1950

c 8 Agricultural Associations Act

Ontario
CHAPTER 8

The Agricultural Associations Act

1. In this Act,

(a) "association" means any one of the organizations referred to in sections 2 and 20;

(b) "Minister" means Minister of Agriculture. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 1.

2. The following associations, societies and organizations shall be, or continue to be, bodies corporate under this Act:

The Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association,
The Entomological Society of Ontario,
The Dairymen's Association of Eastern Ontario,
The Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario,
The Ontario Poultry Association,
The Eastern Ontario Poultry Association,
The Ontario Bee-keepers' Association,
The Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union,
The Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association,
The Dominion Swine Breeders' Association,
The Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association,
The Canadian Horsemen's Association,
The Ontario Horse Breeders' Association,
The Gardeners' and Florists' Association,
The Ontario Corn Growers' Association,
The Ontario Plowmen's Association,
The Ontario Swine Breeders' Association,

and such other associations, societies, institutes, or organizations as may be designated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 2; 1948, c. 2, s. 1.

3. The membership of each association shall consist of annual subscribers, and the membership fee shall be fixed by by-law. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 3.

4. Each association shall have a constitution and by-laws, under which the association shall be conducted, and the constitution and by-laws, and any change, alteration or repeal thereof shall be submitted to and approved by the Minister.
5. Each association shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as may be determined by by-law. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 5.

6. Each association, at its annual meeting, shall elect a board of directors, the number of directors, their representation of certain districts or classes of members, and their mode of selection being determined by by-law. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 6.

7. The members may elect as director a person not a member of the association, but the person so elected must, within ten days, become a member, and he shall be entitled to act as director only after he has become a member of the association. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 7.

8. At each annual meeting the retiring officers shall present a full report of their proceedings, and of the proceedings of the association, and a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditure for the previous year, and of the assets and liabilities, duly audited, and a copy of the report, and of each of the statements of the receipts and expenditure, together with a list of the members and a list of the officers elected, and also such general information on matters of special interest to each association as the association has been able to obtain, shall be sent to the Minister within forty days after the holding of the annual meeting. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 8.

9. (1) The directors shall, from among themselves, elect a president and one or more vice-presidents, and shall also from among themselves or otherwise elect a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary-treasurer.

(2) Except as otherwise provided for, a majority of the directors of the association shall form a quorum. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 9.

10. The directors shall have full power to act for and on behalf of the association, and all grants of money and other funds of the association shall be received and expended under their direction, subject to the by-laws and regulations of the association. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 10.

11. The Minister may appoint a person who shall audit the accounts of any association, and such auditor shall
present a report of the result of his audit to the officers of the association, and also to the Minister. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 11.

12. The members of the association may by by-law provide that only those members who have paid their subscriptions at least one week in advance of the annual meeting shall be qualified to vote at the annual meeting for the election of directors. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 12.

13. Except as otherwise provided, a vacancy occurring by the death or resignation, or failure to qualify as member, of any officer or director may be filled by the remaining officers of the association, and it shall be the duty of such officers to nominate and appoint a fit and proper person to fill the office for the unexpired term of the person so dying or resigning; but, in the event of the remaining officers being insufficient to form a quorum, or, if, for any reason, a quorum cannot be obtained, then persons to fill the vacant offices shall be elected in manner provided in section 14. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 13.

14.—(1) In the event of an election of any directors of an association not being held at the time or place directed by by-law or being for any reason illegal and void, the persons in office at the time when such officers or directors should have been elected shall continue to be the officers of the association until their successors are legally appointed.

(2) In the event of any such non-election or illegal election, a special meeting of the members of the association shall, as soon as practicable, be called in the manner provided by this Act, for the election of such directors, and at such meeting the election of officers shall take place, and the persons elected shall thenceforth, until their successors are appointed, be the officers of the association. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 14.

