



September 5, 2024

Greg Seed  
President  
Beef Farmers of Temiskaming

Dear Greg,

Re: *Access to Crown Land Resolution 24-02*

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The following resolution was passed at the Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) annual general meeting in February and was recently discussed by the BFO Board of Directors:

**WHEREAS**, the ability to access to Crown land continues to be a limiting factor for producers; and  
**WHEREAS**, access to Crown land is one option to increase the beef herd in the province; and  
**WHEREAS**, BFO has made access to Crown land a lobby priority for the last few years;  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT BFO** continue to make access to Crown land for the production of beef in the province of Ontario a top priority in the lobby efforts.

On behalf of the BFO Board of Directors, I would like to thank the Beef Farmers of Temiskaming for bringing forward this resolution. The Board recently reviewed its federal and provincial lobby priorities, and agricultural access to Crown land and promoting policies that improve the Crown land disposition and access process remains a key priority for BFO.

In May, we held a lobby day at Queen's Park. Helping to grow Ontario's agri-food land base through investments in community pastures and policy flexibility that allows Crown land to be accessed by farmers for food production was an issue we raised with Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP) that we met with.

In early August, I met with Deputy Minister John Kelly from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness to discuss BFO's key priorities for Ontario's beef sector. Agricultural expansion in northern Ontario and improving the Crown land disposition process for agriculture was discussed during our meeting. We strongly believe further developing farms in northern Ontario is one of the most significant economically sustainable plans for the region and will contribute substantial economic base activity for decades. Improving access to Crown land for agriculture use is a key component of this objective.

We intend on meeting with officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) in the coming weeks to discuss the process for accessing Crown land for agricultural purposes, specifically those targeted for grazing, and if there are ways of making it less onerous. The Northern Livestock Pilot and Beef North initiative are two projects we would like the current government to revisit as viable options for consideration.

BFO will continue to engage the provincial government to improve the process for accessing Crown land for agriculture and ensuring it is defined and transparent. Once again, thank you for bringing this resolution forward and we will keep you apprised of any relevant developments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig McLaughlin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Craig McLaughlin  
President

cc: Amy Hiscock (Mover)  
Matt Bowman (Seconder and Advisory Councillor)  
Carol Anne Regele (Secretary)