

2025 OSCIA *Resolutions*



Grassroots Innovation
Since 1939



Resolution #1 – Middlesex SCIA – Delivering Program Dollars

WHEREAS Program dollars are intended benefit the environment and increase grower knowledge, and;

WHEREAS Many growers are intimidated by the application paperwork, and;

WHEREAS Growers then turn to 3rd party service providers to develop grant applications that often do not increase grower knowledge or meet good environmental benefit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA work to find better ways to deliver and support applications from the growers to ensure program dollars support the intended outcome.

MOVED BY John Poel _____ SECONDED BY Henry Posthumus
Frontenac

Carried.

Resolution #2 – Middlesex SCIA – Coordinating On-Farm Research Results

WHEREAS A great deal of on-farm research is conducted on Ontario farms, and;

WHEREAS This research would have exponentially greater value if the protocols and results were coordinated at the Provincial level, and;

WHEREAS Other jurisdictions have developed excellent systems for coordinating, compiling and reporting the results.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA coordinate with Grain Farmers of Ontario to arrange a farm research network coordinator.

MOVED BY John Poel _____ SECONDED BY Peter McLaren _____
Lanark

Carried.

Resolution #3 – Elgin SCIA – Nitrogen High Yield Research

WHEREAS Nitrogen fertilizer costs and emissions are top of mind, and;

WHEREAS N response data does not include the high yields (greater than 220 bu) that many growers now achieve.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSCIA continue to support Nitrogen research in high yield environments and look at nitrogen loss potential and participation in the DIFM initiative.

MOVED BY John Poel _____ SECONDED BY Terry Small _____
Elgin

Carried.



Resolution #4 – Elgin SCIA – Coordinate to Create Searchable Database

WHEREAS A great deal of on farm research is conducted in Ontario farms, and;

WHEREAS This research would have exponentially greater value if the protocols and results were coordinated at the provincial level, and;

WHEREAS Other jurisdictions have developed excellent systems for coordinating, compiling and reporting the results.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OSICA liaise with OMAFA and GFO to create a searchable database of on farm trials.

MOVED BY John Poel

SECONDED BY Terry Small
Elgin

Carried.

Resolution #5 – York SCIA – Membership Term

WHEREAS OSCIA membership has been designated to be on a yearly basis on a specific date from the date of payment, and;

WHEREAS this causes undue complications to the local associations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that membership be on a yearly basis from January to December.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Luke Burkholder
York

Carried.

Resolution #6 – Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Carleton and Eastern Valley SCIA's – OMAFRA Field Crop Specialists

WHEREAS OMAFA Field Crop Specialists provide much needed independent advice to Ontario producers, and;

WHEREAS For the last several years Eastern Ontario has been well served by at least two such specialists, one of whom has always been bilingual, and;

WHEREAS This past year the bilingual position has become vacant, and;

WHEREAS Currently, Eastern Ontario has no Field Crop Specialist able to communicate proficiently in French, and;

WHEREAS Eastern Ontario is home to a significant number of Francophone producers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that OSCIA encourage OMAFA to maintain the bilingual requirement of this Field Crop Specialist position and to move with all due haste to fill the position with a qualified bilingual individual.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Mathieu Latour
Russell

Carried.

Resolution #7 – Glengarry, Prescott & Eastern Valley SCIA’s – Communications

WHEREAS OSCIA is membership-based grassroots organization, and;

WHEREAS To be a relevant organization to members requires excellent communication flow, and;

WHEREAS There have been communication issues at OSCIA for quite some time, especially since the termination of the regional newsletters, and;

WHEREAS The recent termination of key association staff that directly impact the membership was never properly communicated, and;

WHEREAS The roles and responsibilities for Regional Communications Coordinators(RCCs) haven't been reviewed and amended since the time of regional newsletters (several years ago).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that OSCIA work with locals, regions and the broader membership to develop a comprehensive communication plan that meets the needs of members and all other relevant stakeholders, and;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that this same group work to develop updated roles and responsibilities for RCCs.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Eleanor McGrath
Glengarry

Carried.



