



2017 Proposed Non-Binding Resolutions

Industry Vision

1. Submitted by: Manitoba Holstein Branch

- Whereas, it is essential for the continued development and improvement of our breed that we continue to make reliable health, production and confirmation records to verify predicted genomic information;
- Whereas, the cost of producing this information is being born by a rapidly shrinking number of producers;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada take the lead in investigating the possibility of providing milk recording, classification and registration at no cost with all semen sales being levied to cover the cost with aim of spreading the financial burden across the whole industry and encourages as wide as possible data collection sources, mindful not to create a new layer of bureaucracy.

Classification

2. Submitted by: Manitoba Holstein Branch

- Whereas, Holstein Canada conducts a mid-round in between all regular rounds at an additional cost to breeder using the service

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada discontinue the mid-round and make every round a regular round at the same cost to every breeder for the visit.

Transfers From USA

3. Submitted by: Prince Edward Island Holsteins

- Whereas, an increasing number of USA cows are entering the Canadian market;
- Whereas, traceability and Herdbook integrity are of utmost importance for all Holstein Canada members;
- Whereas, all USA cows currently have to be transferred through Holstein USA;
- Whereas, this is a cumbersome process for Holstein Canada members that results in a delay of proper identification and tagging;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada take the lead for its members to facilitate all transfers of USA Holsteins.

Breed Improvement

4. Submitted by: Holstein Québec

- Whereas, crampiness is increasingly prevalent in the Holstein breed;
- Whereas, crampiness seems to be passed on from generation to generation;
- Whereas, animal welfare is our key concern and crampiness symptoms can lead to serious injuries;
- Whereas, crampiness results in heavy economic losses caused by early culling of severely affected animals;
- Whereas, there is little data available in order to identify the sires that may pass on crampiness;
- Whereas, Holstein Canada classifiers compile data on the crampy cows they identify;
- Whereas, there are available indexes that are not associated with the genome;
- Whereas, Steven Larmer's study from the University of Guelph concluded that crampiness is multigenic and that genomics is therefore not sufficiently reliable to identify carrier sires;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada and the Canadian Dairy Network develop a genetic trait for proven sires with observation data gathered by Holstein Canada. The aim being to identify sires with the best resistance to crampiness and by doing so, to start tackling this serious problem until new research findings on crampiness be sufficiently reliable to help us.

Genomic Reliability

5. Submitted by: Holstein Québec

- Whereas, reliability granted to genomic sires' proofs is too high;
- Whereas, several breeders are disappointed by the elite genomic bulls for which they have paid a high price for the semen;
- Whereas, to date, information is solely provided by people who have an interest in the industry;
- Whereas, no other organization is currently interested in conducting a real assessment;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada do some research to have more objective data on the reliability of genomics eight (8) years later.

Judges

6. Submitted by: Ontario Holstein Branch

- Whereas Ontario and Québec have provincial Judges committees and judging programs in place to enhance the training of Judges;
- Whereas we need to develop, promote and utilize our Canadian Judges domestically and internationally;
- Whereas a national committee could advise on; national Judges listings, judging and showmanship manuals / videos, content for National judging schools, International judging assignments and promoting Judges at domestic and international levels;
- Whereas, the importance of continuity and communication between the Branch and Holstein Canada is paramount for the success for any program;

Be it resolved that a National Judges Committee be formed similar to the following:

The National Judges Committee would be comprised of 8 committee members; 2 members from Ontario Judges Committee, 2 members from Québec Judges Committee, 1 judge representing Western Canada judges, 1 judge representing Maritimes judges, 1 Holstein Canada director and 1 Holstein Canada staff member (non-voting). The committee would meet annually and additional meetings could be held by conference call. Committee member judges would serve a minimum 3 year term provided they are an active judge and are a committee member of their provincial branch judges committee, if applicable. The committee would annually elect a chairman. The committee would report annually to the Holstein Canada Board of Directors.

Voting Procedures

7. Submitted by: Ontario Holstein Branch

- Whereas Holstein Canada was founded as a member association that values accuracy and transparency;
- Whereas Holstein Canada conducts annual membership voting concerning Director elections, National Judge selections for RAWF, and annual award selection for Cow of the Year;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada's Board of Directors implement a secure system that ensures proper identification of members on ballots, transparency and accuracy of voting procedures involving all Holstein Canada membership votes.

Cow Signs

8. Submitted by: Ontario Holstein Branch

- Whereas “Cow Signs” are an important part of promotion in barns and at shows;
- Whereas the required information is on the web on a cow’s animal information sheet;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada develop a printable “Cow Sign” section on the web page to allow instant, up to date sign for easy use on farm and at the show.

Awards

9. Submitted by: Ontario Holstein Branch

- Whereas the Master Breeder award is a coveted award for Holstein membership across Canada;
- Whereas it appears that the premise of the award is based on percentage of registrations submitted,
- Whereas it is awarded to a membership based on prefix;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada Master Breeder award be presented with the following adjustments to reflect the importance of a membership award. As an example, a Master Breeder Shield be presented to approximately 1 in every 200 prefixes per category.

Herds	Shields	Registrations (2016)	# Shields Awarded Currently
819	4	7-14 (154,152)	2
904	4	15-19 (250,454)	3
752	4	20-24 (266,615)	3
481	2	25-29 (207,948)	2
569	3	30-39 (309,432)	3
413	2	40-59 (312,640)	4
192	2	60+ (269,366)	3