

Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association

Board Meeting

Wednesday August 13, 2025

8 am

Home Inn & Suites – Saskatoon, SK

Conference zoom call in numbers -[+1 204 272 7920](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84664095600?pwd=ZzVzZ2p6ZzVzZzVz)

Meeting ID: 846 6409 5600

Passcode: 335932

Chad Ross (Chair, SCFA rep)
Keith Day Chair (Past Chair)
Kyle Hebert (Director 1)
Wade Beck (Director 2)
Roger Meyers (Director 3A)
Randy Stokke (Director 4)
Levi Hull (Director 5)
Shelby Corey (Director 6)
Joleen Shea (Director 7)
Leon Leuke (Director 8)
Christine Strube (Director 9A)
Dean Moore (Director 9B)
Henry McCarthy (Director SSGA)
Garret Poletz (Director, SCFA)
Judson Christopherson (CCYC)
Kelly Williamson (Director, SSGA) - virtual

SCA Staff:

Christina Betker (Policy)
Leann Clifford (Admin)
Marianne Possberg (Production)

Regrets:

Cyle Stewart (Director 3B)
Randy Stokke (Director 4)

AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION:2025-44: Strube / Lueke

"To approve the agenda."

Carried

Declaration to the Assembly of possible Conflict of Interest

1. Review of Minutes - June 12, 2025

MOTION 2025-045: Shea / Day

"To accept the minutes as amended."

Carried

2. Chair Report

To be the trusted voice of the Saskatchewan beef cattle industry by striving to limit restrictions and expand opportunities.

To develop and promote the success of all production sectors of the Saskatchewan beef cattle industry through effective representation from all regions of the province.

MOTION 202-046: Ross / Hebert
"To accept the Chair report as presented."

Carried

3. **CEO Report**

MOTION 2025-047: Moore / Hull
"To accept the CEO report as presented."

Carried

Discussion

GARS- would like to have private sector involved to developing programming in disasters / production insurance

Direction for the staff to ask government to work with private sector to create a developed program. Staff to explore what is out there already and how we can work together.

4. **Financial Report**

MOTION 2025-048: Strube / Shea

Carried

8:30 am – External Updates

Ryan Beierbach

CRSB

- Conference coming up in Sept aligned with global roundtable meeting
- Hope to get Global to understand what is happening in Canada
- Struggling to cow/calf producers to be VBP+ audited – looking at Dairy to be approved as equivalent. (council now paused with this idea)

CCA

- ABP producers pulling out of CCA as of July /2026
- CCA will continue to monitor and work through the challenges
- CCA should cut back their budget? ABP concerns they are footing the bill
- ABP sent in a list of items that needed to be addressed from CCA.
- VP position filled should have a person that has been on the board to understand the workings.
- Times before have had pull outs of funding and have had negotiated talks to go forward.

Karla Hicks

- Foreign trade semi annual meeting today and will have more to report
- New Asian office open
- Working with US on trade relations CUSMA protected
- C202 – dismayed that it is passed – a letter is written and signatures are required.
- Representatives need to listen to their voters.
- Interview w/CBC radio – regarding supply management.
- Grassland conservation initiative – no work being done and trying to figure out what needs to be done to be able to move forward. It has stalled due to Provincial

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- Denise's replacement timeline?
- CCA rep meeting Sept 2 9am

Will Lowe

CCA

- Domestic Ag – meeting this afternoon
- Provincial Board meeting today at 11 regarding ABP

NCFA

- Will have a follow up meeting regarding ABP announcement
- In Ontario for meetings early June, good chance to be with Ontario reps.
- BFO adds a lot to the conversations.
- Busy with new government – involved with pre budget submission/ consultations
- Met with new members
- Stampede events – a lot of good come out of those times / access to government industry
- Conversation / priorities as conveyed
- Attended PNWER Janice

Lynn Grant

CCA

- SCIC meeting – regarding potential satellite moisture program on grass moisture
- Looks like it may offer producers a new way of collecting rainfall insurance.
- Go on a township basis. People like the moisture soil vs rainfall.
- Grassland Conservation initiative – cuts in funding but moving ahead to create a program.

LSS

- More areas to cut, bringing those lists to the board
- Slow moving on the efficiencies
- Not allowed to charge mileage, but believe they do
- Min of fee and a mileage fee is being considered at the board level if not a full semi load.
- Horse inspections are costly to do as they do one at a time.
- Stolen cattle events are being charged out as a contract fee.
- Brand inspection in Manitoba is a go, but need to clean up Sask side as well so there are no losses
- Is there a concentrated effort to MB at the deficit on Sask. side? Is there a financial burden already?
- Do we have to have cross border inspection even if no sale? Yes
- AGM in September

VBP+

- Meeting coming up in September
- Tracy Heibert presented her work – word audit will be replaced with assessed. So that is no confrontational

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CYL

- Part of the satellite pilot project.
- Completed the analysis of the big beautiful bill
- Need direction for Quebec meetings
- Name In for pres. of CYL
- Denver stock show coming up
- Funding ask is \$6500/ province- SCA to look at. They need an increase to continue
- Sent out a paper on agristabilty and loan forgiveness ideas a bit ago , looking to the board for comment
- Youth strategy to get them involved.

