

April 13, 2023

sent by email

Jarvis Grant, Development officer
County of Wetaskiwin
Box 6960
Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2G5

**Re: RA05042 – Intended Permit Cancellation
Darcor Holsteins Inc. and Damien Rasmuson
NE 14-47-23 W4M**

The Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) intends to cancel Registration RA05042 due to abandonment of the hog confined feeding operation (CFO). Registration RA05042 relates to NE 14-47-23 W4M, and is currently held by Darcor Holsteins Inc. and Damien Rasmuson.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the intended cancellation, and invite a submission.

Please note: this letter does not relate to the recent application (RA22027) for a dairy CFO at this location. Application RA22027 is a separate matter.

Background

Permit cancellations are governed by section 29 of the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act* (AOPA), and section 12 of the Administrative Procedures Regulation under AOPA.

Registration RA05042 issued on November 7, 2005 allowed 440 sows farrow to isowean, as well as construction of a farrowing barn. Grandfathered structures already at the site included 5 other hog barns, and an earthen liquid manure storage.

On March 7, 2023, as an Approval Officer, I issued a Notice of Intent to Cancel Permit Due to Abandonment. The Notice of Intent states why, in my opinion, the hog CFO is considered abandoned. A copy of this Notice of Intent is enclosed with this letter.

By letter dated April 4, 2023, the permit holders of Registration RA05042 filed a submission with the NRCB setting out reasons why the permit should not be cancelled. A copy of this Submission is also enclosed with this letter.

Role of affected parties

Notice is being sent to all “affected parties” who are entitled to receive notice of the intended permit cancellation. The County of Wetaskiwin is an affected party. As the municipality where the hog CFO was located, the County of Wetaskiwin is also automatically a directly affected party.

Within **20 days**, you may file a submission with the NRCB explaining why you support cancellation of Registration RA05042 (the hog operation permit). If you do not support the permit cancellation, there is no need to make a submission.

Ensure your submission relates only to the potential cancellation of the hog operation permit (RA05042). Do not respond to the recent dairy application (RA22027).

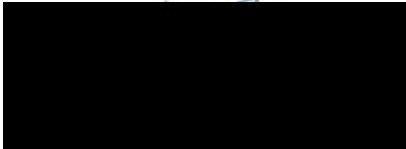
You may send a submission to my attention at the address on this letter, or by email at francisco.echegaray@nrcb.ca. Your submission must be received in writing (by mail or email) on or before 4:30 pm on May 10, 2023.

All submissions are considered public documents and may be posted on the NRCB's public website. If you would like all or part of your submission to be considered confidential, please identify in your statement the part that should be confidential and why.

Parties who provide submissions will receive a copy of the decision and may have an opportunity to request a Board review of the decision should they disagree with all, or portions of it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 403-340-502 7 or by email at francisco.echegaray@nrcb.ca.

Yours truly,



Francisco Echegaray
Approval Officer

Encl. Notice of Intent to Cancel Permit Due to Abandonment dated March 7, 2023
Submission from Darcor Holsteins dated April 4, 2023

April 13, 2023

To: Landowner or Resident

**Re: RA05042 – Intended Permit Cancellation
Darcor Holsteins Inc. and Damien Rasmuson
NE 14-47-23 W4M**

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The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the intended cancellation, and invite submissions.

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By letter dated April 4, 2023, the permit holders of Registration RA05042 filed a submission with the NRCB setting out reasons why the permit should not be cancelled. A copy of this Submission is also enclosed with this letter.

Role of affected parties

This notice is being sent to all persons who own or reside on land within 0.5 miles of the CFO, as identified by Wetaskiwin County (as well as to the County itself). Under AOPA, an "affected party" is entitled to receive notice of the intended permit cancellation. The location of your land or residence is within the "affected party" distance from the hog CFO structures.

Within **20 days**, you may file a submission with the NRCB explaining:

- (a) How you may be directly affected if Registration RA05042 is not cancelled, but rather continues in effect, and

(b) Reasons why you support cancellation of Registration RA05042 (the hog operation permit).

Ensure your submission relates only to the potential cancellation of the hog operation permit (RA05042). Do not respond to the recent dairy application (RA22027).

You may send a submission to my attention at the address on this letter, or by email at francisco.echegaray@nrcb.ca. Your submission must be received in writing (by mail or email) on or before 4:30 pm on May 10, 2023. Please include the legal land description of the land you reside on or own, as well as your mailing address, phone number, and email address.

