

Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, passed in the year 1837. Toronto: Robert Stanton, 1837.

7 William IV – Chapter 23

An Act to establish Agricultural Societies, and to encourage Agriculture in the several Districts of this Province. Passed 4th March, 1837.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

Whereas it would greatly tend to the general improvement of this Province, if Agricultural Societies were re-established in every District therein, with a suitable endowment from the Public Funds: We therefore humbly beseech 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 Upper Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, entitled, "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, entitled, 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province,'*" and by the authority of the same, That when any Agricultural Society, for the purpose of Importing valuable Live Stock, Grain, Grass Seeds, useful Implements of Husbandry, or whatever else might conduce to the improvement of Agriculture, shall be constituted in any District in this Province, and shall make it appear by certificate, under the hand of the Treasurer of such District Society, that a sum not less than Twenty-five Pounds, has been actually subscribed and paid to the said Treasurer, by the several Agricultural Societies of said District, and paid into the hands of the said Treasurer; and the President of the said Society shall make application, enclosing the said certificate to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person Administering the Government of this Province, for and in support of said Society; it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person Administering the Government of this Province, to issue his Warrant to the Receiver General in favour of the Treasurer of the said Society, for double the sum that shall have been paid or subscribed in said District, as aforesaid: Provided always, That the annual sum to be granted to each District shall not exceed the sum of two hundred pounds.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in the event of there being County, Riding, or Township Agricultural Societies established, there shall not be more than one Society in each County or Riding of any District within this Province, and a proportion of the District Bounty shall and may be granted to each County, Riding, or Township Agricultural Society, and paid to them by the District Society, in proportion to double the money that each County, Riding, or Township Agricultural Society, shall have subscribed: Provided nevertheless, That the whole sum granted to the District and County Societies together, shall not exceed the sum of two hundred pounds in each year.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in the event of more than fifty pounds being subscribed by the several Societies in any District, the said grant of two hundred pounds shall be divided to each Society in due proportion, according to the amount of their subscriptions respectively.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That each Agricultural Society shall and may elect such Officers, and make such By-Laws for their guidance as to them shall seem best, for promoting the interest of Agriculture, according to the true intent and meaning of this Act.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Treasurer's account of the receipts and expenditure of the preceding year, shall, after the first year, always accompany the application for grants in aid of said Agricultural Societies.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when County, Riding, or Township Societies, shall have been established in any District, the Treasurer of such County Societies shall, on or before the first day of September in each year, pay over the amount of Money subscribed by said Societies, into the hands of the Treasurer of the District Agricultural Society, who shall then make an abstract of the sums subscribed in said District, in the following form:

Abstract of sums of Money subscribed by the several Agricultural Societies in the _____ District, for the year 183_____.

Abstract of sums of Money subscribed by the
 several Agricultural Societies in the _____

Agricultural Societies.	Amount Subscribed by Each. <small>Form of Abstract.</small>		
	£	s.	D.
Total,.....£			

These are to certify that the sum of ___ Pounds, ___ Shillings, have been paid into my hands, by the several Agricultural Societies in the ___ District, as above stated.

Given under my hand at ___, the ___ day of ___ 183__.

Certified,

___ Treasurer.

___ President.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Monies hereby granted and paid shall be accounted for to His Majesty, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in such manner and form as His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors shall be graciously pleased to direct.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the Treasurer of any Township Society shall, on or before the first day of February in each and every year, pay into the hands of the Treasurer of the District or County Societies, he shall be entitled to receive the same again so soon as the Legislative grant shall have been received, with a proportion of the Legislative grant, equal to the amount so paid, or in proportion to what shall fall to their share upon an equal division being made, in proportion to the sums paid in by the several Societies in the District or County.

IX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be and continue in force for and during the term of four years, and from thence to the end of the then next ensuing Session of Parliament, and no longer.