15. A special meeting of the directors of any association organized under this Act may be called by the president thereof, or, in his absence or on his neglect, by the vice-president, or, in the absence or on the neglect of the president and vice-president, by any three members of the association, of which meeting at least seven days notice shall be given to each member. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 15.

16.—(1) The treasurer of every association before entering upon the duties of his office shall give such security, either by joint or several covenant with one or more sureties, or otherwise, as the board of directors may deem necessary, for
the faithful performance of his duties and especially for the
due accounting for and paying over all money which may
come into his hands.

(2) It shall be the duty of the board in each and every
year to inquire into the sufficiency of the security given by
the treasurer and to report thereon, and where the same
treasurer for any association is reappointed from year to
year his reappointment shall not be considered as a new
term of office, but as a continuation of the former appoint-
ment, and any bond or security given to the association for
the faithful performance of his duties under such reappoint-
ment shall continue valid as against the parties thereto.

(3) If the officers of an association neglect to procure and
maintain proper and sufficient security they shall be person-
ally responsible for all funds of the association in the possession
of the treasurer. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 16.

17.—(1) Every association shall be entitled to receive
annually out of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature
for that purpose a specified sum on the following conditions:

(a) that the number of bona fide members is at least fifty;

(b) that the secretary of the association shall, on or
before the 1st day of September in each year, transmit
to the Minister an affidavit, stating the number of
members who have paid their subscriptions for
the current year, and the total amount of such
subscriptions;

(c) that the general provisions of this Act applying to
the associations have been complied with;

(d) that none of the funds of the association, from what-
ever source derived, have been expended in a manner
inconsistent with the purposes of organization of the
association.

(2) The municipal council of any city, town, village,
county or township in Ontario may grant or loan money or
grant land in aid of any agricultural association formed within
the limits of the municipality, or partly within the limits
of such municipality and partly within the limits of other
municipalities, or wholly within the limits of an adjoining
municipality when such association has made returns to
the Minister as required by this Act, provided that the total
amount or value of the money or land heretofore or hereafter
granted or loaned by any municipality to an agricultural association under this section shall not exceed $5,000 in the case of a city, $2,000 in the case of a town and $1,000 in the case of a village. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 17.

18. If an association ceases for twelve consecutive months to do business as required by this Act and by its constitution, by-laws and rules, or if the Minister is satisfied, after an inquiry at which the association was given due notice to appear, that the business of the association is not being properly conducted, the Minister may declare the corporate powers of the association forfeited. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 18.

19. The Ontario Horticultural Exhibition, the Ottawa Winter Fair, the Peninsular Winter Fair and such other organizations as may hereafter be designated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, shall be corporate bodies under this Act with power to acquire and hold land as a site for fairs and exhibitions, to sell, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of the same or any other property held by such body, and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe such constitution, rules and regulations as are deemed necessary. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 19 (1); 1950, c. 1, s. 1.

20. Upon the petition of any association or society not subject to this Act but formed for the purpose of advancing the interests of any branch of agriculture, being presented to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may declare that this Act shall apply to the association or society so petitioning, and thereafter this Act shall apply to such association or society in the same manner and to the same extent as if it had been incorporated under this Act. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 20 (1).

21.—(1) An advisory board for live stock may be formed to advise the Minister regarding matters of interest to the live stock industry.

(2) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may direct how the board shall be constituted, and may prescribe the duties and powers of the board.

(3) Members of the advisory board shall receive an allowance for their time and their necessary travelling expenses in attending meetings of the board, or a committee of the board. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 21.

22.—(1) The formation of boards of agriculture, farmers' institutes and women's institutes, for the purpose of
disseminating information in regard to agriculture, and of improving domestic life, shall be permitted under this Act, and the same shall constitute associations under this Act.

(2) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, upon recommendation of the Minister, make rules and regulations providing for the number and location of the boards of agriculture, farmers’ institutes and women’s institutes, for the general guidance and direction of the same, and fixing the grants, and conditions upon which the grants are to be paid. R.S.O. 1937, c. 80, s. 22.