All submissions are considered public documents and may be posted on the NRCB's public website. If you would like all or part of your submission to be considered confidential, please identify in your statement the part that should be confidential and why.

Parties who provide submissions will receive a copy of the decision and may have an opportunity to request a Board review of the decision should they disagree with all, or portions of it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 403-340-5027 or by email at francisco.echegaray@nrcb.ca.

Yours truly,



Francisco Echegaray
Approval Officer

Encl. Notice of Intent to Cancel Permit Due to Abandonment dated March 7, 2023
Submission from Darcor Holsteins dated April 4, 2023



Notice of Intent to Cancel Permit Due to Abandonment

DATE: March 7, 2023

ISSUED TO: Darcor Holsteins Inc., co-permit holder
Damien Rasmuson, co-permit holder
Registration RA05042
NE 14-47-23 W4M

I write to notify you that I intend to cancel Registration RA05042 due to abandonment of the hog confined feeding operation.

According to NRCB files and database, a hog confined feeding operation at NE 14-47-23 W4M holds Registration RA05042, issued by the NRCB on November 7, 2005. Registration RA05042 (copy enclosed) recognized the operation held a deemed permit for 440 swine, farrow to isowean, and allowed construction of a new farrowing barn.

Though the Registration was issued to Agco Agricultural Consulting Ltd., we are aware that Darcor Holsteins Inc. and Damien Rasmuson purchased the land and operation in April 2022, and are the current co-permit holders.

Reasons for intended cancellation

Under section 29(1)(b) of the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act (AOPA)*, the NRCB may cancel a registration if the confined feeding operation (CFO) to which the registration relates is abandoned. I have been delegated by the NRCB Board to cancel permits under section 29 of AOPA. For the following reasons, it is my view that the CFO has been abandoned.

The facilities related to the hog CFO are:

- 1) hog barn #1 (2005 expansion);
- 2) hog barn #2;
- 3) hog barn #3;
- 4) hog barn #4;
- 5) hog barn #5;
- 6) hog barn #6 (red barn built early 1900s);
- 7) earthen liquid manure storage;
- 8) open shelter #1; and
- 9) open shelter #2.

Part 2 of NRCB Operational Policy 2016-3: *Permit Cancellations under AOPA Section 29*, provides guidance to approvals officers on how to determine when a CFO has been abandoned, and how to exercise discretion to cancel a permit for an abandoned CFO.

AOPA does not define “abandonment”, and therefore the NRCB uses the term’s common meaning, viewed in light of AOPA’s general purposes. Common definitions for abandonment have two themes: either ceasing from maintaining or using; or giving up with the intent of never again claiming a right to keep using or maintaining.

Policy 2016-3 lists factors to consider when deciding whether the CFO has been abandoned, such as:

- a. the CFO's current use, if any
- b. the CFO's current condition
- c. what, if any, steps are being taken to keep the CFO's facilities in conditions such that they could resume being used to house livestock without major upgrades or renovations
- d. when the CFO stopped being used for livestock or manure, and the reason for stopping
- e. whether the CFO has changed ownership during the period of disuse, and if so, whether the new owner purchased the CFO reasonably expecting that the CFO was permitted under AOPA
- f. current value of the CFO facilities and cost of reconstructing them, if needed
- g. an owner's intent regarding future use of a CFO

a., b. Current use, current condition

On January 31, 2023, along with another approval officer (in training), I conducted a site visit of where the proposed dairy CFO facilities would be. At that time we also inspected the existing hog facilities. It was apparent that most of them were in major disrepair and deterioration or have been converted into non-CFO facilities (cold storage, heated shop). It appeared that the hog facilities had not been maintained after the previous owner ceased to operate. We took photographs.

In order to gather more evidence about the status of the hog CFO, on February 6, 2023, I conducted a second site visit of the hog facilities with an NRCB inspector. We concluded that most of the facilities were beyond repair or renovation, or has been converted into non-CFO facilities. Darcor Holsteins Inc. was already decommissioning the old red barn (built in the early 1900s). We took further photographs.

We noticed that there is a barn area that could be upgraded and used to house livestock. This barn area is an addition (19.5 m x 9.1 m) to the east side of the hog barn located on the north of the site. The addition was built in 2005 as part of NRCB Registration RA05042 (barn #1). The area, however, could only house hog numbers below the threshold for a registration-size CFO.

