

**RESOLUTIONS AS ADOPTED BY**  
**The 88<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**of the**  
**CANADIAN HORTICULTURAL COUNCIL**  
**Fairmont Château Frontenac – Québec City, Québec**  
**March 2 – 5, 2010**

**2010-01**     **Climate Change Adaptation** **CARRIED**

BC Fruit Growers' Association

**Allocation:**     *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*

WHEREAS     the growers support the direction of government on climate change adaptation;  
and

WHEREAS     a change in policy is needed for agriculture to be encouraged to play a pivotal  
role in halting and reversing climate change,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED     that the CHC encourage the government to provide  
adequate funding for agricultural adaptation to climate change.

**2010-02**     **Declining Consumption of Potatoes** **CARRIED**

Prince Edward Island Potato Board

**Allocation:**     *Potato Committee*

WHEREAS     potato consumption has declined in North America in recent years (In the United  
States, consumption has declined 15% per capita from 1996 to 2006, and in Canada  
consumption has declined by 14% per capita from 1997 to 2007. As well, population in Canada  
has increased by 13.9% over the same time period, making the decline even more pronounced.  
[Source: Food Statistics, Statistics Canada & Vegetables and Melons Outlook, USDA]); and

WHEREAS     potatoes compete directly with other starches like pasta, rice and bread; and

WHEREAS     table potatoes have lost market share due to changing consumer behaviours,  
such as demand for greater convenience foods, an increased percentage of food consumption  
outside the home, and negative perceptions regarding the health and nutritional aspects of  
potatoes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED     that the CHC form a marketing task group designed to  
develop strategies and recommendations to combat declining potato consumption.

2010-03

**SevinXLR**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association

**Allocation:** *Crop, Plant Protection and the Environment Committee*

WHEREAS consumers want large, consistent fruit, and whereas chemical thinners are very important in the production of high quality fruit; and

WHEREAS SevinXLR gives Canadian growers the most consistent thinning results from year to year,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC urge the PMRA to retain the registration of SevinXLR for use of thinning in apples.

2010-04

**Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association

**Allocation:** *Human Resources Committee*

WHEREAS the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) has met the needs of employers and employees involved with the program for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS the program has been held up as a standard by 30 different countries as a program that they would like to emulate; and

WHEREAS the horticultural industry in Canada relies on the SAWP program to supply labour to insure a supply of horticultural products to consumers and processors; and

WHEREAS the HRSDC is currently reviewing the Canadian Low Skills Program and looking for ways to bring this program and SAWP closer together,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CHC lobby HRSDC so the SAWP program remain undiminished and in place to continue to meet the needs of employers, employees, processors and consumers who benefit from the program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CHC highlight to the federal MPs and provincial MLA's the benefits of SAWP.

2010-05

**CFIA to Establish more Stringent Import Protocols for Produce Entering Canada**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association

**Allocation:** *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*

WHEREAS destructive invasive pests are increasingly entering Canada; and

WHEREAS such pests pose a significant risk to crop production; and

WHEREAS the occurrence of such pests in Canada, or interception of such pests on produce exported from Canada, pose a significant risk to market access; and

WHEREAS the loss of production or market access would devastate the sector; and

WHEREAS the CFIA uses science-based Pest Risk Assessments (PRAs) as the basis for establishing import and pest management protocols; and

WHEREAS the CFIA has responsibility for protecting Canada from such pests, and the CBSA the responsibility for inspecting products entering Canada,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CHC lobby the CFIA to establish more stringent import protocols for produce entering Canada in order to prevent the entry of invasive pests and fully disclose the science behind such decisions as well as its definition of the various levels of risk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CHC ask the Government of Canada to direct the CFIA to increase inspections on imported produce based on the CFIA's protocols.

**2010-06** ***Establishing a Farm Financial Protection Program*** **CARRIED**

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association

**Allocation:** *Finance and Marketing Committee*

WHEREAS the horticulture sector continues to deal with declining margins due to increasing costs of energy, labour and currency exchange; and

WHEREAS marketing/shipping companies in the value chain have failed; and

WHEREAS individual growers have been unpaid for the produce they have produced due to these failures; and

WHEREAS the risk of further failures is rising,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC put further efforts and resources towards establishing a Farm Financial Protection Program for horticulture producers.

