

**Manitoba Canola Growers Association
Annual General Special Meeting
February 16, 2023
Victoria Inn, Winnipeg, MB/Virtual**

Link: <https://youtu.be/3s-Y0pEPVSU>

In-person Voting members 30
Online voting members 4
Guests 32
Total in attendance 66

1. Welcome and introduction

- Chuck Fossay, President – MCGA

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the AGM agenda as presented.

**M/S (Pam Bailey/Robert Misko)
Carried**

3. Adoption of Minutes for February 2022 Annual General & Special Meeting

Motion: To adopt the minutes from our February 11, 2021 AGSM.

**M/S (Boris Michaleski/Rauri Qually)
Carried**

4. Annual Report of the Association Video

- MCGA Annual Report Video

5. Canadian Canola Growers Association Report

- Rick White - President and CEO

6. Canola Council of Canada Report

- Jim Everson – President

Question from: Ian Robson - Farmers pass the resolution to take over their own work to take over the varieties and grow their own seed. Where is the effort on this organization and CCC to use less chemicals to protect the environment?

Answer from: Chuck Fossay - Breeding and supplying seed, looking at low cost seed that farmers can reuse, there was such a large yield difference from open pollinated to the hybrid varieties that did exist. There is a 30% difference in yield. The cost of a variety is not where we wanted to spend our money. The hairy canola was a transgenic variety that would have required approval to get registered by all the importing companies. However we are continuing to fund research,

they are developing varieties that are not transgenic that have that gene that deals with flea beetles. It's not commercialized and very early in the research.

Answer from: Jim Everson - A great deal of the research underway is directed to sustainability and sustainable practices and that is a priority that the government has put in place. The only way to address these issues is innovation, and innovating in this area.

Question from: Butch Harder - Getting ripped off on fertilizer costs, is there any work being done with this?

Answer from: Rick White - Point is taken, when we look at farm inputs, fertilizer prices are expensive and we know the disruptions in the world and the disruptions with Russian supply chain issues. If these levels of fertilizer persist, then innovation needs to come into use less fertilizer without the yield drag. As long as farmers have their innovative toolbox open to you, I'm a strong advocate of you using the right tools on your farm, not process based, but outcome based. You know what you need to do individually, our job is to make sure you have the tools you need. Fertilizer prices are too high and that is a supply issue around the world.

Question from: Gerilyn Winchers MB Cooperator - Rick mentioned how busy both organizations have been lobbying, is that normal? And where have you seen the most success or progress?

Answer from: Jim Everson - We have been busy where Canada has a broad population of urban vs rural, farms are getting bigger with less people. We need to be there when our government is a city government and doesn't have a lot of rural members, we have to be active all the time to remind them about the importance of agriculture and the economic impact. The quality of the products we produce when it comes to sustainability, we are very sustainable, and if we are restricted, they will have to grow these products in other parts of the world where they are less sustainable. We are all cohabiting an office in Ottawa.

Answer from: Rick White- We need to re-establish face to face meetings. The list of issues is long. We have expanded our messages outside of Agriculture and the Trade ministers, into Economic Development, the Health Development, the Prairies Department. Messages and influence beyond the core, so that our message is more broad.

Answer from: Chuck Fossay - Food security is becoming of greater interest, climate change and sequestration. They are all looking at Agriculture for carbon emissions or to help sequester the carbon out of the air into the soil. This affects many different departments that we used to deal with.

Question from: Ian Robson - The time here is too short to speak to farmers. We need to account for the viewpoint of all farmers and the public. How do we do this?

Answer from: Chuck Fossay - There are a number of consultations ongoing. The code of practice, the upcoming Canadian Sustainable Agriculture Strategy. There are places where farmers' voices can be heard.

Answer from: Rick White - CCGA speaks with a grower voice. Collaboration doesn't mean we are silenced. We have a clear voice on your behalf.

7. Finance Report Audited Financial Statement

- Jack Froese introduces Alex George.
- Alex George presented the 2021/2022 financial statement of the association.

Motion: To accept the Financial Report for the 2021/2022 as presented.

**M/S (Jack Froese/Brian Chorney)
Carried**

Motion: To appoint DF George as the auditor for MCGA for the financial period ending July 31, 2023.

**M/S (Pam Bailey/Robert Misko)
Carried**

Proposed By-Law Amendments

- 1. The following is added as a new Clause 2.08:
 - SR&ED Agents. The Association shall be considered and act as agents for its Members in respect of all matters relating to the scientific research and experimental development tax credit.
- 2. Clause 6.03(e)(iii) is replaced with the following:
 - The nomination bears the signature of at least three (3) Members or Eligible Persons.

Motion: To amend the two by-laws as presented.

**M/S (Bill Nicholson/Pam Bailey)
Carried**

8. Resolutions

Call for resolutions from the floor

Nicolea Dow made motion:

- WHEREAS...
Farmers need to match genetics to need to optimize their crop management
- WHEREAS...
Canola disease genetics labeling is not readily available to farmers
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED ...
That MCGA encourages the canola seed industry to provide information on canola disease genetics to farmers.

M/S (Lindsay Friesen)

Motion: To consider a resolution from the floor.

**27 in favour, 1 abstained, 6 opposed
Not carried
Did not pass (requires 90% approval)**

Update on 2021 Resolution

Export sales reporting was brought forward as part of CCGA of the Canadian Grain Act.

- Export sales reporting was among the recommendations put forward by CCGA and the provincial grower groups

- Part of a lengthy process to modernize the Canadian Grain Commission and Canada Grain Act
- Continue to raise as appropriate

9. Other Business

Motion that “MCGA act as the agent for producers in all matters relating to Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) in regards to canola, as funded through MCGA. This was covered in the bylaw amendments.” was not required following approval to incorporate this statement into the MCGA bylaws.

Motion: To ratify the actions of the association.

**M/S/C (Brian Chorney/Ron Krahn)
Carried**

10. Canola Award of Excellence – Dr. Michael Eskin

11. Adjourn the 2023 MCGA Annual General Special Meeting at 9:26 am – Chuck Fossay