

**Meeting with Minister Carlier
Legislature Building
March 19, 2018, 4:30 pm**

In attendance:

Minister Oneil Carlier, AF
Tony Clark, Chief of Staff, AF
Corey Beck, Chair, ASB Provincial Committee
Wayne Nixon, Central Representative
Marc Jubinville, Alternate, Northeast Representative
Merrill Harris, South Representative
Sebastien Dutrisac, 1st Vice President, AAAF
Doug Macaulay, ASB Program Manager, AF
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary, AF

- Corey updated the Minister on previous issues that were discussed at the July 2017 meeting.
- Corey asked the Minister how he sees the use of ASBs and reiterated how ASBs can be a tool that government can use
- Corey talked about the late payment of the ASB grant last year and the problem it caused on the environmental side and asked if it could be paid in a more timely manner. The minister asked if it would be possible for the ASBs to use the government calendar year. Corey said he could ask the ASBs.
- Corey asked the Minister about the timeline for the review of the *Agricultural Pest Act* and *Weed Control Act* and the Minister said that opening of the Acts will not be happening at this time but could look at tweaking the regulations. He mentioned that the agenda's are packed and they are looking to take things not add them.
- Sebastien updated the Minister how the ASB Act enables ASBs to enforce the APA, WCA and SCA. He also discussed how municipalities encourage producers through the legislation to adopt BMPs and manage for pests. And in some instances they still need to enforce.
- Discussion on the appeal process under the WCA act. There are timelines for the producer and the municipality. But no timelines for the Minister who often takes months to respond thus making it a challenge to manage pest issues in that particular growing season.
- Wayne gave a brief update on the agricultural plastics issue and the Minister is very supportive of the initiatives in this area

Resolutions:

Corey informed the Minister that letters have been sent out for responses on the 2018 resolutions and the Committee is just waiting for the responses to be sent it.

Resolution 1-18 – Environmental Stream Funding of the ASB Grant

- Wayne addressed this resolution

Resolution 2-18 – Appeals to the Minister under the *Weed Control Act* and *Agricultural Pests Act*

- Sebastien addressed this resolution and advised the Minister that there is no timeline in the Acts for the Minister to respond
- Tony said to contact the Minister's office if there is an undue delay
- Minister said he could work with Doug and the department to see how to speed up the process

Resolution 4-18 – Weed control of Alberta vacant public lands within green areas

- Corey spoke to this resolution and said there is a need to bring awareness to Environment and Parks and that he was just informing the Minister of this issue

Resolution 5-18 – Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement

- Marc addressed this resolution

Resolution 6-18 – Review of Agriculture Financial Services Corporation Crop Insurance Program

- Merrill addressed this resolution and explained situation to the Minister

Resolution 7-18 – Crop Insurance for Alberta fruit producers

- Merrill addressed this resolution and explained situation to the Minister

Resolution 9-18 – Farm Direct Marking of eggs and products using eggs

- Corey addressed this resolution and explained situation to the Minister

Resolution 10-18 – Proposed Federal Tax changes

- Corey addressed this resolution and said they are waiting to see what happens with this

Resolution 11-18 – Organic Food Testing and Labeling

- Corey explained this resolution and the background to this resolution. The Minister said there are no provincial standards right now but are looking at tightening this up.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.