**2010-07** ***Mandatory Country of Origin Labelling*** **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association

**Allocation:** *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*

WHEREAS it is recognized that country of origin labelling is mandatory on produce imported into Canada; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that this requirement currently only applies to the label on containers of imported fruits and vegetables and does not apply to the individual piece of fruit or vegetable; and

WHEREAS this practice does not apply to produce that is delivered to Canada in bulk form leaving the Canadian sector vulnerable to illegal repacking, mislabelling and potentially unacceptable food safety and traceability practices; and

WHEREAS horticulture imports should be subject to the same requirements as Canadian horticulture exports,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CHC aggressively pursue the requirement of COOL labelling on all imported greenhouse produce by the individual piece or consumer-sized package.

- 2010-08**     **Telone Discontinuation**     **CARRIED**  
 Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association  
**Allocation:**     *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*
- WHEREAS     Telone, a fumigate, is a vital component of many fruit and vegetable crops in Canada and is being withdrawn; and
- WHEREAS     there are no alternatives available now and into the foreseeable future; and
- WHEREAS     it is the mandate of the CHC to lobby to ensure that all farmers have access to the proper tools in Canada's toolbox,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED     that the CHC seek a solution to this nation-wide problem with the assistance of those member organizations whose farmers have been impacted by this decision, made without consultation to the agricultural community.
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- 2010-09**     **USDA Inspection of table potatoes at Woodstock/Houlton border**     **WITHDRAWN**  
 Potatoes NB  
 New Brunswick Potato Shippers' Association  
**Allocation:**     *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*
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- 2010-10**     **Cost of C-PIQ Certificates**     **CARRIED AS AMENDED**  
 Potatoes NB  
 New Brunswick Potato Shippers' Association  
**Allocation:**     *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*
- WHEREAS     C-PIQ potato certificate fees have not decreased as it appears CFIA costs have decreased, with an increased number of C-PIQ participants; and
- WHEREAS     CFIA advised that lower fees could only be reflected with an increased number of C-PIQ participants; and
- WHEREAS     CFIA charges C-PIQ sheds \$30.00 per certificate; and
- WHEREAS     CFIA has established fees of \$15.00 for potato Y-release certificate issuances,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED     that the CHC request to Canadian Food Inspection Agency that C-PIQ certificate fees be established at \$15.00 per certificate, similar to the fee for a Y-release certificate.
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- 2010-11**     **FDA Sampling of Horticultural Products**     **CARRIED AS AMENDED**  
 Potatoes New Brunswick  
 New Brunswick Potato Shippers' Association  
**Allocation:**     *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*
- WHEREAS     the United States of America Food and Drug Administration sample horticultural products entering the USA at the border entry point; and

WHEREAS the FDA practice a “test and hold” procedure, that is, the load of produce is held until laboratory results are received; and

WHEREAS laboratory results take nine days or more, with some product held nearly a month, before results are received; and

WHEREAS this sampling and testing delay results in lost markets and additional transportation and storage costs as well as re-inspection and certification of product; and

WHEREAS Canada has a similar policy with a sampling procedure that allows product to proceed to destination with follow-up action if necessary,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC request that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency encourage the FDA to approach border sampling of horticultural Products in a more timely manner, eliminating long costly delays; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that CFIA encourage the United States FDA to stop the “test and hold” policy on all horticultural Products entering the USA and use a plan similar to the CFIA sampling procedure.

**2010-12** ***Inclusion of Potato in Health Canada’s Health Claim #4*** **CARRIED**

Potatoes New Brunswick

New Brunswick Potato Shippers' Association

**Allocation:** *Committee of the Whole*

WHEREAS the Health Canada Regulation B.01.603 under the *Food and Drug Act* excludes the potato by name from health claim #4, which advises Canadians that “A healthy diet in a variety of vegetables and fruits may help reduce the risk of some types of cancers”; and

WHEREAS it is unacceptable that the potato is unfairly excluded from the above claim while other fruits and vegetable are permitted to make this claim even when they contain food additives, salt, or sweeteners; and

WHEREAS Health Canada’s decision to exclude the potato from this cancer related claim makes it difficult for consumers to recognize the positive nutritional aspects of the potato; and

WHEREAS when this prevents consumers in Canada from recognizing potatoes as being part of a healthy diet, the entire Canadian potato industry is negatively impacted,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Horticultural Council lobby Health Canada to ensure that potatoes are included with the other vegetables and fruits on this Health Claim.

