increase funding to the farm sector of WSPS for office space and farm safety materials.”

Recommendation: Amend the motion to read:

“THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture lobby the Ontario Ministry of Labour and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs to increase allocated funding directed to the farm sector of WSPS to maintain a strong farm safety profile as part of WSPS services and for farm safety materials.”

OFA should work directly with the Ministry of Labour and Minister Leal within the current budget consultations. We should also communicate these intentions to WSPS leadership (Lynn Brownell, CEO).

Motion: *Brekveld/Spoelstra ... “THAT the resolution be approved as amended.”* **CARRIED**

Grey Silage Plastic

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture investigate routes to properly recycle this resource and net wrap.

Recommendation: Amend the motion to replace “this resource” with “plastic wrap, twine, feed bags”. Approve and seek funding for a project to build on NOFIA project applicable to all of Ontario. Solicit input from MOECC with regards the Waste Elimination Act and possible R&D funds that might be available.

Motion: *Jilesen/Breckenridge ... “THAT the resolutions be approved as amended.”* **CARRIED**

Kent OFA to Coordinate and Promote Water Well Testing Program

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture co-ordinate a water well testing program similar to the OFA’s “Rural Water Quality Testing Program” that was in place in the early 2000’s.

Recommendation: Amend the motion to replace “co-ordinate” with “promote” and publicize the Ontario Ground Water Association administered “Well Wise” rural well water testing program through OFA communication efforts.

Motion: *Wales/Pemberton ... “THAT the resolution be approved as amended.”* **CARRIED**

Leeds Government Support for Current Care Measures

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture lobby the provincial government to create grants to help farmers implement their reasonable care plan to avoid wildlife kills.

Recommendation: Approve the resolution. Solicit examples of the necessary investments from care plans and bring the issue to the upcoming evaluation of the wildlife damage compensation program.

Motion: *Davis/Pemberton ... "THAT the OFA adopts the resolution."*

CARRIED

**Middlesex
High Speed Rail Project**

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture seek information for its members and be involved in discussions and submissions involving the high-speed rail project; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OFA encourage and assist County Federations to work with local municipalities to address this concern.

Recommendation: Adopt the resolution and continue the current path. Encourage county federations to solicit the views of their respective municipalities on the route to determine a collective position, if possible.

Include the issue in discussion with ROMA and western Wardens.

Motion: *Wales/Colvin ... "THAT the OFA adopts the resolution."*

CARRIED

**Oxford
High Speed Rail Advisory Board**

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture lobby for an agricultural presence on the High-Speed Rail Advisory Board.

Work already in progress and endorsed by SCOR.

Motion: *Jilesen/Brekveld ... "THAT the OFA adopts the resolution."*

CARRIED

**Perth
Environmental Assessment Act – Impact on Agricultural land**

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture prioritize the lobby effort to the Ontario Government to have the Ministry of the Environment prepare a Guidance Document developing terms of reference for the Environmental Assessment process impacting agricultural land and its management as laid out in the resolution passed in 2013.

Recommendation: Adopt the resolution and consult with commodity organization on proposed process.

Motion: *Colvin/Buttar ... "THAT the OFA adopts the resolution."*

CARRIED

**Perth
MPAC Assessment of Non-tillable Acres**

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture requests that MPAC consider land uses such as woodlots, wetlands, buffer lands, streams as complementary to farmlands with it being classified as farmland for property tax purposes; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province should not expect the Agriculture Community to pay all costs for woodlots, wetlands, buffer lands, streams, and yet to provide the environmental benefits to the Urban areas.

Recommendation: Approve the therefore be it resolved, but reject the “further be it resolved”. Solicit support from ROMA and the Wardens and present the case to the Ministry of Finance.

Motion: *Pemberton/Spoelstra ... “THAT the OFA adopts the resolution as amended.”*
CARRIED

Simcoe OFA Regional Elections

THAT the present OFA regionally based election system as established in the OFA By-law be discarded, and each individual County nominate their PAC Representatives and delegates from anywhere within their county.

Recommendation: Adopt the resolution, develop a discussion paper outlining the options and consequences and present at the next PAC meeting for further review by counties.

Motion: *Breckenridge/Buttar ... “THAT the OFA adopts the resolution.”*
CARRIED

Wellington OFA to Adopt a Defined Set of Gravel Pit Rehabilitation Standards

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture adopt WFA’s standards as OFA’s best practices so that County Federations have a defined set of standards to distribute to their local decision-makers and pit operators.

Recommendation: Adopt the resolution and distribute the standards with explanatory notes.

Motion: *Davis/Colvin ... “THAT the OFA adopts the resolution.”*
CARRIED

Wellington Regarding Federal Changes to Municipal Councilor Taxation on Income

THAT the Ontario Federation of Agriculture lobby the Federal government to have one-third tax exemption for municipal Councilors reinstated.

Recommendation: Adopt the resolution and bring to the CFA annual meeting.

Mark Wales declared conflict of interest with this resolution.

Motion: *Colvin/Pretty-Straathof ... “THAT the OFA adopts the resolution and forwarded to the CFA for its 2018 AGM.”*
CARRIED