



HOLSTEIN CANADA

2021 RESOLUTIONS | RESULTS

For: 51

Against: 17

Abstain: 5

ACCEPTED

Resolution 1

1. **Web Service, Registration/Classification**

Submitted by Ontario Branch (2021)

- Whereas historically Holstein Canada stamped classification results on registration papers, and;
- Whereas breeders relied on these updated registration papers for recordkeeping and marketing purposes, and;
- Whereas registration papers are currently updated to reflect genomic details as they become available, allowing the owner to reprint the updated version of the registration paper if they choose to.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada investigate means to provide updated classification results on registration papers, including the option of updating the electronic registration papers following a classification scoring, to enable members to print updated registration papers if preferred.

For: 72

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

ACCEPTED

Resolution 2

2. **Web Service, Registration Re-print**

Submitted by New Brunswick Branch (2021)

- Whereas an animal being homozygous or heterozygous polled can only be confirmed through genomic testing; and
- Whereas Holstein Canada currently charges the producer a fee to correct the polled status of an animal.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada automatically update the polled status of an animal post genomic testing to the correct designation free of charge.

For: 53	Against: 16	Abstain: 9
ACCEPTED		

Resolution 3

3. Classification, Interval Between Classification Visit and/or the Animal Welfare Evaluation for proAction Certification

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas the breeders who adhere to the classification system have the development of genetics within their herd and of the Holstein breed at heart;
- Whereas Holstein Canada promotes classification and its benefits for breeders and that the Association is not able to deliver the service at a reasonable interval to enable the breeders to benefit from its advantages (choosing the sire, sale value, etc.);
- Whereas the industry needs the classification data for the sire evaluation system and for on-farm sire selection programs;
- Whereas all Quebec breeders, regardless of their region, are entitled to a classification visit within a reasonable period of time, i.e., approximately every four months, as indicated on the Association's website;
- Whereas the animal welfare evaluation is a service provided by the classifiers and that this data is essential for the proAction program certification;
- Whereas the situation experienced in 2020-2021 in the Club Holstein Bas-Saint-Laurent where seven to eight months went by between two classification visits and that many of the classified animals were not at their full potential.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to quickly find solutions to reduce the intervals between visits for members who adhere to the classification mid-round service in Quebec, as well as for the animal welfare evaluations for the proAction certification program. In other words, to keep its commitments and respect a maximum interval of approximately four months between classification rounds and mid-rounds, as well as the interval for the proAction program, so that breeders can get the results of their herd's welfare evaluation at the time of their accreditation.

For: 19

Against: 57

Abstain: 4

DEFEATED

Resolution 4

4. Classification, Customized Scoring

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas each farm's needs may differ from the true type model depending on their type of herd management and environment;
- Whereas some breeders have their own vision of the true type cow;
- Whereas computerized sire selection programs use the classification of the Canadian type cow and not the personalized needs of the company;
- Whereas genetic improvement could be faster if we were able to make a selection of precise traits for males AND females;
- Whereas some companies are quitting the classification services because they no longer correspond to their needs and that, consequently, we are losing data that contributes to proofs.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to create a personalized classification service that would be made available on the extranet to the producers wishing to change the weights of each classification criteria, according to their needs.

For: 29

Against: 45

Abstain: 4

DEFEATED

Resolution 5

5. **Classification**, Virtual Cow - Cow Profile Generator

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas notwithstanding the efforts of training and standardization carried among the classifiers, there are still some challenges to maintain consistency;
- Whereas the projects of semi-regionalization of the classification will allow to bring the breeders and the classifiers closer;
- Whereas there are currently no visual tools to compare a cow to her classification score;
- Whereas the ConneXXion platform is a tool easy to access and use for all producers.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to develop a conformation generator on the ConneXXion platform that would produce a schematic of the cow's conformation to allow comparison of the conformation the cow received to her actual gait. This tool could also be used as an extension tool.

For: 67

Against: 12

Abstain: 1

ACCEPTED

Resolution 6

6. Classification, Report Availability

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas currently, no document is handed out to the breeder at the end of the classification visit and that it takes a few hours or even a few days for the data to be available on the ConneXXion portal;
- Whereas the visit reports would help start the discussion between the breeder and the classifier and would provide a great extension and education opportunity for the breeder.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada that the breeders have the possibility to receive their visit reports by email or by other means directly at the end of the classification visit.

For: 70

Against: 7

Abstain: 4

ACCEPTED

Resolution 7

7. DFC/Blue Cow Logo

Submitted by Ontario Branch (2021)

- Whereas the promotion of Canadian dairy and the Canadian milk symbol is integral to the success and financial stability of Canadian dairy farmers, and;
- Whereas the sale of milk is important to the membership, services, and programs of Holstein Canada and its affiliate branches, and;
- Whereas Holstein Canada and its affiliate branches have strong visible presences through social media, print media, events, and programs.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada and its Branches identify opportunities to promote Canadian dairy and the Canadian milk symbol wherever possible.

