Manitoba Canola Growers Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2026
Victoria Inn Hotel and Conference Centre
7:30 am

31 Voting members
42 guests
10 staff

Call to order by Warren Ellis - Chair of Manitoba Canola Growers Association, at 7:30 am.

Introduction of board of directors and staff.

Motion: to Adopt the Agenda.
M/S/C (Chuck Fossay/Jackie Dudgeon MacDonald)

Motion: to Adopt the Minutes for Feb. 11, 2025 Annual General & Special Meeting.
M/S/C (Jason Kehler/Nicolea Dow)

Annual Report of the Association
- Chuck Fossay presents the Advocacy report.
- Nicolea Dow presents the Research and Agronomy report.
- Jason Kehler presents the Market Development report.
- Darren Nykoliation presents the Communications, Member Learning and Development report.

Introduce and thank you to partners from Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Canadian Canola Growers Association Report
Rick White, President and CEO

Canola Council of Canada Report
Chris Davison, President and CEO

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Q&A
- Question from Ernie Sirski to all: Have you done any research on the impact of tariffs from China has been?
- Answer from Rick White, CCGA: An estimated $2-4 billion if they were closed for the full year but we haven't gone back to analyze the last 3-4 months.
- Answer from Chris Davison, CCC: Ran scenarios last year on what impacts could be across the value chain.

- Question from Boris Mickaleski: Every canola producer took a hit on the ledger, the cash advance interest free limit has helped, here is the money but we need to finance our way out of this problem. What has been taking place lobby wise to get compensation from the penalties farmers have faced?
- Answer from Rick White. CCGA: This major problem was caused by the Canadian government. We need this market and continued disruptions would cause major damage to the industry as a whole. Talked to the Prime Minister in September, explained that the gravity of $2-4 billion to the industry. He said that we would get it done by Christmas, and he delivered the market back in the direction we wanted. To demand compensation now would be a long shot and we would burn goodwill to no end.
- Answer from Chris: Clear direction was to reopen the market as quickly as possible. Our work is not done, we have seen significant progress but we need to continue that work to get a more stable solution.

Finance Report
Jay Derkach invited Alex George, George & Associates to present MCGA's Audited Financial Statement.

Motion: to accept the 2024-25 financial report as presented.
M/S/C (Jay Derkach/Jason Kehler)

Motion: to accept the 2024-25 financial report as presented
M/S/C (Ernie Sirski/Darren Nykoliation)

Financial Sustainability Review

- As we shared at last year's AGM our expenses have started to outpace our revenue in recent years, bringing us to the point that we had to dig in and do a financial sustainability review. This look place last year over the summer months, where we had the privilege of connecting directly with our farmer members through surveys, interviews and a focus group. To everyone who took the time to share your thoughts, experiences, and ideas—thank you. Your voices will form the foundation of our direction going forward.
- Overall 86% of farmers are satisfied that MCGA has been supporting their long-term success and 89% of respondents believe MCGA will continue to play an important role in farmers' success into the future.
- We will bring a proposed plan to the AGM next year that delivers strong value for farmers, sets clear priorities, and is supported by a budget that is both responsible and realistic.
- One message came through very clearly: the importance of research and independent agronomic support. In response to that priority, and alongside recent changes to the Canola Council of Canada's agronomy team and cuts to Agriculture and AgriFood Canada services, MCGA has posted a one-year term position for an agronomy specialist to join our team. If this role continues to be a strong fit for the organization, the position may be extended.

Q&A

- Question from Ernie Sirski: Are you looking to raise the levy's and by how much?
- Answer: It is something the board is considering, we are taking more time with our strategic plan and what does that number look like? We are looking at what it is and whether it will increase? As cost increases, and the demand of the farm groups the investments will be exhausted.
- Comment from Chuck Fossay to the members: Most commodity groups collect $1 per tonne, how many tonnes for wheat/oats/soybeans do you grow per acre? Usually it's about $1 per acre. Canola is the lowest cost per acre. Haven't increased check off since 2008.
- Comment from Jay Derkach: We have tasked the staff at looking at their budget and coming under. Good line and good direction.
- Question from Jack Froese: Admin has gone up and we are adding another position in agronomy. On the admin side it's a heavy increase.
- Answer from Delaney: When you look at the percentage, it looks high, but the real numbers and compared to other groups, our staff is the second lowest of all the groups. Revenue is low, percentage is high. Our office space is half compared to our counterparts. When we compare to other organizations we are well under.

