

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the fourth session of the fourteenth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: John Carleton Fisher & William Kemble, Law Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1834.

4 William IV – Chapter 7

An Act to make more ample provision for the encouragement of Agriculture. (18th March, 1834.)

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

Whereas it is expedient to provide more amply for the encouragement of Agriculture in this Province: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, intituled "An Act to repeal certain parts of Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, 'An Act for making more effectual provision for 'Hie' Government of the Province of Quebec in North America' and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province;" And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the' passing of this Act, an Agricultural Society may be organised in each of the Counties of this Province; such Society being composed of a President, Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and twelve other members, taken from the persons subscribing the sum of five shillings currency, per annum, or up wards, towards the funds of the said Society, and elected at a public meeting by ail the Subscribers of the said Society, subscribing five shillings per annum, or upwards, to the said Society.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the elections shall be held every two years, in the course of. the month of June, and such election, shall take place for the first time during the month of June next, on any day in the said month, (Sundays and holidays excepted,) and at such first election, the Militia Officers highest in grade in the county, shall preside, or in case of absence, the Militia Officer highest in grade present; and such election shall be announced on the two Sundays immediately preceding the. same, at the door of each Church, in such county, or. at the most public place in those parts thereof, in which there shall be no Church, by a public notice, to be given by an order or orders to be issued for that purpose, by the Militia Officer highest in grade in the county, mentioning the place, day and hour of such election of which meeting, and the election of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and members then made, an authentic Acte shall be drawn up, and transmitted to the Civil Secretary, by the person who shall have presided at the meeting, for the information of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person then administering the Government of the Province.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the President of each such Agricultural Society so organised, shall annually transmit to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government of the Province, a list, sworn to before

any Justice of the Peace, (who is hereby authorised to administer the necessary oath,) of the names of the Subscribers, mentioning the amount of their respective subscriptions opposite to the names of each of them; and at any time after the receipt of such list, it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person then administering the Government of the Province, to issue his Warrant in favour of such President for a sum to be taken out of the unappropriated monies which now are, or hereafter may be in the hands of the Receiver General of this Province, and which sum shall be only equal to twice the sum which shall appear by the said list to have been subscribed, and paid by the Subscribers in such county, provided that such sum so advanced shall not for any county, exceed the sum of eighty pounds currency.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the President of each such Society shall annually transmit to \ the three branches of the Legislature, within fifteen days after the opening of each Session of the Provincial Parliament, a Report of its proceedings, showing the amount of the subscriptions received in the course of the year, and the amount received out of the Public Chest, the expenses of the Society, the names of the persons to whom it shall have granted, the object for which such premiums were obtained, and all such other observations and informations as he shall deem likely to tend to the improvement of Agriculture.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the President, or in case of his death or absence, the Vice President of each such Society, to call a meeting of the members thereof, from time to time, for the purpose of deliberating upon the objects with reference to which it was instituted, and of determining and regulating the expenses and the management of the business of the Society; and all the proceedings which shall take place at any such meeting, shall be entered in the Journal of the Society, and signed by the President and Secretary.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Catholic Rectors (Cures,) or the Protestant Clergymen, in each parish in the County, the Legislative or Executive Counsellors resident in the County, and the Members representing the County, shall be honorary members of such Society, and may vote at the meetings thereof.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the President of each such Society shall be, and is hereby authorised to name the persons to be judges at each exhibition held in the County, who shall not be in any manner competitors for any premium at such exhibition.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the President, or in case of his death or absence, the Vice President elected at the time of the election of the members of the Society, shall be bound to announce the then next ensuing election, in the manner prescribed by the second section of this Act Provided always, that it shall be lawful to re-elect the President, and all or any of the members elected at any preceding election.

IX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of the monies hereby appropriated, shall be accounted for to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in such manner and form as His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, shall be pleased to direct.

X. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that immediately after the passing of this Act, all sums of money appropriated by any previous Act of the Provincial Legislature, for the encouragement of Agriculture, by means of premiums, and which at the time shall not have been expended by the different Agricultural Societies, which in virtue of any such Act, were authorised to receive and expend the same, shall cease to be applicable to the said object, and shall remain in, or be refunded into, the hands of the Receiver General of the Province, for the public uses thereof, except such sums only as shall at the time of the passing of this Act be lawfully due by any such Agricultural Society.

XI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this act shall be, and remain in force, until the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty, and no longer.