For: 58

Against: 21

Abstain: 3

ACCEPTED

Resolution 8

8. **Master Breeder**, Criteria Animal Eligibility

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas we must motivate breeders to register their animals as soon as possible;
- Whereas animal registration is an important source of revenue for Holstein Canada;
- Whereas breeding is an important part of the criteria for obtaining the Master Breeder title;
- Whereas the late registration a selection of the best animals can have an influence on the Master Breeder points and, thus, provide an unfair advantage.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada that an animal that has been registered after one year of age no longer be eligible to contribute points in the calculation of the Master Breeder title.

For: 45	Against: 29	Abstain: 4
COUNT: For: 46	Against: 29	Abstain: 4
ACCEPTED		

Resolution 9

9. **Master Breeder**, Number of Shields per Master Breeder Category

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas the Master Breeder title is a recognition valuing the breeders and that this title is awarded to a prefix (herd);
- Whereas between two categories with the same number of herds, the total number of registrations will be higher in the group with a higher number of registrations per herd;
- Whereas the shields currently go by the total number of registrations per group and not by the total number of herds per group;
- Whereas the current distribution of the number of shields between groups favours breeders that are in the groups with a higher volume of registrations per group.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to review the distribution of the number of Master Breeder shields, i.e. to have the shields awarded according to the total number of herds per group and not by total number of registrations per category in order to recognize the best breeders more fairly.

For: 64

Against: 14

Abstain: 4

ACCEPTED

Resolution 10

10. **Master Breeder, Point System - Additional Points to Promote Older Cows**

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas no additional points are awarded to Master Breeders for a cow that has more than 3E;
- Whereas the milk production of a cow is currently valued only up to 120,000 kg;
- Whereas classification aims to improve the longevity of animals in dairy herds and that the aim of the Master Breeder program is to recognize them.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada be asked to value these cows by removing the point limit which is now set at 3E and 120,000 kg, to allocate one additional point per EX reclassification and one point per 10,000 kg after 100,000 kg of production, rather than per 20,000 kg as is currently the case.

For: 39

Against: 36

Abstain: 5

ACCEPTED

Resolution 11

11. Availability of Antibiotics

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas as of February 25, 2019, a new regulation limits the curative use of class 1 antibiotics;
- Whereas the supply issue of antibiotics remains and that other effective drugs will soon no longer be available;
- Whereas producers have the well-being of their herd at heart;
- Whereas a lack of adequate care during when an animal is sick can cause delays in the animal's growth, decrease its milk production quantitatively and qualitatively and thus, lead to early culling of certain animals and affect the financial profitability of the company;
- Whereas society's expectations as well as proAction's animal welfare standards are increasingly strict and that an untreated animal suffers unnecessarily;
- Whereas good practices help prevent disease, but that antibiotics are sometimes necessary to treat or to avoid bacterial infections;
- Whereas animal welfare also means allowing animals to get healthy again.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to take the necessary steps with all relevant authorities to ensure that the supply issue of antibiotics available to and allowed in cattle breeding advances and be given priority.

For: 26

Against: 51

Abstain: 1

DEFEATED

Resolution 12

12. Production Index, Real 305D Milk Value Index

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas gross animal production data are not published (except on a cow-by-cow basis); these raw data seem to be always changed before being published;
- Whereas LPI and Pro\$ do not always represent the real daughters' ability to generate an optimum income from the volume of milk and components they produce (the real profitability on the farm);
- Whereas genetic indexes decrease as animals age and directly influence the value of these animals, even if their performances and their progeny are very good.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada and Lactanet to develop an index that shows the performance of the sires sold by the AI centres based exclusively based on raw data collected at the farm (milk volume, components, classification). This would allow breeders to compare bulls according to the income generated by the production of their daughters, which would also be compared to their contemporaries.

For: 36	Against: 29	Abstain: 7
COUNT For: 37	Against: 29	Abstain: 7
ACCEPTED		

Resolution 13

13. Publication of the Best Producers in the Award Section of the Holstein Canada Pedigrees

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas the results of the top three placings of the local, regional, provincial and national shows are listed on the Holstein Canada website for those cows;
- Whereas breeders are paid based on the production of their cows;
- Whereas it is in everyone's interest to bridge the gap between show and production awards.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to publish on the cow's pedigrees the top three production placings by age for each Holstein club, as well as at the provincial and national levels.

