

*Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada*, passed in the year 1847. Montreal:  
Stewart Derbishire & George Desbarats, 1847.

10 & 11 Victoria – Chapter 60

**An Act to incorporate The Lower Canada Agricultural Society. 28th July, 1847.**

Whereas the establishment of a Society for the encouragement and advancement of Agriculture and the Arts and Sciences therewith connected, extending its efforts and supervision over the whole of Lower Canada, and not superseding but connecting and aiding the efforts of the several County Societies, and supplying deficiencies which their limited means and local character render inevitable, would greatly tend to raise the position and standing of the Canadian Agriculturist, and promote the best interests of the Province; and whereas the persons hereinafter mentioned have associated themselves, for the purpose of forming such a Society, under the name of The Canadian Agricultural Society, and have represented that they cannot effectually carry out the object they have in view without an Act of Incorporation vesting in them such powers as may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid, and it is right and expedient to grant their prayer: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the Honorable Sir James Stuart, the Honorable P. B. De Boucherville, the Honorable Wm. Morris, Major T. C. Campbell, the Honorable A. N. Morin, the Honorable L. H. LaFontaine, G. R. S. De Beaujeu, the Honorable B. Joliette, the Honorable P. H. Knowlton, the Honorable F. P. Bruneau, the Honorable Adam Ferrie, the Honorable Robert Harwood, the Honorable Francis Hincks, the Honorable C.E. Casgrain, D. M. Armstrong, Thos. Boutillier, L. Lacoste, Malcolm Cameron, L. T. Drummond, B. H. Lemoine, A. Jobin, Jacob DeWitt, R. N. Watts, A. P. Methot, Jacques P. Lantier, Duncan Finlayson, F. A. LaRocque, John Yule, Captain John Clark, A. N. Newman, Wm. Evans, Alexander Simpson, Peter W. Dease, Alexander Jas. Birkencraft, James Snowdon, Benaiah Gibb, John Edward Evans, P. E. Taché, and such other persons as are now members of the Society aforesaid, and their successors, together with all such other persons as shall hereafter, from time to time, become members of the Society hereby constituted according to the provisions of this Act and of the By-laws made or hereafter to be made by the said Society, shall be and are hereby declared to be a body corporate and politic in name and in fact, by the name and style of The Lower Canada Agricultural Society, and by such name the said Society shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to change, alter, break or renew the same as often as they shall judge expedient; and that they and their successors, by the same name, may sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered in all Courts places whatever; and they and their successors, by the name aforesaid, shall be able and capable in law to purchase, take, have, hold, receive, enjoy, possess and retain all lands, and real or immoveable property, money, goods, chattels and personal or moveable property, (all which shall be included in the following enactments by the words "immoveable property" and "moveable property" respectively,) which have been or hereafter shall be paid,

given, granted, purchased, appropriated, devised or bequeathed in any manner or way whatsoever, to, for, or in favour of the said Society, and for the uses and purposes for which the said Society is formed, and to alienate, lease, or otherwise depart with any such immoveable or moveable property, and others to acquire instead thereof, and to do, perform and execute all and every lawful act and thing useful and necessary for the purposes aforesaid, in as full and ample a manner to all intents, constructions and purposes as any other body politic or corporate by law may or ought to do: Provided always, that the immoveable property to be held at any one time by the said Society shall in no case exceed the value of ten thousand pounds; and that the same and also all their moveable property shall be held by the said Society for the purposes herein mentioned, or for other objects and uses legitimately connected with such purposes, and for no other.

II. And be it enacted, That all the property of the Society mentioned in the Preamble to this Act, moveable and immoveable, and all the rights, claims and debts active thereof, shall be transferred to and are hereby vested in the Society hereby incorporated, and all the liabilities and debts passive of the said first mentioned Society, shall be and are hereby transferred to and shall be borne by the Society hereby incorporated, which shall be in the place and stead of the first mentioned Society, to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

III. And be it enacted, That the By-laws of the said first mentioned Society, in so far as they may not be inconsistent with this Act, shall be the By-laws of the Society hereby incorporated, until repealed or altered in the manner hereinafter provided; and that the officers of the said first mentioned Society, shall be the officers of the Society hereby incorporated until others shall be appointed or elected in their stead, according to the By-laws of the Society.

