



AGLA 2025 RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2025 -01

WHEREAS rangeland area is being reduced on grazing leases and
WHEREAS recent reclamation efforts in some areas of the province have been focused on planting trees on well sites and pipelines instead of supporting rangeland

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AGLA lobby government to support the land use as active grazing leases, not forest and that the rangelands should be maintained.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AGLA lobby government so that the tree harvest and planting program on these lands should work with the leaseholders and agrologists to maintain the diversity of habitat.

RESOLUTION 2025 -02

WHEREAS Alberta's *Water Act* allowed agricultural water users who used water prior to January 1, 1999 to raise livestock and apply pesticides to crops to register their water use and receive a priority number dating back to the time of first use; and

WHEREAS the registration applications were accepted from landowners and lessees between January 1, 1999 and December 31, 2001; and

WHEREAS there was considerable delay in processing many of the applications; and

WHEREAS some applications for registration were denied because the land was not owned by the applicant; and

WHEREAS there was no right of appeal to the decisions regarding registration; and

WHEREAS there was at best confusion over whether provincial grazing leaseholders or Public Lands staff were responsible for registering traditional agriculture water use on provincial grazing lease lands; and

WHEREAS some traditional water use registrations have become attached to the wrong land titles; and

WHEREAS the *Water Act* requirement that the Designated Director be notified in writing of dispositions such as the sale of lands or grazing leases for which traditional water registrations are appurtenant has not been fulfilled;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association request that the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas immediately pause activity on all non-compliance files under the *Water Act* on provincial grazing leases, such pause to be in effect until the aforementioned omissions and errors in traditional agriculture water use registration can be identified and rectified.

RESOLUTION 2025-03

WHEREAS after months of research and extensive public consultation, the government's Coal Policy Committee brought forward recommendations for a "New Coal Policy," which responded to concerned landowners, producers and Albertans about coal development in our eastern slopes and headwaters. The coal policy recommendations highlighted concerns about environmental impacts on our headwaters and ecosystems. Former Minister of Energy and Minerals, Minister Sonya Savage, wrote a Ministerial Order to halt all coal developments in the eastern slopes until proper land use planning was completed. On January 20th, 2024, AB Minister of Energy and Minerals Brian Jean wrote a directive to the Alberta Energy Regulator to remove the Ministerial order.

The purpose of the Coal Policy Committee was to ensure a balance between potential coal development and environmental protection in order to maintain a desirable quality of life for Albertans, AND

WHEREAS the Alberta Grazing Leaseholder Association represents the collective interests of lease holders who steward more than 5,700 grazing leases covering an estimated 5.2 million acres. The lion's share of grazing leases in Alberta are native landscapes. These landscapes have survived many pressures including settlement, agricultural expansion, urban development and industry. A big reason for that survival is the stewardship of the leaseholder, AND

WHEREAS on January 20, 2024, without any consultation of directly impacted cattle producers, lease holders, and Albertans, in general, or those who would be directly or adversely affected, the government of Alberta removed the Ministerial Order, opening the eastern slopes to opportunities to resume coal exploration and coal development opportunities, AND

WHEREAS the Mission of the Alberta Grazing Leaseholder Association is to protect Alberta's grazing leaseholders from erosion of rights and property and to preserve the assets and income of grazing leasehold owners, AND

WHEREAS the effect of removing the Ministerial Order for coal exploration and development in the Eastern Slopes of Alberta is that coal development is now permitted on 1.5 million hectares of Alberta's Eastern Slopes, resulting in potential immeasurable loss to the productive capacity and capability of beef cattle grazing lands due to industrial development and contamination of watersheds, forage, and native grasslands by selenium and other toxins, as well as airborne dust; AND

WHEREAS Core Strategy of the Alberta Grazing Leaseholder Association in order to achieve its Mission is to ensure long-term sustainable access to the land and water resources of the province for the benefit of beef producers and grazing leaseholders; AND

WHEREAS the effect of removing the Ministerial Order for the eastern slopes of Alberta is that grazing leaseholders in the Eastern Slopes (many of whose grazing leases have been in the same family for several generations) will have potentially compromised grazing lands, and the quantity and quality of the water necessary to sustain their operations will be in question; AND

WHEREAS the Core Strategy of the Alberta Grazing Leaseholder Association to achieve its Mission is to influence government legislation and policy by actively representing the interests of leaseholders locally, provincially, and nationally.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Grazing Leaseholder Association will take an active role in supporting its members in engagement with the government to discuss and adhere to proven science concerning coal development, which results in agricultural consultation regarding the "modernized coal" initiative that secures the protection of the Eastern Slopes and its native grasslands and grazing lands and our watershed from contamination and over-allocation of water-use, and ultimately protects and preserves the continued sustainability of beef production on grazing leases in the Eastern Slopes.

Such support may include but will not be limited to the following: meeting with the Premier, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Minister of Forestry and Parks, Minister of Energy, Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation; seeking to obtain intervenor status in Judicial Review Applications and meet with the MLAs for the Provincial Electoral Divisions of Livingstone-Macleod, Banff-Kananaskis, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre, and West Yellowhead. In addition, concerned producers should be invited or consulted with whenever possible in these meetings.