

**Task Force  
to Structure  
AIC's Future**

AIC AGM  
July 17, 2011





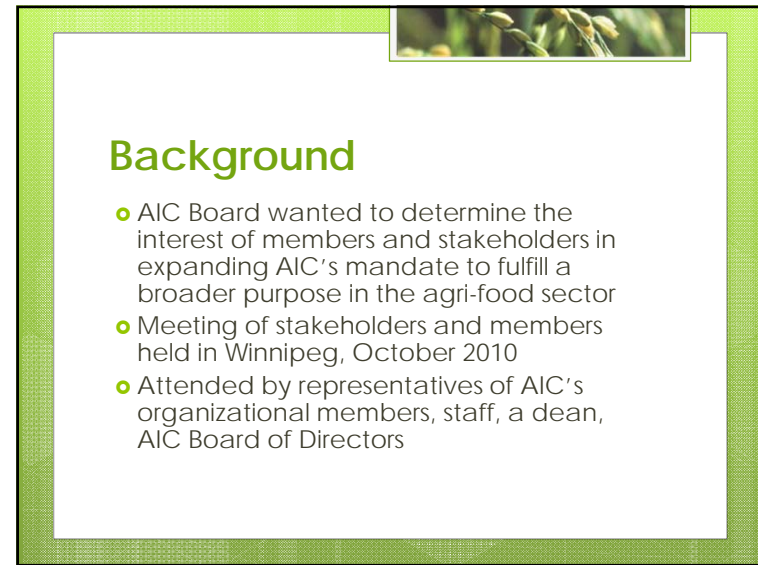
**Our Vision**  
Canadian agriculture is a global leader in stewardship of our land through science

**Our Mission**  
AIC will broaden society's knowledge and use of science and agriculture



**Background**

- AIC's structural transition in 2005 reduced membership
- Investments in strategic planning, marketing and personnel impacted financial equity
- AIC is financially viable while limiting activities to core programs of scientific journals, international agricultural development, and support services for other associations



**Background**

- AIC Board wanted to determine the interest of members and stakeholders in expanding AIC's mandate to fulfill a broader purpose in the agri-food sector
- Meeting of stakeholders and members held in Winnipeg, October 2010
- Attended by representatives of AIC's organizational members, staff, a dean, AIC Board of Directors



## Winnipeg Meeting

Discussion of programs and services to make AIC more relevant to members and the Canadian agricultural sector

Strategic Areas Identified:

- Ag Research Priorities
- People
- Profile of AIC and its members
- Serving the needs of agrolgists
- Board Structure and Governance




## Task Group to Structure AIC's Future

- Established in November 2010
- First meeting December 2010
- Representatives from scientific societies, provincial institutes, and individual AIC members
- Working groups established for each of the strategic areas identified in Winnipeg



## Potential Program Areas

- Development of a database on research expertise in Canada
- Facilitate discussion on ag research needs and priorities
- Develop the strategic case for ag research based on agriculture as a "solution provider"
- Issue / Discussion Papers
- Joint national meetings



## Proposed Structure

An elected **Board of Directors** to lead and govern AIC

An appointed **Advisory Council** to connect to the agriculture sector and advise the Board of Directors

## Board of Directors

Elected members: President, President Elect, Past President, Treasurer, 3 Directors

Ex officio: Executive Director

The Board:

- has legal and fiduciary responsibility for AIC
- is responsible for setting goals and strategic direction
- members have first responsibility to AIC, its care and well being

## Board of Directors

- Board members nominated and elected by AIC members
- Candidates for President Elect – nominated by AIC members
  - Elected by members or by Board?
- A nominee must be an AIC member in good standing
- President Elect serves one year, becomes President in year two and Past President in year three
- Treasurer is appointed by the Board

## Advisory Council

Includes representatives of association members plus others appointed by the Board to represent the diversity of the agriculture sector

Membership will ideally be balanced by geography, demographics and work sector (government / industry / academia)

## Advisory Council

Advisory Council members:

- sit on Advisory Committees (e.g. plant, animal, food)
- make recommendations (non-binding) to the board
- members are not required to have first responsibility to AIC, its care and well being.

## Advisory Council

- Allows stakeholder groups to discuss and deliberate the vision and direction of AIC
- Directly involves a broad range of ag sector to provide diverse, informed input on policy and projects to the Board
- Increases the number of informed, up-to-date people to assist on committees
- Is a talent pool for future members of the Board
- Allows government employees to have input without being on the governing body and in a potential conflict of interest

## Advisory Committees

### Process

- Meet once per year in person, and quarterly or as needed by teleconference
- Communicate, consult with and survey the general membership by email, telephone and other media
- Make recommendations (non-binding) to the Board

## Function and Coordination

To ensure the Board, the Advisory Council and its Advisory Committees communicate frequently and are all fully informed, one or more Board members will sit on each Advisory Committee

## Fees

Current Annual Fees	Current Membership
Individual \$ 125	Individual 334
Association \$1,000	Association 12 (6 scientific societies; 5 institutes of agrology; Dairy Farmers of Canada)
Corporate \$ 500	

To expand programs, more funding is required



## Proposed Future Fees


**Not for Profit Groups**

Over 125 members	\$1,000
75 – 125 members	750
50 – 75 members	500
25 – 50 members	250
Less than 25 members	\$10 / member

**National Producer Groups** \$1,000

**Companies** (<\$1M sales) \$2,500  
(>\$1M sales) \$5,000

**Individuals** \$150




## Process Going Forward

By September 15<sup>th</sup>:

- Send AIC written feedback on the discussion document and other items
- Send AIC your nomination for a representative for the Advisory Committee, to serve until the 2012 AGM

**Permanent structure and by-law changes sent to AIC membership for approval at the 2012 AGM**



## Other Items for Discussion

- How can organizational members and AIC organize or structure membership to make it easier and more cost efficient for individuals to belong to several organizations?
- What should the voting rights be for individuals and for associations?
- How can we engage reciprocal members (e.g. CAST, 4-H Council, Canadian Farm Business Management Council)?





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