**2010-13** ***Government Relations*** **CARRIED**

Conseil québécois de l’horticulture

**Allocation:** *Committee of the Whole*

WHEREAS the primary role of the CHC is to convey the concerns of the horticultural sector to the Canadian government; and

WHEREAS over recent years, relations with AAFC do not reflect the importance of the

Canadian horticultural sector and its contribution to the development and maintenance of rural activities; and

WHEREAS the CHC is the sole representative of Canadian fruit and vegetable producers; and

WHEREAS the primary production represents over \$3 billion annually and is the largest creator of jobs in the agricultural sector,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Horticultural Council request that the Canadian government and AAFC acknowledge the CHC as the primary representative of Canadian fruit and vegetable producers, and the role that fruit and vegetable production plays in the improvement of the health and quality of life of Canadians, and translate this acknowledgement into more frequent meetings between CHC representatives and the appropriate minister and deputy ministers (meeting at least four times a year).

**2010-14 Safety Nets **CARRIED AS AMENDED****

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Finance and Marketing Committee*

WHEREAS horticultural businesses differ in terms of their production structure, which features:

- A low profit margin per production unit;
- Labour intensive production;
- High capital input per production unit;
- A profit margin that fluctuates with the vagaries of the weather and market conditions, such as export exchange rates, foreign competition, commodity quality and overproduction; and

WHEREAS horticulture functions in a highly competitive, free-market environment,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC stresses to government the need to abolish coverage caps in the various safety net programs, including the AgrilInvest program, and ensure that funding be made available as required.

**2010-15 Impact of Changes to the Wages of Foreign Workers on Horticultural Production Costs **WITHDRAWN****

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Human Resources Committee*

**2010-16 Definition of Greenhouse Production **CARRIED AS AMENDED****

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Greenhouse Committee*

WHEREAS Canadian federal and provincial governments have several different definitions for greenhouse production, specifically for regulatory purposes; and

WHEREAS several of these definitions contain outdated or imprecise terminology; and

WHEREAS retailers use and abuse these various definitions to market products that do not necessarily come from greenhouses as we perceive them in Canada; and

WHEREAS there is reason to distinguish and define what constitutes a production greenhouse, a heated greenhouse, a row cover or hydroponic growing; and

WHEREAS tunnel-grown commodities from the U.S. and Mexico are being marketed in Canada as greenhouse products; and

WHEREAS our industry risks losing its credibility as a result of the misinformation being given to consumers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC set up a task force with a mandate to develop a clear and precise definition of greenhouse production in Canada.

**2010-17 *Harmonization of American and Canadian Data  
in the Approval Process of Canada/US IR-4 Projects***

**CARRIED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*

WHEREAS Canada has participated since 2002 in the joint harmonization with the U.S. of certain products designated under the U.S. IR-4 Project; and

WHEREAS despite the joint approval process, some products are approved in the U.S. and not approved in Canada (e.g. Tanos [Famoxadone + Cymoxani] against late blight [Septoria] in celery, a joint IR-4 priority in 2003). The new American 2009 label permits its use on celery and all leafy vegetables. However, its use has been rejected by the PMRA in Canada); and

WHEREAS certain data are not harmonized (e.g. agricultural workers exposure data) and interpreted differently by the PMRA and the U.S. EPA; and

WHEREAS Canada funds several efficacy and residue studies required for the approval of joint IR-4 projects and our efforts help American producers to gain access to better pest control strategies and American produce is then exported to the Canadian market.; and

WHEREAS the IR-4 harmonization process benefits greatly to all Canadian horticultural producers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Horticultural Council request that AAFC and the PMRA fully harmonize their registration process within the IR-4 process and that all products approved in the U.S. by joint IR-4 projects become automatically approved in Canada.

**2010-18 *Onion and Potato Exports***

**CARRIED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*

WHEREAS onion and potato exporters must meet the needs of their customers within a period of 24 hours; and

WHEREAS the CFIA has undergone numerous budget cuts in recent years; and

WHEREAS given these budgets cuts, the time required to conduct inspections is increasing,  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC request that the CFIA increase its number of inspectors in order to cover a work week of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday.

**2010-19** **Scallion and Pepper Exports** **CARRIED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Trade and Industry Standards Committee*

WHEREAS the USDA requires exporters of scallion and peppers to provide phytosanitary certificates; and

WHEREAS the number of CFIA inspectors issuing phytosanitary certificates is very limited,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CHC lobby the CFIA to assign a sufficient number of inspectors to scallion and pepper exporters to enable phytosanitary certification within 24 hours.

