



# *2021 OSCIA Resolution Package*



**Grassroots Innovation**  
*Since 1939*



## **Resolution #1a – Renfrew SCIA – Forage Seeding Program**

WHEREAS Agricorp includes a broad list of cover crop species under the "Standard new forage seeding" program for stand establishment crop insurance coverage, and;

WHEREAS Cereal rye is not included in the current list of species covered under the new forage seeding program, while 2020 rye acreage is estimated near 150,000 acres in Ontario.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA work with Agricorp to have cereal rye added to the list of species covered under the new forage seeding program, and to allow for fall seeded plantings of winter cover crops.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger

SECONDED BY: Kelly Armstrong (Renfrew SCIA)

CARRIED

SEND TO: Doug LaRose, CEO Agricorp

Debbie Brander, Manager, Product Management & Industry Relations, Agricorp

COPY TO: Christine O'Reilly, Forage & Grazier Specialist, OMAFRA

Ray Robertson, Manager and Terry Nuhn, President, Ontario Forage Council

RESPONSE FROM:

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*

**Resolution #1b – Renfrew SCIA – Standard new forage seeding program**

WHEREAS The Agricorp "Standard new forage seeding" program was expanded to cover the establishment of a diversity of beneficial cover crops in Ontario some time ago, and;

WHEREAS The knowledge and awareness of this program among farmers is poor, and;

WHEREAS Crop insurance is a vital risk management tool for farmers and can also be a strong incentive to advance the cause of soil health through improving cover crop utilization among all progressive farmers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA work with Agricorp to promote this program to all farmers for the benefit of Ontario's soil health with the goal of increasing cover crop utilization.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger

SECONDED BY: Kelly Armstrong (Renfrew SCIA)

CARRIED

SEND TO: Doug LaRose, CEO Agricorp

Debbie Brander, Manager, Product Management & Industry Relations, Agricorp

COPY TO: Christine O'Reilly, Forage & Grazier Specialist, OMAFRA

Ray Robertson, Manager and Terry Nuhn, President, Ontario Forage Council

RESPONSE FROM:

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*

**Resolution #2 – Renfrew SCIA – Apprentice-style agricultural programs**

WHEREAS agriculture is an integral part of our economy, and;

WHEREAS there is a significant shortage of skilled agricultural workers, and;

WHEREAS the only formal options for agricultural post-secondary education are either a degree or a diploma.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association explores options of collaborating with other agricultural groups and educators in creating a cluster of apprentice-style programs for post-secondary education to promote more hands-on experience for students.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger

SECONDED BY: Kelly Armstrong (Renfrew SCIA)

CARRIED

SEND TO: Taylor Selig, Executive Director, AgScape

Cathy Lennon, General Manger, OFA

Portia Macdonald-Dewhirst, Canadian Agriculture Human Resource Council program

RESPONSE FROM:

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*

## **Resolution #3 – Prescott SCIA – Producer Crisis support program**

### **Background:**

*To present to the Provincial government to initiate and fund a program to help and support FARMERS IN CRISIS. A system exists in many regions of Quebec bordering the Eastern Ontario region and is showing extraordinary results to help battle MENTAL HEALTH issues, accident issues, employee issues, psychological support, and suicidal issues on the farm. The program hires Agricultural social workers by region to go up and down Concession roads to speak with farmers and get them to talk about their day-to-day challenges.*

WHEREAS Mental Health issues are present everywhere in Agriculture in Ontario, and;

WHEREAS producers are somewhat isolated on their respective farms, and;

WHEREAS it may help producers to express their challenges by hiring social workers with an agricultural background to visit growers on their farms to bring a true discussion on Mental Health issues, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the OSCIA bring the Provincial government's attention to the program in Quebec where agricultural social workers are hired to help support producers locally.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger

SECONDED BY: Marc Saumure (Prescott SCIA)

CARRIED

SEND TO: Honorable Lisa Thompson, Minister, OMAFRA

COPY TO: CAMH, Works Stress & Health Program

Mary Mannella, Director (Acting) Mental Health and Addiction programs, OMAFRA.

Micaela Braaten, Do More Ag

Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton, Associate Professor, Department of Population Medicine,  
Director of Well-Being Programming, OVC, UofG

RESPONSE FROM:

*(Au cœur des familles agricoles --- Santé mentale des agriculteurs – L'organisme Au cœur des familles agricoles reçoit une aide financière de 300 000 \$ - Salle de presse - MSSS (gouv.qc.ca) )*

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*

**Resolution #4 – Dufferin SCIA – Property and Crop Damage due to Trespassers**

WHEREAS Bill 156, Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020 was enacted on June 18, 2020, and;

WHEREAS Bill 156 is intended to protect farm animals, the food supply, farmers and others from risks that are created when trespassers enter places where farm animals are kept or when person engage in unauthorized interactions with farm animals, and;

WHEREAS the implementation of this protection for livestock producers is long overdue and very much welcome by Ontario producers, and;

WHEREAS Bill 156 does nothing to strengthen the farm property trespass act outside a location where livestock are housed or fed, and;

WHEREAS the current Trespass to Property Act R.S.O. 1990 applies to a "field or other land that is under cultivation", among other definitions, and;