Resolution #8 – Eastern Valley & Prescott SCIA’s – Governance Modernization

WHEREAS OSCIA functions under an outdated governance model where there exists a very large executive committee in relation to the size of the Board, and;

WHEREAS no other major farm organization in the province has an executive committee that comprises 5 members (nearly 40%) out of a Board of Directors of 13 members, and;

WHEREAS Currently, once elected to the position of third vice president, individuals are expected to continue on the executive until they complete their term as past president (5 years), and;

WHEREAS The thought of having to commit to 5 years on the executive has been an impediment to some Board members in seeking an executive position, and;

WHEREAS A 3-year commitment would be much more reasonable and would make the term on the executive appealing to more Board members, and;

WHEREAS A smaller Executive will also lead to improved participation of all Board members, better discussions around the Board table and ultimately better decision making.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that OSCIA prepare constitutional amendments to be presented at the next AGM of the Association to reduce the number of executive members from the current 5 to a more reasonable 3.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Alan Kruszel
Stormont/Eastern Valley

Failed.



Resolution #9 – Niagara SCIA – OSCIA Emailing Membership Renewal Notices

WHEREAS OSCIA has recently increased Membership fees thus making it necessary for Local Associations to renew Memberships annually, and;

WHEREAS OSCIA would have the Data Base and the technical ability to easily send out renewal notices annually, and;

WHEREAS It would greatly reduce the workload of all the hard-working Secretaries who do so much for Local Associations. OSCIA, and the Membership.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that OSCIA send out email renewal notices to all Members as their Memberships expire.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Warren Schneckenburger
Dundas

Carried.

Resolution #10 –Quinte SCIA – Enhance the Research Section of the OSCIA Website

WHEREAS The mandate of OSCIA includes the development and communication of innovative farm practices, and;

WHEREAS OSCIA-supported research has generated significant data and information valuable to its members, and;

WHEREAS The OSCIA website is envisioned as a comprehensive resource for members.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Research section of the OSCIA website be revised into a well-organized, easily searchable, and up-to-date repository that effectively communicates research outcomes in a manner that members can understand and apply.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the OSCIA Board allocate the necessary resources to implement these enhancements.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Alan Kruszel
Stormont

Carried.

Resolution #11 – Manitoulin and Sudbury SCIA’s – Compensation for Wildlife

WHEREAS Crop losses from wildlife damage are chronic and substantial, and;

WHEREAS The losses are not adequately addressed through Agricorp Production Insurance, and;

WHEREAS Other provinces have compensation programs for crop losses from wildlife (as presented as recently as April 2024 by the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) to Ontario’s Agriculture-Wildlife Conflict Working Group (AWCWG), chaired by OMAFA) and;

WHEREAS Ontario has a compensation program for livestock losses caused by wildlife (the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (OWDCP), administered by OMAFA).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, OSCIA support OMAFA, with ideas, information and statistics, in the creation of a compensation program for damage to crops by wildlife.

Amendment:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, OSCIA request support OMAFA, OFA, CFFO and GO and work with any additional relevant partners, with ideas, information and statistics, in the creation of a compensation program for damage to crops by wildlife.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Johannes Renecker
Manitoulin

Carried.

Resolution #12 – Wellington SCIA – Implementation of Communication Plan

WHEREAS Local boards have not been receiving adequate information regarding the allocation of government grants, including specifics on how funds are being distributed and utilized, and;

WHEREAS There has been a lack of communication regarding access to the relevant information that track grant information, and;

WHEREAS The local boards have not been properly informed about the activities or updates from OSCIA, and;

WHEREAS There is a clear need for improved communication between the OSCIA and the local boards it serves.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of OSCIA approves the implementation of a comprehensive communication plan aimed at:

1. Providing transparent and detailed reports on the allocation and usage of government grants;
2. Ensuring regular updates and access to information relevant to grant information;
3. Enhancing outreach and communication about the activities of the OSCIA;
4. Establishing clearer channels for consistent and timely information dissemination to local communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs the responsible parties to develop a strategy for these improvements and report back on progress within a set time frame.

MOVED BY John Poel SECONDED BY Stuart Wright
Wellington

Carried.

SEEK - TEST - ADOPT



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