CSRB

- Take over the management of Cow Bytes and it is healthy
- Continue with the 2nd call of LOIs – no intake in 2024
- Priorities are status quo – but putting a push on trade and beef quality
- Frustrated with VBP+ - trained but not audited – not enough time/people to get the audit done and people are moving away from getting certified.
- Looking for a total revamp in their presentation of VBP+. – use the US model offered Michelle Irving a 3 year contract
- Looking a beef quality audit – 1995/96 first audit 2nd audit 2002/03 3rd BSE stalled that one – 4th then COVID – so there are large gaps
- Get back to beef quality / defect audit / track improvement over time over the whole country.
- Scrap the beef tender / and consumer audit – to expensive- every little output
- Denis is retiring - Ryder and Andrea putting their names forward – will inspire change
- Uping their focus on change in the research.

PSE - CCA

- Meeting on the 25th Aug
- Going to Quebec
- Getting up to speed as new to the roil

CCIA

- April board meeting next in September
- Getting to know their role
- New CEO – committee meetings this summer
- Redoing their governance
- Working on tracking and traceability.
- SCA alternate on the board – but hope to get on a committee to have a vote
- High frequency tags would be nice.

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SODCAP

- AGM Fronter in September
- Still getting funding from the US side - not effected by politics so far
- ECCC audit is complete – happy with the information received
- Keith will be the co chair for another year then will step down

PCAP

- Meeting in Frontier – September
- Quiet

F&FC

- Open farm days the past weekend
- College of pharmacy mandatory for students to attend – they went to Poundmaker. They are looking for funding (College of Pharmacy) Dietitians

AITC

- Working on the videos
- They went to Levi's ranch last week with Teachers- science was the topic

Sask Forage

- No movement

SSGA

- Forage days in ValMarie
- SODCAP involved
- Government / Ducks attended
- Approx. 80 producers, got rained out and scrambled to get a new plan, but it was adapted.
- AGM in June - quiet since
- Finalized the grassland policy and presented to AGM – positive feedback
- Semi annual in Feb/2026

SCFA

- Brand inspections topic
- Quiet

NCO

- Delegated packages have been sent out - August 19 zoom meeting
- Shred credit to implement
- Mark Hoimy is the SCA rep member at large by acclamation

SCIC Moisture Pilot Project

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- Different options – add April to the mix
- Private insurance
- May be some admin problems
- Need more data
- Develop an app for the I phone
- Monthly payments – preferred as long as there is no pay back
- Soil temperature
- Offer both options next year – rainfall and satellite
- Is there a tie in with too wet areas / flood areas?
- Satellites can track heat units? For Corn units
- What about snow / frozen land – how is that being handled?
- 30- year average has this lessened? rolling averages? Use the same averages and it is quoted incorrectly?
- Range management / drought proofing their land – what is their compensation? How are they going to deal with those producers? as you don't want to deactivate the good people are doing just for the sake of compensation?
- Are the matrix covered / wind/ fire?

ACTION – to look into how ABP rainfall insurance works

11am – **Rebecca Zanello** – Update – project – Supporting the Saskatchewan Livestock Industry to Conserve Species at Risk – Business risk Management Livestock Literature review.

Old Business

Fall Meeting Schedule / Agenda

- Went over the meeting schedule – 6 locations this year (the election areas, with a virtual a week after)
- Market update
- Timing is always a problem but there is no fixes

Pasture Tour Update

- Shaylynn Sask. Forage taking the lead
- Registration fees stay the same to allow more attendance
- AAFC / researcher have a hard time getting out of their assigned area due to employer restrictions.
- Researchers need to have connections with producers to be effective in research

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- Grassland national park – talked leafy spurge and all things native grass.

TB file

- To date - Producers have not gotten their compensation package
- Evaluations can be done by outside entities
- Producer manual / working group
- Community Liaison is a go, Provincial money and agreements have been drafted.
-

Check-off

- Mechanism change is underway
- Would like to have a check off answers video
- Coin slide is good, can we put a voice to it?

Agribition Update

- Agreement came back with 50K
- Agribition seen as an education event for urban consumers and education and primary school kids.
- Are we working w/Bullseye?
- How do we replace the reception
- Real cow – 4-H
- Engaging youth ambassadors for agribition

ACTION – 45K – 50K

New Business

Drought

- Went over Arnold's Letter
- Pretty sure that the ask to Government will be a no.
- Drought is the new norm – how are producers faring / adapting?

