

**Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee
Meeting with Minister Oneil Carlier
Fantasyland Hotel, January 18, 2016**

In attendance:

Minister Oneil Carlier, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Keith Gardner, Ministerial Assistant
Rick Pollard, Coordinator, Stakeholder Relations, Office of the Premier
Matt Besko, Environment and Parks
Patrick Gordeyko, Chair and Northeast Representative
Trent Keller, President, AAAF
Elden Kozak, Secretary and 1st Vice President, AAAF
Lloyd Giebelhaus, Northwest Representative
Steve Wikkerink, South Representative
Corey Beck, Peace Representative
Soren Odegard, AAMD&C Representative
Phillip Massier, Alternate, Central Region
Doug Macaulay, Acting ASB Program Manager, Agriculture and Forestry Representative
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary, Agriculture and Forestry

The meeting started at 4:40 pm with introductions around the table.

Pat started by thanking the Minister for attending the meeting and said the Committee would like to have some discussion on Bill 6 on how the consultation process will unfold and how the Provincial Committee would be involved.

Minister Carlier advised that Alberta Agriculture and Forestry will be taking the lead on the consultations and that there will be six technical working groups set up consisting of farmers, ranchers, boards, commissions etc. There will be 10 – 12 people at each table and will be chaired by a neutral mediator. He said that he would like to see this process start by the end of February and that letters explaining the process will be going out in the next few weeks.

Pat asked how the farmers would be educated going forward and that there should be a government process to do this. Lloyd stated that there are safety experts everywhere but they have no consistent message. Soren stated that not all farmers will be up to speed immediately. The Minister said that this will require a soft touch and that the technical working groups will look at best practices across the county.

Pat thanked the Minister for the way the Province has handled the issue of Zebra and Quagga Mussels in our water bodies and also for the speed and efficiency of handling the Jimsonweed issue.

Corey spoke to the issue of predation within the province. Discussion was held on management plans for predation. Comments included, eliminating carnivores by eliminating what they eat, the Suffield concern/population control, the distribution of species on the landscape, hunter access on the land. ASBs invitation to the Problem Wildlife Committee was mentioned and that AFSC is now at the table.

Lloyd spoke to the issue of Clubroot and problems that may occur if best management practices are not followed and the need for additional resistant varieties of Clubroot pathotypes recently found.

Pat thanked the Minister for the letter he sent to the Committee addressing issues that were brought up at the last meeting.

A discussion took place on Agriculture Plastics Recycling and the need for a stewardship program to be put in place and that the Government should look at the program in place in the Province of Saskatchewan. Pat advised that letters have been sent to stakeholders to get consensus on the program.

Rick Pollard from the Premiers office stated that the Committee should feel free to contact him at any time.

Pat thanked the Minister and other delegates for coming to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm