



Cattle Industry Development Council

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CIDC 2023 Annual Report

It is my pleasure to present this year's annual report on behalf of the producer members of the Cattle Industry Development Council. It has been another busy year for our group, we held three regular meetings and met with the Association Presidents in February.

CIDC Income

Total collections for the 2022-2023 fiscal year equated to 288,480 head of cattle and a total check-off income of \$1.4 million. In this past year, \$58,048 was received from BC cattle sold in Alberta and Saskatchewan (inter-provincial check-off) and we remitted \$44,782 to the National Check-Off Agency for Alberta cattle sold in BC. Council greatly appreciates the efforts of the many agents, dealers, sales yards and processing facilities, and Ownership Identification Inc., who all assist in the collection of check-off.

In BC, we have the unique ability to support projects that benefit the BC cattle industry through the Beef Cattle Industry Development Fund (BCIDF). We are also able to trigger (release) dollars from the Fund that match the check-off income received which enables the CIDC to provide greater financial support to Associations applications for funding. Within the 2022-2023 funding window, we were able to support the four provincial cattle Associations with \$727,200.

Due to the volatile financial markets in the last year, the Beef Cattle Industry Development Fund has fallen below the balance required to trigger earnings. This led Council to decide to close the fund at their February meeting, and general applications for project will not be considered during the next year. Council has taken this prudent step to ensure Association funding is minimally affected, and expect that a return to general project funding can be anticipated as the markets improve.

National Check-Off

Half of the \$5 check-off collected in BC goes to the National Check-Off Agency. On behalf of BC producers, \$721,200 was remitted to the National Agency to support the national and international efforts of promotion, marketing development, research, and public and stakeholder engagement. BC has representation on the National Check-Off Agency Board of Directors. We were saddened at the sudden passing of Terry Wiebe who so ably represented BC at the Agency Board for the last several years. The National Agency has assisted the CIDC in carrying out some audits in BC to confirm producer paid check-off is collected and remitted according to the requirements.

Each province determines how their national check-off will be allocated towards pillars of the National Beef Strategy. This distribution can be changed each year with the change taking effect the following year. While provinces are eligible to claim a provincial portion back, BC had not claimed provincial reserves from our national contributions. With the current shortage of available funds in the BCIDF, the Council has given one year notice to the National Agency of the decision to retain the provincial portion in BC, and continue the previous allocations of the national check-off at: 45% marketing, 20% research, 5% PSE, 30% provincial.

The Cattle Industry Development Council participates with other provinces during provincial funders meetings. As well, we have voting and non-voting delegates that attend the National Agency AGM each year.

Beef Cattle Industry Development Fund

Since 1995, the Beef Cattle Industry Development Fund has contributed over \$16 million to projects that benefit the beef cattle industry. The trust has an expiry date of 2075, and with thoughtful planning, the income from the Trust should sustain our industry for many years to come. Having this monetary security allows the Council to make longer term decisions. Although now closed for general application, Council anticipates the fund to recover for further funding support in the coming years (the fund was similarly closed from 2009-2014).

Presidents' Meeting

This year, the Presidents' Meeting was held in Kamloops in February. The Council considers meeting with the Presidents' and General Managers of the provincial cattle association as one of the most important ways to keep our Council engaged in current issues and activities in our provincial industry. The annual meeting of the Presidents and their Association representatives allows all of us to report to each other on the activities, successes and challenges of the individual Associations, which gives an opportunity for open discussions and collaborations between all groups. At this meeting, Andrea van Iterson was nominated to take up the position of BC's director to the National Check-off Agency.

Horn Levy Fund

The Horn Levy of \$10 per head of cattle sold with horns is collected in BC and managed by a volunteer Committee that meets independently of CIDC. This year, the levy was collected on 1,620 head of cattle. The funds collected are available for organizations (whose members raise cattle) for projects to benefit the cattle industry. In the last fiscal year, the Horn Levy Committee approved six new projects. The committee also developed and distributed a new brochure about the Horn Levy and collection requirements and confirmed the definition for collection of levy.

Council would like to extend our gratitude to the current committee representatives: Cheryl Monical (BCCA) Chair, Brian Thomas (BCCA), John Kochel (BCBFA), Nick Bapty (BCACF), with ex-officio representatives Bob Miller (OII) and Laura Code from the BC Ministry of Agriculture.

Representation

British Columbia is unique in that we are the only province that administers the check-off through a Council consisting of elected producer members our four cattle Associations in BC. The members of the Council continue to work co-operatively for the best use of funds paid by producers. Connie Patterson is the longest current serving member on the CIDC as she has represented the BC Breeders and Feeders Association at the council table since 2004. Connie was instrumental in the process of the BCBFA having representation at CIDIC and she has been a thoughtful participant at the meetings representing her association members and with concern for the beef industry as a whole for almost twenty years. The current council members join with former council and staff in wishing Connie all the best as she frees up some time as she retires from her seat on the CIDC.

Many thanks to all who serve the industry as representatives to CIDC including Laura Code of the Ministry of Agriculture who serves in ex-officio capacity, and the association representatives are:

BC Association of Cattle Feeders: Haley Rutherford

BC Breeders and Feeders Assoc.: Connie Patterson

BC Cattlemen's Assoc.: Devin Chursinoff (Vice-Chair), John Anderson, Judy Madden, Jon Solecki

BC Dairy Association: Thomas Wynker (Chair), Brian Schurmann

I would personally like to take this time to thank the Council members for their dedication this last year in ensuring that the check-off dollars are managed with integrity, and are being used to the benefit of our industry. Thank also to Carley Stewart for her services to Council in the last few years, we wish her and James all the best as they welcome their son and Carley takes leave from her position for the next year.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Wynker', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas Wynker, Chair

Cattle Industry Development Council

March 2023