

Resolution 1: Corridors for Pollinators: Maintaining Roadsides for Pollinators; Establishment, Restoration, Management and Maintenance CARRIED

TITLE OF RESOLUTION:

Corridors for Pollinators: Maintaining Roadsides for Pollinators; Establishment, Restoration, Management and Maintenance

RATIONALE / PURPOSE FOR RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS honey bees and other pollinators are important to agriculture, the economy, food security, biodiversity and the environment

WHEREAS honey is regulated for residues of herbicides and pesticides

WHEREAS pesticides and herbicides have a known negative health effect on honey bees and other pollinators

WHERE AS honey bees are a sentinel for One Health

WHEREAS the Alberta Beekeepers Commission understands the need roadside maintenance and safety

WHEREAS Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation and Alberta Transportation or their delegates own or control land that can create important corridors for forage, nutrition, and habitat

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Alberta Beekeepers Commission request Agriculture and Irrigation work with Transportation and Economic Corridors to develop a strategy for pollinators accessing Alberta's public spaces and roadways which considers the needs of honey bees, beekeepers and native pollinators.

RESOLUTION BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Increasing the range and diversity of available forage throughout the season is critical to ensuring healthy honey bees and other pollinators. Climate change, pesticides, pests and changing field crop varieties are all challenges to the long-term health of honey bees and other pollinators. Alberta has 165,000 kilometres of unpaved and 62,000 km of paved roads which can, with best management practices that keep honey bees, beekeepers and other pollinators in mind, can help to support the nutritional needs of this important resource.

One Health: One Health is an approach calling for "the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally, and globally, to attain optimal health for people, animals and our environment", as defined by the One Health Initiative Task Force

Pheasants Forever – Save the Edges https://pheasantsforever.ca/save-the-edges/

Roadside Best Management Practices that Benefit Pollinators:

https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/env_topics/ecosystems/Pollinators_Roadsides/BMPs_pollinators_landscapes.aspx

Pollinators and Roadsides: Best Management Practices for Managers and Decision Makers:

https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/env_topics/ecosystems/Pollinators_Roadsides/BMPs_pollinators_roadsides.aspx

Identifying the Current State of Practice for Vegetation Management Associated with Pollinator Health and Habitat: An Interview Report

https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/env_topics/ecosystems/pollinator_reports/pollinator_interview_rpt.aspx

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