



ECO 8/28
Tabled by Chair
Date Sept 12, 2017

September 5, 2017

Ms. Stacey Ursulescu
Clerk of the Standing Committee on the Economy
Room 7, 2405 Legislative Drive
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

Dear Ms. Ursulescu:

I am providing the requested follow-up to our Committee appearance on April 24, 2017:

- Request: to share with the committee the membership numbers for each of the federal pastures when they were devolved and where they are currently at.

Please refer to Appendix A – Federal Pasture Membership.

- Request: how many cases [indirect interest or benefit associated with ownership] has the Farm Land Security Board followed up on since the legislation came into effect.

One.

- Request: how the Farm Land Security Board (FLSB) is able to determine the source of the funds if someone pays cash for farmland.

Question #5 of *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act (Act)* Farm Land Ownership Declaration form asks purchasers to declare the source of funds used to purchase the Saskatchewan farm land.

- Request: how many times the FLSB has investigated land purchases since the rules came into effect.

Review of all Saskatchewan farm land transfers is ongoing with the FLSB.

- Request: how many statutory declarations have been requested by the FLSB and why.

One, due to the significant size of the land purchase and a statutory declaration not being submitted as part of the land sale. Additionally, the Saskatchewan Law Society has been asked to assist, and has cooperated by completing and submitting the declaration forms as a part of the transfer documents of an agricultural land sale.

- Request: how often does the FLSB request further information or actions from the purchaser of farm land to prove that the purchaser is in compliance with the legislation.

This activity is ongoing. Exemptions that are provided to a purchaser intending to reside are diarized and followed up on to ensure compliance to exemption orders.

- Request: if there is no documentary evidence or a paper trail, how can the FLSB enforce the new legislation.

The Act provides the Farm Land Security Board the power to levy fines if requested documents are not provided. As well, it provides the Board powers under *The Public Inquiries Act* and the power to order divestment.

- Request: have there been fines levied for contravention of the legislation and if so how much and to whom.

No fines levied.

- Request: how does the FLSB plan on monitoring compliance with legislation for online sales of Crown Land.

Online land sales will be monitored in a manner consistent with all other land sales. The Ministry of Agriculture's Lands Branch requires that the Farm Land Ownership Declaration be completed as part of the sale documentation.

- Request: what kind of information does the online auctioneer gather from the purchaser.

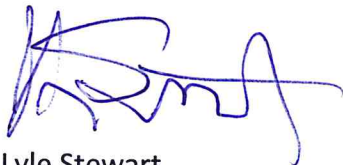
The auctioneer collects basic purchaser information, including legal name, company name if applicable, phone number, email address, billing address, mailing address and GST registration number.

- Request: share how many of the 37 Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation appeals were for unseeded acres.

There were 10 unseeded acreage appeals during the 2016-17 crop year with the following resolution:

- Six appeals denied;
- Two appeals pending Board decision;
- One appeal withdrawn; and
- One appeal yet to be scheduled due to postponement at the client's request.

Sincerely,



Lyle Stewart
Minister of Agriculture

Attachment

Appendix A – Federal Pasture Membership

2013 Pastures	Patrons		2014 Pastures	Patrons		2015 Pastures	Patrons	
	AAFC	Current		AAFC	Current		AAFC	Current
Estevan-Cambria	15	8	Brokenshell #1	26	25	Garry	27	26
Excel	27	18	Brokenshell #2	11	10	Hazel Dell	17	18
Fairview	26	19	Coalfields	47	32	Monet	52	43
Ituna-Bon Accord	21	26	Foam Lake	16	18	Mount Hope-Prairie Rose	9	12
Key West	17	4	Gull Lake	24	22	Paynton	29	13
Lone Tree	25	15	Heart's Hill	17	8	Shamrock	44	33
McCraney	26	18	Hillsburgh	18	16	Tecumseh	17	15
Newcombe	41	17	Kelvington	12	14	Willner-Elbow	34	36
Park	13	10	The Gap	18	9	Wreford-Nokomis	38	25
Wolverine	45	46	Royal	25	15	Cote-San Clara	5	3
			Usborne	34	31	Spy Hill Ellice – SK only	16	13
2013 Total	256	181	2014 Total	248	200	2015 Total	288	237
2016 Pastures	Patrons		2017 Pastures	Patrons		2017 Pastures continued	Patrons	
	AAFC	Current		AAFC	Current		AAFC	Current
Battle River-Cutknife	27	11	Auvergne-Wise Creek	57	TBD	Mariposa	32	TBD
Caledonia-Elmsthorpe	28	22	Battle Creek	30	TBD	Montrose	30	TBD
Coteau	24	21	Beaver Valley	42	TBD	Nashlyn	24	TBD
Dundurn	35	27	Big Stick	24	TBD	Oakdale	24	TBD
Lomond #3	26	25	Bitter Lake	38	TBD	Reno #1 & #2	20	TBD
Masefield	27	24	Eagle Lake	16	TBD	Swift Current-Webb	62	TBD
Meeting Lake	52	36	Govenlock	33	TBD	Val Marie	63	TBD
Progress	25	22	Kindersley-Elma	24	TBD	Wellington	42	TBD
Rudy Rosedale	36	30	Laurier	45	TBD	2017 Total	640	TBD
Spiritwood	24	13	Lomond #1	37	TBD			
2016 Total	304	231	Mantario	30	TBD			