



2018 PROVINCIALY SUBMITTED NON-BINDING RESOLUTIONS

A. SUBJECT AREA: ADMINISTRATION

1. Submitted by Branch: Quebec

- Whereas, genomics is still an important criterion for the breed;
- Whereas, the use of genotyping in Canada is at a rate of approximately 10%;
- Whereas more and more private companies offer genotyping services;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada implement a new registration procedure that would include genotyping at the time of registration, at a favorable price, which would help the breed continue to advance with genomics.

B. SUBJECT AREA: AWARDS

2. Submitted by Branch: Quebec

- Whereas, several breeders display their award certificates as promotional tools;
- Whereas, breeders are proud to receive awards;
- Whereas, the look of the new award certificates has been a disappointment since the purchase of new printers;
- Whereas, with Holstein Canada e-documents, breeders can choose to print their awards certificates at home;

Be it resolved that we ask Holstein Canada to find a solution to improve the look of the award certificates (colour and style).

3. Submitted by Branch: Quebec

- Whereas, herds' average age is not increasing and tends to decrease;
- Whereas, herds' profitability is directly linked to herds' longevity;
- Whereas, it costs the same amount of money to raise a cow, whether it lasts one or several lactations;
- Whereas, the Master Breeder title now awards bonus points to longevity;
- Whereas, the performance and longevity of a cow that is not EX is not published;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada look into a new award (published online on the same line as classification score and stars) to promote cows with a minimum of 83 points and 6 completed lactations.

C. SUBJECT AREA: CLASSIFICATION

4. Submitted by Branch: New Brunswick

- Whereas, all genetic evaluations, including genomics, require as inputs to the model accurate phenotype data;
- Whereas, biased data decreases the accuracy of Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs);

Be it resolved that for all unclassified females, over 30 days in milk, and with registered sons, that the female must be classified; and further;

Be it resolved that the female cannot be classified as "out of condition."

D. SUBJECT AREA: GENETICS

5. Submitted by Branch : Manitoba

- Whereas, genomics is proving to be a great tool for our industry, it is disappointing that rather than discover "new" high genetic families, its use has instead resulted in a narrower genetic pool that produces our sires.
- Whereas, the cost of producing this information is being borne by a rapidly shrinking number of producers;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada investigate whether it would be possible, using our comprehensive database, to identify two groups of animals that have been overlooked in our current formulation.

1. The families of sires that produce great female lines but not males (Blackstar, Rudolph)
2. Families whose offspring are only average producers in lactation; but who have exceptional later lactations and lifetime production.



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If we could identify genomic markers for these animals and give them recognition on their indexes, we would open up the genetics of many families and help maintain 'Canadian Kind' unique from other Holsteins in the world.

6. Submitted by Branch: Quebec

- Whereas, breeders increasingly use haplotypes as a genetic criterion in their breeding strategy;
- Whereas, this information is already available on the CDN website;
- Whereas, in order to keep clients interested in the Holstein Canada website, necessary information should be made available quickly and easily.

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada add haplotypes to the pedigrees and publish them on the Holstein Canada website so the information is easily accessible.

E. SUBJECT AREA: SHOWS

7. Submitted by Branch: New Brunswick

- Whereas, the Holstein breed has progressed so much and to be proactive with regards to show participation and support;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada explore the possibility of adjustment to the structure of shows; and further;

Be it resolved that any changes must be reviewed by the membership.

8. Submitted by Branch: Prince Edward Island

- Whereas, our dairy industry has seen unprecedented growth;
- Whereas, our Holstein breeders have been progressive in their adaptation to that growth; with a willingness to embrace change;
- Whereas, the show sector of our industry has not seen similar growth or change;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada support our efforts with continued discussion as we make changes to our class structure in Atlantic Canada in our efforts to not only grow and strengthen our shows but also to be more relative to our industry.

9. Submitted by Branch: Quebec

- Whereas, year after year, there are fewer animals presented at shows;
- Whereas, at the shows, heifers born in March, June, September and December have a definite advantage in terms of development;
- Whereas, the value of an animal is significantly higher simply because it is born in March, June, September or December and, in contrast, is considerably lower when the animal is not born in those specific months;
- Whereas, doing this would remove any doubt on the true birthdates of the animals;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada investigate the possibility of having Show classes based on the age of the animals at the time (day or month) of the show – heifers: 0-3, 3-6, 9-12-month-old, etc.; cows: under 24, 24-34, 30-36-month-old, etc. – instead of using their birthdate.

10. Submitted by Branch: Ontario

- Whereas animals exhibited at shows is an important component of the marketing of Canadian Holsteins, and;
- Whereas the breeding, feeding, rearing and managing of North American Holsteins have all changed significantly since the show ages were last studied and revised 35 years ago, and;
- Whereas since the adoption by Holstein breeders of IVF, sexed semen and genomic genetic evaluations, the most marketable age of animal is now heifers under one year of age compared to bred heifers and first lactation cows 40 years ago, and;



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- Whereas the Senior Yearling class has been changed from an uncalved to a milking class for fall shows, thereby making the class in uncalved form meaningless, and;
- Whereas the June Calf class only has meaning in the fall, and;
- Whereas for shows to retain their importance in the breeding of Holsteins they need to be progressive in approach and delivery;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada conduct a study of show ages to find the best ages for 2020 and beyond for heifers that best support junior programs and the marketing of fully documented show animals; and further

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada approach Holstein Association USA with the goal of making the study a North American Holstein initiative; and involve Provincial Holstein Branches in the study. (Note Atlantic Canada is testing out show age revisions for 2018).

11. Submitted by Branch: Ontario

- Whereas the RAWF National Holstein Show provides exhibitors the opportunity to showcase their best animals;
- Whereas in the past 2 years the large number of animals shown in the March and December calf classes (41 March calves for both years and for December 53 and 45, respectively) have not had sufficient space in the Ring of Excellence for exhibitors to show their heifers to the judge;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada and the RAWF show committee investigate alternative options to the current show schedule.

12. Submitted by Branch: Quebec

- Whereas, the Breeders' Cup is a popular competition run by several Holstein clubs in the province;
- Whereas, results of this competition deserve to be known as there is a considerable number of cows entered that stand out both in terms of production and conformation;
- Whereas, in some clubs, cows entered in the Breeders' Cup are not presented at regular Shows;
- Whereas, those cows are judged by professional judges;
- Whereas, winners of this competition stand out in their regions as Show winners do;

Be it resolved that Holstein Canada publish the results of the 1st of each class and the Breeders' Cup Champions, on the animal's online record, on Holstein Canada's website.