**2010-20** **Development of an accelerated process to import new grape varieties** **CARRIED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Apple and Fruit Committee*

WHEREAS phytoplasma disease is not transmitted by sowing or by *in vitro* propagation; and

WHEREAS most vine viruses are not transmitted by sowing and/or by *in vitro* propagation; and

WHEREAS the new hybrid grape varieties in the U.S. present little risk since they stem from recent sowings; and

WHEREAS the standard approval process is lengthy; a new grape variety takes 7-10 years to reach the commercial distribution stage; and

WHEREAS northern viticulture is in full expansion and that new global developments, especially in the U.S. but also in continental Europe, are intended for rapid global deployment, since the alternative is a technological lag, then decline of the industry in favour of other better organized wine-producing regions; and

WHEREAS the Quebec viticulture industry wishes to have quick access to these new grape variety technologies; and

WHEREAS the implementation of a perfect, foolproof program that meets the needs of all provinces would take several years, time that the Association des vignerons du Québec does not have; and

WHEREAS the industry is trying to reduce its exposure to risk; and

WHEREAS the Association des vignerons du Québec would like to see in place a program for the 2011 propagation season, i.e. for October 2010; and

WHEREAS this new process would enable the rapid and safe deployment of new vine varieties adapted to the needs of Quebec wine growers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CHC request the Canadian Food Inspection Agency undertake the development of an accelerated process to import new grape varieties.

**2010-21** **Registration of the Use of DPA Gas** **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*

WHEREAS the market demands firm apples, which means having to treat them with "Smart Fresh"; and

WHEREAS apples treated with "Smart Fresh" must also be treated with DPA to prevent deterioration caused by CO2 during the storage period; and

WHEREAS the current DPA treatment consists in soaking containers full of apples prior to storage; and

WHEREAS a product exists for treating the apples once they have been placed in storage; and

WHEREAS the new method requires less work; and

WHEREAS trials have been conducted in Quebec and in Ontario for the purpose of treating apples in their containers at the storage site; and

WHEREAS the product manufactured by Decco was used in both these trials; and

WHEREAS this product is registered for use in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS a resolution on this subject has been adopted by the CHC Apple and Fruit Committee,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC lobby the federal government in order to have DPA thermal fogging registered for use in Canada as soon as possible.

**LR2010-22** **Dislodgeable Foliar Residue** **CARRIED**

BC Greenhouse Growers Association

**Allocation:** *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*

WHEREAS Dislodgeable Foliar Residues (DFRs) are an outstanding issue and a barrier to pesticide registrations for some commodities; and

WHEREAS the PMRA requirements and evaluation have led to serious delays or non-availability of some products,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CHC vigorously pursue discussion with PMRA to reduce the DFR requirements, so that less complicated data can be used, similar to requirements in other jurisdictions

**LR2010-23** ***Efficacy Trials - Fertilizers*** **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*

WHEREAS the number of efficacy trials required for registration of a product as part of the law on fertilizers is high; and

WHEREAS the requirements are an obstacle to registration of products; and

WHEREAS the Canadian registration system is congested; and

WHEREAS certain trade partners, particularly the United States, don't have any requirements of efficacy demonstration and this causes a chronic technological deficit,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC does the necessary representation to the CFIA in order to re-evaluate the requirements of efficacy demonstration by eliminating or reducing greatly the numbers of efficacy trials required relative to the fertilizer law.

**LR2010-24** ***Efficacy Trials - Pesticides*** **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Crop, Plant Protection and Environment Committee*

WHEREAS the number of efficacy trials required for registration of a product as part of the law on the pesticides is high; and

WHEREAS the requirements are an obstacle to registration of products; and

WHEREAS the Canadian registration system is congested; and

WHEREAS certain trade partners, particularly the United States, don't have any requirements of efficacy demonstration and this causes a chronic technological deficit,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC does the necessary representation to the PMRA in order to re-evaluate the requirements of efficacy demonstration by eliminating or reducing greatly the numbers of efficacy trials required relative to the pesticides law.

**LR2010-25** ***Government Relations- International Trade*** **CARRIED**

Potato Committee Executive

**Allocation:** *Potato Committee*

WHEREAS a strong working relationship along with excellent communication with Government is crucial to our industry; and

WHEREAS the current PCN Task Force has demonstrated the ability to positively influence communication problems between CFIA and industry; and

WHEREAS efforts have been ongoing from the Potato Committee Executive to enhance the working relationship and communication with CFIA in other areas; and

WHEREAS it is crucial to our industry to have access to CFIA staff who will attend meetings such as the Canada/US Potato Committee meeting in Ottawa last November; and

WHEREAS implementation of measures specified in potato trade agreements between the federal governments of Canada and the US are two years behind schedule on initiatives of major importance for Canadian growers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CHC communicate the frustration of the industry to CFIA and work to obtain a commitment from CFIA to ensure that CFIA staff is present at crucial industry meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CHC obtain a commitment from the Canadian Government that international trade agreements will be honoured including adhering to the schedules as stated in the agreements.