WHEREAS local and/or provincial police are uneducated as to the value of field crops and are unwilling to seriously address calls regarding trespassers and the damage they cause to property and crops, and;

WHEREAS assessment of crop damage from trespassers, and application for crop insurance for such damages is very hard to measure and prove.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association work with our provincial government, specifically the Minister of Agriculture, the Solicitor General and the OPP to review the current application and enforcement of the Trespass to Property Act, and;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA encourage the OPP work with local farm organizations to understand the cost inflicted on property owners, by unwanted trespassers of all types, and;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA make government aware of the need for local and provincial police to work with property owners to investigate and apprehend trespassers causing damage to farm property and crops.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger

SECONDED BY: Alan Lyons (Dufferin SCIA)

CARRIED

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*

(cont'd) **Resolution #4** – Dufferin SCIA – Property and Crop Damage due to Trespassers

SEND TO: Thomas Carrique, OPP Commissioner  
Honorable Lisa Thompson, Minister OMAFRA

COPY TO: Robin Jones, ROMA Chair, AMO  
Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, AMO  
Maddison Ellis, Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus  
Warden George Cornell, Western Ontario Warden's Caucus Chair  
Soren Klemmensen, President, Ontario Federation of ATV Clubs

RESPONSE FROM:

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*

## **Resolution #5 – Eastern Valley Regional SCIA – Crop Insurance for Cereal Rye**

- WHEREAS according to Statistics Canada, cereal rye acreages in Ontario have been similar to those of canola, and;
- WHEREAS in 2020 cereal rye area reached around 40 times that of sunflowers, and;
- WHEREAS both canola and sunflowers are both insurable crops while cereal rye is still un-insurable under Production Insurance in Ontario, and;
- WHEREAS cereal rye area in Manitoba is similar to that of Ontario yet Manitoba offers Production Insurance for cereal rye, and;
- WHEREAS OMAFRA and OSCIA continue to promote crop rotation as a Beneficial Management Practice and;
- WHEREAS cereal rye may offer another viable crop to help expand rotations for some Ontario producers and;
- WHEREAS some producers may be unwilling to risk trying to grow an unfamiliar crop without Production Insurance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA work with OMAFRA to convince Agricorp to develop Production Insurance for cereal rye.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger      SECONDED BY: Alan Kruszel (EVSCIA)      CARRIED

SEND TO: Colleen Fitzgerald-Hubble, Director, Agriculture Development Branch, OMAFRA

COPY TO: Joanna Follings, Cereal Specialist, OMAFRA  
Christine O'Reilly, Forage & Grazier Specialist, OMAFRA  
Crosby Devitt, CEO, Grain Farmers of Ontario (GFO)  
Debra Conlon, Manager, Government Relations, GFO  
Ray Robertson, Manager, Ontario Forage Council (OFC)  
Terry Nuhn, President, OFC

RESPONSE FROM:

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*



**Resolution #6 – Eastern Valley Regional SCIA – OSCIA website**

WHEREAS OSCIA members (and many others) are asked more and more to visit the OSCIA website and;

WHEREAS an Association as important as OSCIA should have a modern, fully functional and easy to navigate website and;

WHEREAS there is an enormous amount of valuable information available on the OSCIA website and;

WHEREAS the OSCIA website is difficult to navigate and not user friendly and;

WHEREAS something as important as the OSCIA AGM is not even promoted on the Home Page of the OSCIA website to facilitate membership engagement, and to make it easier for participants to find information and register for the event and;

WHEREAS little positive change has occurred since the last resolution regarding the website was adopted by delegates in 2020 and;

WHEREAS at the time of writing this resolution links to previous AGM resolutions were broken.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA hire an independent third party web developer to work with the website committee to thoroughly assess the website and;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the necessary changes to the site be made in time for a launch at the OSCIA AGM 2022.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger      SECONDED BY: Alan Kruszel (EVSCIA)      CARRIED

SEND TO: Alan Kruszel, Eastern Valley SCIA President  
Tracy Myers, Eastern Valley SCIA Secretary

RESPONSE FROM:



**Resolution #7 – Eastern Valley Regional SCIA – OSCIA Financial Visioning committee**

WHEREAS OSCIA has mainly relied on program delivery contracts from very few funders for the bulk of its income and;

WHEREAS judging by the 2020 financial statements, some of those funders may not be as reliable a source of funding in the future and;

WHEREAS in 2020 board and staff did a great job reducing non project related expenses by lowering them by over \$200k compared to the previous year and;

WHEREAS OSCIA was still in a deficit position in 2020 prior to the one-time charge from one of its funders.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA investigate hiring a business advisor to assist the Finance Visioning Committee fulfill its strategic priority of developing multiple revenue streams to help bring the association back to a well balanced and reliable income position.

MOVED BY: Warren Schneckenburger

SECONDED BY: Alan Kruszel (EVSCIA)

CARRIED

SEND TO: Alan Kruszel, Eastern Valley SCIA President  
Tracy Myers, Eastern Valley SCIA Secretary

RESPONSE FROM:

**SEEK - TEST - ADOPT**



**Grassroots Innovation** *Since 1939*