IV. And be it enacted, That the objects and purposes of the said Society shall be, the improvement of farm stock and produce, and of the system of farming generally, as regards draining, manuring, crops, pasturage, stock, management of the dairy, agricultural implements, domestic manufactures and useful inventions applicable to agriculture, and to the domestic purposes of the agriculturist, the introduction of such new plants and crops as they may deem well adapted to Lower Canada, the obtaining of correct statistical information relative to the agriculture of Lower Canada, and the persons engaged therein; and also the diffusion of sound and useful knowledge on all subjects connected with agriculture and the sciences and arts connected therewith, and for that purpose to establish and maintain one or more Agricultural Colleges or Schools, and one or more Model Farms, and one or more Agricultural Museums or Libraries, and to publish any journal or periodical work which they may deem conducive to the attainment of the objects aforesaid, and to hold agricultural shows and meetings, and to award and give prizes at such shows and meetings, or for the doing of any thing relative to the objects aforesaid for which they shall think proper to award such prizes, and generally to do all such things as may be legitimately and fairly adapted to improve the agriculture of Lower Canada, and to raise the position and character of the persons engaged therein.

V. And be it enacted, That all persons subscribing five shillings or upwards annually to the funds of the Society, shall be members of the Society for the period for which such subscription shall

have been paid; and that any person who has paid or shall pay a subscription of two pounds ten shillings or upwards to the said funds, shall be a member of the said Society for the term of his natural life; and that each member of the Society shall be eligible to be an Officer thereof.

VI. And be it enacted, That the affairs and property of the Society shall be managed by thirty-three Directors, to be elected every year by and from among the members of the Society, and who shall as soon as may be after their election, elect from among themselves one President, six Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall remain in office until the next yearly election of Directors; and of the said Directors any nine, of whom the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents shall be one, at any meeting of the Directors held according to the By-laws of the Society then in force, shall be a *Quorum* for the transaction of the business of the Society, and any majority of such *Quorum* may exercise all the powers hereby or by the By-laws of the Society vested in the Directors; and the said Directors may empower the President or any Vice-President to sign and the Secretary to countersign any *Acte* or document and to affix the common seal of the Society thereto; and any *Acte* or document so signed and sealed shall be deemed the *Acte* of the said Society, nor shall the authority of the persons signing or affixing the seal of the Society thereto to sign or seal the same be liable to be called in question except by the Society or some Director thereof.

VII. And be it enacted, That the said Directors shall have full power to fill any vacancy which may exist or happen among the Officers or Directors between the annual elections aforesaid, by electing and appointing such Officer or Officers from among themselves, and such Director or Directors from among the members of the Society, as the case may require.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all elections under this Act shall be by ballot, and the person or persons having the majority of votes of the persons present and entitled to vote at the election, shall (if duly qualified as members) be deemed to be the person or persons elected.

IX. And be it enacted, That the Directors shall at all times have full power and authority to call a special general meeting of the Members of the Society, by advertisement inserted at least once a week during one month, in some newspaper published in the English language, and in some newspaper published in the French language in the City of Montreal, and in some newspaper published in the English language and in some newspaper published in the French language in the City of Quebec, stating the day, hour and place and the object of such meeting, and the President, or some one of the Vice-Presidents, shall preside at each such meeting, at which fifty members shall form a *Quorum*, and any majority of such *Quorum* may exercise all the powers of the members of the Society at all such meetings.

X. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Directors from time to time to frame such By-laws as they shall deem best adapted to advance the interests of the Society, and the objects for which it is established, and to submit the By-laws so framed to an annual or special general meeting of the Members of the Society, by whom the same may be allowed, disallowed, or amended at such general meeting; and such By-laws as shall be passed at any such general meeting shall be put into writing, and signed by the person having presided thereat, and shall

thereafter be binding on all Members and Officers of the said Society, until repealed or altered by other By-laws to be made and passed in like manner; and any copy of any By-law or By-laws, in print or in writing, purporting to be certified by the Secretary of the Society for the time being, and to bear the seal of the Society, shall be primâ facie evidence of such By-law or By-laws to all intents and purposes, and in all Courts and places whatsoever.

XI. And be it enacted, That by such By-laws the said Society may assign to the Directors any power not inconsistent with this Act hereby vested in the Society, and may direct the manner in which such powers shall be exercised, and may appoint the times and places of the annual general meetings of the Society, the mode of auditing and examining the accounts of the Society, and may appoint the Common Seal and motto or device of the Society, and may direct that any number of Directors or Vice- Presidents be chosen from Members resident in any particular District or locality in Lower Canada, and by Members resident therein; and may appoint or authorize the Directors to appoint local Boards of Directors in any such District or locality, and vest in them such powers as may be deemed expedient, and generally may regulate or empower the Directors as aforesaid or any such local Board, to regulate the conduct of the business and affairs of the Society, in such manner as may be deemed best adapted to attain the objects for which the Society is established.

XII. And be it enacted, That the said Society shall annually, during the first three weeks of each Session of the Provincial Legislature, lay before the Governor, and each House thereof, a report of their doings under the authority of this Act since their then last report.

XIII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act, and as such shall be judicially noticed by all Judges, Justices of the Peace and others, without being specially pleaded.