Bylaw Amendments - Resolutions

Warren Ellis provided an update on Active Resolutions:

- There was a resolution in 2021 regarding mandatory export sales reporting. This resolution continues to be pursued in partnership with Canadian Canola Growers Association and SaskOilseeds.

- SaskOilseeds members also passed this resolution, and they have the resources to lead the investigation into what needs to be done to introduce mandatory export sales reporting. They recently hosted a webinar on this topic that MCGA shared with members as an update on the progress and the barriers involved.
- KAP also passed this resolution and it will be discussed at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture annual meeting in Ottawa later this month.
- CCGA continues to pursue this issue from the political side as part of the Grain Act review, but like many political changes, it is slow progress.

- Regarding the disease labeling resolutions from 2024 and 2025, MCGA continues working with Alberta and Saskatchewan provincial canola commissions to encourage the canola seed industry to utilize and/or develop universal labels that provide information on canola disease genetics to our farmer members.
- While there has been some transition in the industry that has slowed progress on this ask, we are still seeking support from the national disease steering committees to establish a benchmarking system on disease resistance labeling.
- This system would provide long-term tangible evidence of the challenges and progress on this issue, while signaling to the committee membership, which includes seed company representatives, that this is a priority for growers across western Canada.

- We will now move into resolutions submitted prior to this meeting. We have one resolution to discuss. It is printed in the back of the left side of your folder.

Whereas Manitoba Canola Growers Association (MCGA) is a producer funded organization that represents the interests of Manitoba Canola Producers,

And whereas the organization is to represent the interests of Manitoba Canola producers on a national and international level,

And whereas Manitoba canola producers have been affected, as have been canola farmers throughout Canada, by tariffs imposed by China as a result of trade actions taken on behalf of auto manufacturers and workers,

And whereas these tariffs have recently been rescinded or recently decreased for future deliveries

And whereas the impact of future deliveries has not addressed the lost value of past deliveries of canola,

And whereas there have been significant canola deliveries made during the included tariff period,

And whereas the USA has announced compensation to its grain producers of $12 billion,

Therefore; Be it resolved that MCGA, and its associated, national and value chain organizations lobby the government for compensation for damages to canola producers as a result of the Chinese tariffs,

And, further be it resolved that compensation be forthcoming in a timely manner that reflects the hurt that resulted in the tariffs that were imposed by China.

Ernie Sirski: Moved
Melvin Radoc: Seconded

Chuck spoke in opposition to the resolution due to what CCGA and CCC had said earlier. Keeping markets open and looking at new markets.

Boris Michaleski speaking in favour of the resolution. Heard what's been done up today. This does not compensate for the damage this has caused. This is not an issue that we have created. The US government has provided compensation to the farmers.

Ernie spoke in favour of the motion.

In favour: 13

Opposed:13
Abstained: 2

Motion defeated due to tie with two abstentions.

No resolutions from the floor.

Other Business
Staff Recognition for Long Service
- Jennifer Dyck, Market Development Director for 20 years with the organization.
- Chuck Fossay termed out after 12 years on the board.
- Returning to the board were Warren Ellis, Jackie Dudgeon MacDonald and Jay Derkach. Interviewing for a new board member in the coming weeks.

Motion: to Ratify the Actions of the association.

M/S/C (Jackie Dudgeon MacDonald/Jason Kehler)
1 opposed.

Canola Award of Excellence
- Dori Gingera-Beauchemin celebrated at the Crop Connect banquet

Adjournment at 9:09 am.