On an aerial photo provided as part of a recent permit application (RA22027), regarding this barn area (barn #1), the applicant stated "To be converted for calves". However, there is no details about the conversion in the application. In several other components of application RA22027, this portion of the barn is proposed to be converted into cold storage and shop – non-CFO uses. For these reasons, I would not keep this small barn area, on its own, in Registration RA05042.

c. Steps required to resume housing livestock

Based on my observations, most of the barns wouldn't be able to house animals in their current conditions, as the ceilings are caving, there is no functioning electricity, and the concrete liners and manure collection pits are cracked and not in working condition. The pen's fences and cages, water lines and feeding lines may have to be removed and replaced. Most likely, the value to upgrade these facilities may exceed the value of building them new.

d. When CFO stopped being used for livestock or manure

Darcor Holsteins Inc. have indicated that the previous owner, Keith Rasmuson, stopped operating the hog CFO around 2011, due to his brother and co-owner's death (Earl Rasmuson), and due to hog markets not being profitable.

e. Whether the CFO has changed ownership

In November 2005, when the NRCB issued Registration RA05042, the permit holder was Agco Agricultural Consulting Ltd. (operating as Gwynne Vista Farms), run by Keith and Earl Rasmuson. In April 2022, Darcor Holsteins Inc. (1/3 interest) and Damien Rasmuson (2/3 interest) bought the property.

f. Current value of facilities, and cost to reconstruct

In my view, the facilities as they exist have little value as CFO facilities. I believe that the cost to repair and upgrade these hog facilities to be able to house animals would probably exceed the price of building new facilities.

g. Intent regarding future use

In April 2022, Darcor Holsteins Inc. and Damien Rasmuson intended to convert the hog CFO into a dairy CFO, as part of their long term succession plan to transition Damien into co-ownership with his parents (Darrin and Lynn Rasmuson).

In Application RA22027, filed with the NRCB in late 2022, the applicant had indicated an intention to, among other things:

- Demolish three existing hog barns;
- Convert an existing hog barn to a heated shop;
- Convert an existing hog barn to cold storage;
- Decommission an existing hog barn; and
- Demolish two existing open shelters.

In conclusion, based on my observations of the hog facilities and their states of disrepair, and disuse, and the fact that the current co-permit holders do not intent to convert, or use, any of the existing hog facilities into dairy facilities, I find that the hog CFO is abandoned.

Guided by Part 2.2 of Policy 2016-3, I acknowledge that an abandoned CFO does not require cancellation of the permit. I have considered the purpose of AOPA being "to ensure that the province's livestock industry can grow to meet the opportunities presented by local and world markets in an environmentally sustainable manner." The hog CFO has not operated for over 11 years. In the circumstances set out in this Notice, I feel it is fair and reasonable to cancel Registration RA05042.

Intended conditions of cancellation

I do not intend to impose any conditions on the cancellation of Registration RA05042.

What you can do

Under section 12 of the *AOPA Administrative Procedures Regulation*, a permit holder may file a **statement of intent to object** to a permit cancellation, within 30 days of the date of this notice (i.e. **4:30 p.m. on April 6, 2023**). You may file a statement of intent to object by e-mail to francisco.echegaray@nrcb.ca.

If you **do not** file a statement of intent to object within 30 days:

I will proceed to cancel Registration RA05042. You would not have the right to request a review of the cancellation from the NRCB Board.

If you **do** file a statement of intent to object within 30 days:

You will then have 30 days to file a **submission** to support your objection to the cancellation. That submission must explain in writing why Registration RA05042 should not be cancelled.

After that, the NRCB will distribute a copy of this Notice, plus a copy of your submission, to **affected parties**. In the case of cancelling a registration, the affected parties are the municipality where the CFO was located, and any person residing on or owning land within ½ mile from the existing hog facilities (this distance is based on the 440 swine, not the 190 milking cows).

Affected parties may explain why they would be “directly affected” if the permit were not cancelled, and may make a submission on why they support cancelling Registration RA05042.

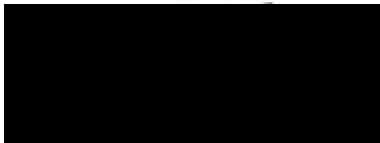
After that, I will issue a **written decision** on whether or not to cancel Registration RA05042. Any directly affected party – including yourself – could request a Board review of my decision.

Impact on application RA22027

You have submitted an application for a registration (RA22027) for a 190 milking cow dairy (plus dries and replacements). If application RA22027 is for a new CFO, it will be inconsistent with land use provisions of the municipal development plan (MDP) of Wetaskiwin County, and I will have to deny it. If application RA22027 is to convert an existing (not cancelled) permit, then it is not for a new CFO and may not be inconsistent with the MDP, and I may be able to issue it.