1st Vote TIED For: 37 Against: 34 Abstain: 6

For: 38

Against: 41

Abstain: 6

COUNT For: 36

Against: 39

Abstain: 6

DEFEATED

Resolution 14

14. Non-fat Component Ratios

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas the surplus of solids non-fat (SNF) is currently produced in relation to market demand;
- Whereas the forecasts tell us to target a Solid non-fat/fat (SNF/F) ratio of approximately 2.00;
- Whereas that, to reach such a ratio, Holstein cows must keep increasing their fat production and more specifically their differential;
- Whereas the fat differential (%) is a high heritability trait and that it is therefore possible to create an efficient genetic selection for this trait;
- Whereas it is important to be proactive to adapt our selection indexes (for example LPI and Pro\$), with the objective of maximizing the use of our milk, and thus, our revenues.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada and Lactanet to revise the current selection tools in order to accelerate the genetic improvement for fat differential to obtain a SNF/F ratio that is better suited to the industry. Be it also requested that breeders sitting on the boards of our AI centres encourage these centres to improve the promotion of the best sires for this trait.

For: 50	Against: 22	Abstain: 6
COUNT For: 49	Against: 23	Abstain: 6
ACCEPTED		

Accept Change
Resolution 15

For: 45

Against: 22

Abstain: 10

ACCEPTED

Amended

Resolution 15

15. **Show Classes, Intermediate Championship**

Submitted by Quebec Branch (2021)

- Whereas the first calvings are being made at a very young age;
- Whereas there are several classes of yearling females (Intermediate Yearling Calved and 2-year-old Summer Calved);
- Whereas cows at their 3rd calving will compete with cows at their 1st calving;
- Whereas this resolution could speed up the judging of young cows.

Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to remove the Senior 3-Year-Old class from the Intermediate Championship for all judging during the show season and present this class at the Senior Championship.

AMENDED: Be it resolved to ask Holstein Canada to withdraw the Senior 3-Year-Old class from the Intermediate Championship for the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and present this class at the Senior Championship.

For: 59

Against: 15

Abstain: 4

ACCEPTED

Resolution 16

16. National Show, Designation

Submitted by Alberta Branch (2021)

- Whereas due to the vast geographical size of Canada, the existence of a national show in eastern Canada limits western provinces from showing;
- Whereas the health and welfare of all animals is of top priority and long-distance tri[s are especially hard on a show animal's well-being;
- Whereas the western provinces have high-quality animals and a national show would recognize these animals on a national stage;
- Whereas the show in western Canada be held in the same regard as a national show in eastern Canada (i.e. points to All-Canadian nominations);
- Whereas there is opportunity to encourage western participation in more shows and also in promoting the Holstein breed throughout Canada.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada designate the Westerner Dairy Showcase in Red Deer a National Show.

For: 46

Against: 27

Abstain: 8

ACCEPTED

Resolution 17

17. LPI/Pro\$ Formula

Submitted by New Brunswick Branch (2021)

- Whereas some important traits such as polled and beta casein are binary in nature,
- Whereas these binary traits can have economic importance and help create a more consumer friendly product; and
- Whereas the LPI which dictates the direction of the Holstein breed genetically has no means to include these binary traits.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada investigate the feasibility of including important binary traits in the index calculation of the animal.

For: 50

Against: 27

Abstain: 3

ACCEPTED

Resolution 18

18. Governance, Board Composition

Submitted by Nova Scotia/Newfoundland Branch (2021)

- Whereas: Young people are essential to the future of our industry;
- Whereas: Decisions made now can affect the next generation of the industry;
- Whereas: It is important to include the voices of the future in the decisions of today.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada create a full voting member position on the board of directors for a young person. (Aged 18-30) This position could be filled by the chair of the Young Leaders Committee or by a three-year term (to be held only once) elected by a nation-wide election.

For: 61

Against: 14

Abstain: 3

ACCEPTED

Resolution 19

19. Fees, Service Pricing - Bundling

Submitted by Nova Scotia/Newfoundland Branch (2021)

- Whereas: Holstein Canada members are experiencing more significant financial pressures than ever;
- Whereas: Here are a number of dedicated core members who utilize all of Holstein Canada's services;
- Whereas: Bundling of services rewards clients and that HC recently announced a bundling option that included registration and genomic testing.

Be it resolved that HC develop more bundling options which could include NLID tags, registration, genomic testing, and First classification.

For: 50	Against: 23	Abstain: 3
ACCEPTED		

Vote to add NEW
Resolution

For: 55	Against: 15	Abstain: 3
COUNT For: 55	Against: 16	Abstain: 3
ACCEPTED		

NEW Resolution

NEW: Inclusivity

Presented by Ontario Branch

- Whereas: Holstein Canada strives to be an inclusive organization;

Be it resolved that HC review all By-laws and policies to update terminology to reflect gender neutrality