

ALBERTA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

2004 Annual General Meeting

Passed Resolutions

1. WHEREAS ABA participation in the Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP) represents a large consideration in its annual budget, and;

WHEREAS there have developed some valid concerns when viewing current level of ABA involvement from a cost/benefit perspective;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Beekeepers Association while continuing to promote member involvement as volunteer presenters in the program, not review its position as formal commodity group representative in CAP for the upcoming fiscal year;

Further that during this suspension of direct involvement the ABA executive reflects upon future reinstatement in CAP and/or other possibilities for outreach to Alberta students by our industry.

2. Withdrawn.
3. BE IT RESOLVED that the ABA donates \$5000 to the American Honey Producers Association to help with costs of antidumping suits, and to apply for associate membership in this organization.
4. WHEREAS recent developments in honey bee importations require changes in the working relationships between AAFRD and the CFIA:

BE IT RESOLVED that the ABA urge AAFRD to make changes to the Honey Bee Act and Regulations to reflect this new reality.

5. WHEREAS the current federal protocol for importation of mainland US queens is being viewed as a “living document”, and;
WHEREAS some conditions of the protocol may limit queen imports too far below Alberta requirements;
BE IT RESOLVED that the ABA evaluates the current protocol and make recommendations to the federal government for regulatory changes that would improve access to mainland US queens.
6. Defeated.

7. WHEREAS some black bears continue to cause significant damage and destruction to beehives in Alberta, and;
WHEREAS many Alberta sustainable resource development Fish and Wildlife Service offices are working with decreased manpower and limiting operational budgets and are therefore in many cases unable to assist the beekeeper with the removal of problem bears;

BE IT RESOLVED that the ABA work with the Government of Alberta to establish a program under which participating beekeepers would be allowed to use mechanical means for the control and removal of problem bears. Such a program should take into account the highest standards of public safety and animal welfare.

8. BE IT RESOLVED that if the Alberta Government is unwilling to give beekeepers better controls for problem black bears in bee yards the ABA should lobby for the reinstatement of a compensation program for losses due to bear damage.

9. WHEREAS the Wednesday afternoon business meeting is poorly attended;

BE IT RESOLVED that the ABA holds the business meeting Tuesday afternoon and close the meeting Wednesday afternoon.

10. BE IT RESOLVED that the ABA establish a refundable Commission after a favourable plebiscite response conducted through mail in ballot of all registered Alberta beekeepers with live colonies.

BE IT RESOLVED that AAFRD be requested to assist in the mail out plebiscite of all registered beekeepers with live colonies.

11. BE IT RESOLVED that if an Alberta Beekeepers Commission be established in 2005, the membership fee of the ABA be reduced to \$1.00 for all types of membership.