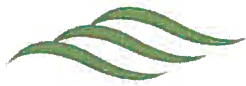
You will appreciate that whether or not I cancel Registration RA05042 has a direct impact on whether I may issue Registration RA22027. Accordingly, I will pause processing application RA22027 until I have a final result on the intended cancellation of Registration RA05042.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this process.



Francisco Echegaray, P.Ag.
Approval Officer

Encl. Registration RA05042



THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
AGRICULTURAL OPERATION PRACTICES ACT
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION BOARD

In consideration of Decision Report RA05042, Registration RA05042 is issued to:

Name: Agco Agricultural Consulting Ltd. (operating as Gwynne Vista Farms)
(hereinafter referred to as 'applicant' or 'operator')
Address: RR 2, Gwynne, Alberta, T0C 1L0
Contact Person: Keith and Earl Rasmuson
Phone No: Fax No:

The operator is to adhere to and follow the requirements of the Agricultural Operation Practices Act and the regulations passed pursuant to that Act, as amended, from time to time. For each instance where the applicant has committed to higher standards than required by AOPA, these commitments have been included as conditions.

The operator is to adhere to the descriptions contained in the filed application and the decision report together with the site plan, building plans, operating plan, manure management plan, engineering reports and other attached documents, unless otherwise noted in the following conditions. The applicant or operator is responsible for all costs associated with monitoring, sampling, testing, recording and reporting requirements.

Registration RA05042 and its conditions replace the deemed registration for this site.
Registration RA05042 is subject to the following conditions:

Construction Conditions

Permitted Construction (based on the submitted site plan):

- farrowing barn (30' × 64') (9.1 m × 19.5 m)

1. Concrete Manure Storage - Floors and Gutters
 - a. The concrete joints in the under barn pits must be sealed by a method indicated in the NRCB's technical guideline for Concrete Manure Liner's. The NRCB must be notified of the chosen method, prior to construction.
2. Construction Completion
 - a. Construction must be completed by November 30, 2006.
3. Inspections
 - a. The manure storage portion of the barn must be inspected by NRCB personnel prior to animals or manure being placed in the new barn.
 - b. The applicant must provide the Approval Officer a minimum of 10 working days notice prior to the applicant's desired completion inspection.

Ongoing Conditions

4. Earthen Manure Storage (EMS) Leakage Detection System Installation
 - a. The leakage detection system plan outlined by Mr. Stein must be carried out by a qualified professional no later than July 31, 2006. Results of this drilling must be



- submitted to the NRCB once drilling and monitoring well installation, if any, are completed.
5. Earthen Manure Storage (EMS) Leakage Detection System Reporting
 - a. Leakage detection well results must be submitted to the NRCB in report format until such time as the NRCB adjusts the monitoring frequency, test parameters and/or report contents. All reports (comprehensive and/or indicator) must include, but will not be limited to:
 - Background information – site description, soil logs, diagrams
 - Water level elevations
 - Elevation of liquid manure in the EMS at the time of water sampling
 - Dates when the EMS was emptied
 - Inspection of the surface well casing for its integrity
 - Explanation of the water sampling collection technique
 - Field and laboratory work
 - Discussion and explanation of the results including a trend analysis
 - Recommendations
 - b. An Indicator report must be done 12 months after the wells are installed and every 12 months thereafter. The Indicator report must include laboratory analysis of the indicator parameters outlined in the latest version of the NRCB technical guideline 'Leak Detection and CFOs'."

This Registration becomes effective immediately. The Registration conditions will remain in effect unless amended by the NRCB.

November 7, 2005

(original signed)

Scott Cunningham, P. Eng.
Approval Officer

Under Section 22(4) of the Agricultural Operation Practices Act, you have the right to request that the Natural Resources Conservation Board (the Board) review this decision. If you wish to have this decision reviewed by the Board, please submit the attached Request for Board Review which must be received by the Natural Resources Conservation Board by fax or mail on or before November 28, 2005.

Darcor Holsteins
Darrin and Damien Rasmuson

April 4, 2023

Natural Resources Conservation Board

Attn: Francisco Echegaray
Approval Officer

Having had some time to organize my thoughts, I disagree with your decision to cancel permit #RA05042 more than ever. I believe there are numerous important errors in your Notice of Intent and facts that you were likely unaware of when you wrote the notice.

