

Resolution 2: Transfer of Ag Stream Temporary Foreign Workers Similar to those in the Seasonal Agriculture Workers Program CARRIED

TITLE OF RESOLUTION:

Transfer of Ag Stream Temporary Foreign Workers Similar to those in the Seasonal Agriculture Workers Program

RATIONALE / PURPOSE FOR RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS producers labour needs can be varied greatly by factors not under their direct control, such as natural disaster, weather and/or disease; and

WHEREAS many Alberta Beekeepers use Temporary Foreign Workers (TFWs) under the Ag Stream Program from such countries as the Nicaragua, Philippines, etc.; and

WHEREAS transfer of such Ag Stream TFWs is extremely difficult, if not impossible within the season under present regulation compared to TFWs under the Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program (SAWP); therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Alberta Beekeepers Commission work with all appropriate parties (provincial & national commodity groups, national agriculture labour organizations) to request Service Canada bring changes to the Ag Stream Program which would allow transfers between approved employers within a time frame similar to those presently enjoyed under the Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program.

RESOLUTION BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Agriculture Stream was introduced to allow Agriculture Employers access to Temporary Foreign Workers who would not fall under the terms the Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program; country of origin, length of stay, etc. Service Canada has stated on several occasions they would like to bring the two Programs as close as possible. This is an area of glowing difference. Some producers may find themselves short of staff, while others have too many. Under SAWP a transfer can usually take place in less than a month. Under Ag Stream it usually takes several months.

Name of producer submitting resolution:	Dave Tharle
Name of person seconding resolution:	Jeremy Olthof
Date:	November 30, 2022