



2021 OSCIA *Resolution #4*



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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



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(cont'd) **Resolution #5 – 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: N.D. (DWIGHT) PEER, CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT, COMMANDER,
CENTRAL REGION, OPP

July 6, 2021

Dear Mr. Graham:

Thank you for your letter of June 21, 2021, addressed to the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Commissioner Thomas Carrique, regarding property and crop damage due to trespassers in Dufferin County. As Commander of the OPP Central Region, I am responsible for overseeing operational activities undertaken within the region, including those in Dufferin County, and am pleased to respond on behalf of the Commissioner.

I appreciate the concerns raised by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA). Inspector Terry Ward, Commander, Dufferin OPP Detachment, has been provided with a copy of your correspondence, and I understand that his staff have communicated with the OSCIA to discuss this issue. If required, Inspector Ward is available to speak with you and can be reached at 519-925-3838.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours truly,



File N.D. (Dwight) Peer

Chief Superintendent Commander, Central Region

c: The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Inspector Terry Ward

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