- Most blatantly, in 2.1.1 bullet 5 "criteria to consider" it is stated that "whether the CFO has changed ownership during the period of disuse and, if so, whether the new owner purchased the CFO in reliance on the seller's promise, or on some other basis for reasonably expecting, that the CFO was permitted under AOPA".
 - You are well aware that all of our initial calls between us were about the validity of the existing permit and the possibility of using it to obtain a new dairy barn. While there was extensive conversation about the manure capacity of that permit (61.8 dairy plus replacements according to my notes) and the mechanisms of changing livestock category as well as the potential for needing engineering studies, there was never the slightest hint that abandonment could be an issue, despite you KNOWING that the barns were empty.
 - My cell phone records show multiple calls between us weeks and months before the land purchase was made. It should be apparent to anybody, that conversations about the existing permit were taking place. I was assured by you that the permit was "valid", is "attached to the land" and most importantly "does not expire". How can this be anything but a "basis for reasonably expecting that the CFO was permitted under AOPA"? My calls were made and obviously constitute due diligence, with input directly from the authority that governs these permits, before the purchase.
 - In subsequent examinations of AOPA, nowhere can I find that permits expire or disappear. This is inherently unfair and I believe an Officially Induced Error has occurred that has now placed me in a position of significant financial harm.
 - Believing that I was safe to proceed with a new application, not only did I proceed with the property purchase at a premium price but I initiated a purchase of a road allowance to move the proposed barn farther from the lake and eliminate setbacks.
 - I also contracted an engineering firm for soil testing in support of my subsequent application.

- At this time, I estimate I am out of pocket \$100,000 for the purchase of land (supported by the attached letter from seller), \$10,000 for the road allowance (\$1,000 application fee, \$7,500 actual land, \$1,500 for changing titles and legal), and \$12,000 for engineering as per the quote (actual bill not yet printed).
 - Given the total costs incurred based on the information, that the permit for the CFO was valid, I will have to consider a legal remedy should the permit be cancelled. You have the ability to address the fairness of this.
 - As stated in the intro to Operational policy 2016-3, "While this policy.....approval officers have discretion to modify the policy when its strict application would be clearly unfair, or in other necessary and appropriate circumstances."
- I also feel that some facts were incorrectly assumed with respect to exactly what my potential alternatives are. After talking to you at the WCDS in Red Deer I was left with the impression that you thought I could simply build at the old site. I now know from your comment about the old barn being on "an island surrounded by water" after I asked you to look at Google Earth that you may now be starting to think otherwise. The letter from my bank sent to you confirming that financing is not available for this site should also be indicative of my problem.
 - My only other land outside of 1 mile from the lake is NE24 47 23. Surrounded by 4 acreages, hosting a major pipeline corridor, and having several small pipelines to supply the acreages, there is simply no spot available between all of the setbacks required. I have no viable alternatives for the barn site.
 - You are supposed to follow your guiding principle to "ensure that the province's livestock can grow....in an environmentally sustainable manner" yet this whole process seems exactly the opposite.
 - Nowhere, has a legitimate environmental harm been identified yet an obscure technicality stands before me. The current application has 100% of the cattle and manure contained indoors at every moment, the alternative use for my purchased land can only be to feed young stock outside year-round, below the threshold that requires a permit and therefore outside of strict compliance of a CFO. How is this protecting the environment?
 - I also object again to the Carwell location as being directly affected. At WCDS you said the land borders extend into the lake, putting the lands within 800m of each other. This is simply untrue and has no legal basis. These private lands stop at the historical highwater mark, leaving them in excess of 800m apart. This shows clearly on the County of Wetaskiwin map. Private ownership of lakes is not allowed under Provincial law.
 - The only directly affected party that has indicated an issue with abandonment is the County of Wetaskiwin. However, in their meeting following the discussion of my application, there was significant disagreement as to what they had even talked about in the previous council meeting on this topic, and no consensus as to what the motion had actually been on writing a statement of concern to the NRCB. Minutes at the council meeting were only narrowly approved by a 4 to 3

margin regarding this. In the March 28 County meeting and public hearing on the new MDP, my application again came up, again with no consensus, the Reeve was misinformed about the NRCB process to the extent that he thinks you as an approval officer can simply override any MDP and do not take it into consideration! Therefore, approving their new MDP will not affect this process or your decision. Yet this lack of knowledge by the county potentially stands in my way, how much weight can it truly be given?