**LR2010-26 *Guidelines relative to the demand and treatment of Ministerial Exemptions for Potatoes***

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Potato Committee*

WHEREAS the guidelines for Ministerial Exemptions for potatoes have been in place since November 1<sup>st</sup> 2009; and

WHEREAS the ministerial exemption applicant can use a future contract of 60 days to prove that there's a shortage of products in Canada or a shortage is anticipated; and

WHEREAS a copy of the future contract of 60 days established between the participants must come with the ministerial exemption form or be provided by the CFIA before the submission demand; and

WHEREAS the contract must have been signed and dated by the two parties at least 60 days before the first consignment; and

WHEREAS there are marketing conventions in use in certain provinces, for example, the province of Quebec,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC demand:

- CFIA require a copy of the future contract of 60 days established between the participants must be provided to the CFIA at least 60 days before the date of the ministerial exemption form.
- The CFIA will count 60 days at the time of reception of the contract before authorizing the potatoes importation.
- That CFIA notify the provincial associations at the time of receiving the contract on the quantity and type of potatoes applied for.

**LR2010-27** ***A Simpler Mechanism to  
Maintaining up-to-date Grade Standards***

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Apple and Fruit Committee

**Allocation:** *Committee of the Whole*

WHEREAS the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Regulations of the Canada Agricultural Products Act have grade standards established for 30 different fresh fruits and vegetables; and

WHEREAS fresh fruit and vegetable grade standards require constant change to keep pace with changing consumer demands; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Food Inspection Agency have attempted to keep pace with changes to grade standards requested by industry through the use of test markets; and

WHEREAS most of these test markets have been in existence for over 10 years and will remain as test markets until such time as they are amended in regulation; and

WHEREAS the Fresh Produce Alliance has completed a thorough review of 30 grade standards, with the exception of potatoes, resulting in 100's of changes that would update, modernize and standardize Canadian grade standards with those of the U.S. which could result in many more test markets that will probably not be changed in regulation for a number of years; and

WHEREAS government and industry require a simpler mechanism to keep grade standards up-to-date without having to make regulatory changes,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, in conjunction with the CHC, DRC, CPMA and OPMA explore the merits of retaining and maintaining the grade standards in a referenced document which would facilitate the implementation of amendments to grade standards in a more timely manner.

**LR2010-28** ***Impact of Changes to the Wages of  
Foreign Workers on Horticultural Production Costs***

**CARRIED**

Conseil québécois de l'horticulture

**Allocation:** *Human Resources Committee*

WHEREAS the horticulture sector relies on the timely and general availability of labour, and

WHEREAS the Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program and NOC C and D (Agriculture Low Skill Program) are critical to the stability of horticulture, and

WHEREAS the sector and the program are under continuous scrutiny and threat

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the HVCRT conduct (horticulture) sector research to analyze and report on the economic, environmental, health and labour contribution of the sector for the purpose of developing outreach to government, consumers and the labour pool (labour market information, value of seasonal work, contribution of the SAWP, NOC C and D)

**LR2010-29 Voluntary vs. Mandatory Declaration of Grade **CARRIED AS AMENDED****

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association

**Allocation:** *Committee of the Whole*

WHEREAS grades are becoming less important as market standards exceed the grades; and

WHEREAS some of the same containers are often used for produce that have grades and those that do not (i.e. peaches and nectarines); and

WHEREAS if grade declaration was voluntary, we could remove the Canada #1 and use the container for both,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CHC, in conjunction with the CFIA, prepare a list of all the pros and cons of making the declaration of grade voluntary vs. mandatory for all fresh fruits and vegetables and report back at the next AGM of the CHC.

**LR2010-30 On-Farm Food Safety Research and Development Needs **CARRIED AS AMENDED****

CHC On-Farm Food Safety Technical Working Group

**Allocation:** *Research and Technology Committee*

WHEREAS little or no published scientific data and results exist on the effects on human health from the application of bio-solids in Canadian fruit and vegetable production; and

WHEREAS bio-solids are defined as: "The material, predominantly organic in nature, resulting from treatment of industrial sewage, municipal sewage and septic system waste"; and

WHEREAS producers have access to bio-solids as an agronomic input and currently producers enrolled in the CanadaGAP program are prohibited from using them; and

WHEREAS a variety of new agronomic products are available to producers and may be a more economic alternative to conventional inputs; and

WHEREAS the CHC OFFS Technical Working Group must have scientific data on which to base decisions in establishing the requirements of the OFFS manuals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Horticultural Council request that Health Canada develop a process, methodology and rigour of the required research and testing, to ensure that food safety concerns of bio-solids are addressed.