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- BRM programs – what are they / Where are they?
- Transportation for feed – they don't pay a lot of the fees / there are barriers to access feed.
- Producers want the barriers removed for easier access and reduced costs to the boots on the ground producer.
- Insurance program for transportation
- Producers to pay into its an insurance program. Montana has a federal pay program – they know they are getting transport payouts.
- Should they be in rain fall insurance to get transport insurance.
- How about an RM state of emergency and it triggers an automatic payout.
- RM state of emergency

Direction – for staff to take a look at other jurisdictions regarding their transportation Insurances (Montana) and how we start the talk with SCIC and government to create a transportation Insurance during a drought situation.

- How can we get a program to be fair across all areas of Saskatchewan
- Chris to respond to Arnold regarding his letter in.

There is a motion

Big Beautiful Bill

- Put together the research on policy changes from US
- Worsening of a condition for livestock and an increase to grains
- Larger farms/ corps will receive large transfers thus pushing out ma & pa operations
- Taking away from food stamps and given to food producers
- Death tax /Capital gains taxes on transition has been lifted.
- Taxation changes under federal estate tax exemption is now permanently set at \$15mill each or – 30 mill per couple ours is 2.5m

ACTION – talk to Logan about farm transition vs Big Beautiful bill. How can our programs be improved

CCA Rep direction at CCA semi annual

- September 2 9am executive meeting with our CCA reps to provide SCA direction at the AGM

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- Domestic AG/ Foreign trade / Animal health / environment
- Drug regulations and approval. Have to resubmit on already approved drugs. Silly when it has already been approved. Need now not on back order. Have provided Leigh a list of drugs that this effects.
- Speedier approvals
- Approval issues or supply issues when things are back ordered.
- Interprovincial trade
- Trade
- BRMs / LPI / transportation insurance / cost of production insurance
- Capital Gains / multiple generations
- Transportation
- CFIA challenges - TB
- C202 – push back

Letters - FYI's

Board Round Table

- CCA reps to understand that cows come up from US just as much as ours go down – we need to keep that border open.
- Keep on the OHS policy on farm - **follow up**
- Drought issues – producers need to use the tools that are out there. Engage, adapt and make sure the program works.
- Trade barrier – we have our own trade barriers within our own country. Why?
- Can't jeopardize our international trade.
- Don't want interprovincial regs to be at the level of international regs – trade will stop.
- Issue with a producer and a landowner and an acreage owner
- Draft horses on the landowner's land, set up a fence - acreage owner pulled the plug and got an injunction to remove the fence, and now want to have the livestock removed from the landowner's quarter. It is in litigation.

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- AO – believes the livestock is a liability for water and his lively hood.
- Acreage owners vs land owners - deemed agricultural land even thou have an acreage on.
- Has the producer gone through Ag Operations? They are the Switzerland of conflict first point of reference.
- Year end – get your items in NOW
- SKCAP vs FRWIP – keep asking the questions to get the items that you need Programs are out there be VBP+ verified to get the best advantage for compensation.
- Grassland conservation initiative – how can we incentives producers to maintain the grass? Crop Insurance program, with grain program? Make Native grass not insurable at all, so no incentive to break it up. Can rotational grazing be in part of the incentive program.
- Find incentives not restrictions.
- Lots of radio interviews.
- Marshalls thought we were picking up dead animals- that has been cleared up
- Marshalls are not doing the job as of yet after induction? What needs to get done to move forward – paperwork bottle neck.
- Using AI for paperwork processes
- Open innovation day was good for the first one
- Main poisoning in cattle is lead poisoning.
- Would like to do a research project on toxic plants
- Ag Stability announcement – is there more to announce on drought programming?
- CCA meeting regarding ABP issue – they are going to respond and be neutral in the response.
- ABP gets 7 seats on CCA board – they want more
- Lots of negative comments / want answers from their wish list.
- Provincial organizations could have a sit down call with ABP so they explain their actions.
- SCA opportunity is now to have our check list in place. To be provided to Ryan once completed.

In Camera Session

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Adjournment

August 19 -National Check off AGM – online

Sept 4 – Caucus meeting- Saskatoon – 11:30am – Chris / Joleen / Shelby / Christine

Sept 5 – TB Calgary -Chris and Marianne

September 8 – CCA AGM Quebec -Chris / Chad / Judson /Garret

October 9 – Regina - Board Meeting

August 19 -National Check off AGM – online

September 8 – CCA AGM Quebec

October 9 – Regina - Board Meeting

October 21 – Whitewood Legion – 1:30pm

October 22 – Assiniboia RecPlex – 5pm

October 23 – Piapot Legion – 1:30pm

October 27 – Davidson Town Hall – 1:30pm

October 28 – Humboldt Bella Vista – 1:30pm

October 29 - Turtleford

November 26-29 - Agribition

December 10 – Saskatoon - Board Meeting

Jan 19-23 – SBIC

February 3-5 - NCBA

November 26-29 - Agribition

December 12 – Saskatoon - Board Meeting

Jan 19-23 – SBIC

February 3-5 - NCBA

Who? Going to :

North Dakota - Minot– Sept 24/26 - Christine

South Dakota – Deadwood Dec 2-3 - Henry

Montana Stockman's- Billings Dec 10-12 – Roger

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