With respect to your letter "Notice of Intent", there are numerous inaccuracies that influence the finding unfairly. Under a, b Current use, Current condition, and c steps required to resume housing livestock, you state that "most" of the facilities are beyond repair. This is overstated.

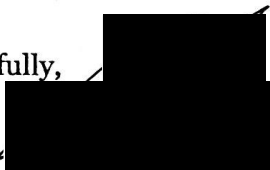
- While you acknowledge that barn 1 is in good shape, you lump barns 2 and 3 in with 4, 5, and 6. This is not realistic. Barns 4, 5 and 6 are very poor with falling roofs and cracked concrete, not worth fixing, but 2 and 3 are a very different story. Concrete is in wonderful shape (please show me a crack on your pictures), electricity and gas are still operational.
- The fans run, only the old ballasts on the fluorescent lights have quit.
- Underfloor pits with great concrete slats are still connected to a functional EMS.
- Water lines are largely plastic and still functional.
- A functional batch mixer, feed augers, and hoppers are present.
- There is real value in these buildings as well as animal capacity. Dimensions of barn 2 is 16m by 9m and barn 3 is 49m by 11m. Added to barn 1 this is 858.5 square meters of useful space or 9,241 square feet. To indicate dollar value I compare to my latest quotes on my potential dairy barn of \$55 per square foot (this is an empty barn, no equipment, no power, no heat and plumbing) giving a value in excess of \$500,000! Before services! Nothing can be built without huge expense anymore and this should repudiate your incorrect assumptions in part f.
- With respect of my changing the use from converted to calves to storage, this was done to simplify the application. As you told me, details would be needed to include it in the current application, an application facing serious time constraints. It is hardly fair to use it against me now, and at 49 meters long for the west wing, it is truly unfair to call it small.
- In part g I call attention to you never indicating to me in any conversation that actual buildings from the old permit needed to be used rather than replaced to validate anything, perhaps this further indicates a lack of communication about an abandonment ruling on your part. Also in part g is mention of demolishing open shelters, also misleading because these are only being demolished because the site plan has the new barn on top of them to accommodate moving the barn farther from the lake!

I believe that when you add these additional facts and considerations to the previous information, a different conclusion needs to be arrived at. You must remember our initial conversations, all of the questions about potential roadblocks, all of the questions about process. Never once did abandonment come up. How is that not a reasonable

expectation of a valid permit under AOPA? The start of the abandonment process should not come AFTER the application has been deemed complete and notice to affected parties has been made. This is unnecessarily adding months to the decision process that is already time sensitive.

We are not expecting any special treatment, just that we be treated fairly within the legislated process.

Respectfully,


Darrin and Damien Rasmuson

April 3, 2023

Attn: Francisco Echegaray,

NRCB

Re: Darcor Holsteins Ltd. appeal for CFO at Ne 14 47 23 W 4.

This is information pertaining to the sale of existing CFO owned by Keith Rasmuson (myself) to Damien and Darrin Rasmuson (Darcor Holsteins Ltd.)

My wife and I decided to sell the home farm in January 2022. It was at this time it was offered to Darrin and Cory Rasmuson. Darrin and Damien responded immediately that they would be interested if the CFO status could be validated as the infrastructure certainly had lot of value. The value of \$100,000.00 was assigned to the property as an operating farm verses the sale of the property as an acreage to the rural urban market as some of the outer buildings would have been viewed as a liability which would at some time have to be removed.


With the initial approval from NRCB for the CFO, Darrin and Damien proceeded with the purchase of the farm site.

Prior to sale of farm, it pastured horses and a small beef herd at all times. Cattle sheds/cattle handling facility, heated farm shop, fences (perimeter and cross fences on 2 quarters), power (15 KVA), natural gas, grain handling (50,000 bus. storage) and feed processing (40T feed factory), along with a water supply system which includes a dugout for livestock drinking water, and a manure lagoon for storage are functioning infrastructure that has not been abandoned. The property contains grass waterways which eliminates erosion and filters run-off which is a concern for clean drinking water in the dugout water supply system and into Coal Lake. The extensive infrastructure that is available has value and is a requirement for any CFO and should not be deemed abandoned.

I was pleased with the verdict that the CFO was valid as it meant several more Rasmuson generations would be able to continue the heritage that my grandfather started in 1910.

Consideration for the premium paid in the investment for the property should provide information that the property should not be considered abandoned and that a viable CFO with state of the art environmental and efficient technology may be allowed to be developed for the benefit of all in the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Keith Rasmuson.

Keith Rasmuson