

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada, passed in the year 1856. Quebec: Stewart Derbyshire and George Desbarts, 1856.

20 Victoria – Chapter 47

An Act to amend the Act to provide for the better organization of Agricultural Societies in Lower Canada, and for other purposes connected with Agriculture in Upper and Lower Canada. Assented to 19th June, 1856.

Whereas it was provided by the Act passed in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An Act to provide for the better organization of Agricultural Societies in Lower Canada*, that from and after a day therein mentioned, a County Agricultural Society should be organized in each of the then existing Counties of Lower Canada, upon the conditions and in the manner therein prescribed; And whereas by the Parliamentary Representation Act of 1853, and the Parliamentary Representation Amendment Act of 1855, Lower Canada has been divided into new and additional Counties or territorial divisions, and it is therefore necessary to extend the provisions of the first mentioned Act to such new Counties or territorial divisions: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

- I. All and every the provisions of the said first mentioned Act are hereby extended to each of the new Counties mentioned and referred to in the said Parliamentary Representation Acts, in like manner and to the same effect as if they had existed as separate and distinct Counties at the time of the passing of the said first mentioned Act.
- II. It shall be lawful for each of the present electoral Counties to organize one Agricultural Society only, which shall bear the name of the County in which it may be established, excepting however the Counties of Gaspé, Bonaventure, Vaudreuil, Nicolet and Drummond, which may establish or continue to have two Agricultural Societies within their respective limits.
- III. The Societies at present existing in the Counties of Vaudreuil, Bonaventure, Gaspé and Nicolet, shall retain their present limits, and shall be continued under their present organization; the County of Drummond shall be divided so as to form two Societies, the operations of the second to extend over the Townships of Kingsey, Simpson, Durham, and the first five lots of the four first ranges, and the two first lots of all the other ranges of the Township of Wickham.
- IV. And whereas it is necessary to make some provision for the encouragement of Horticulture in Lower Canada; therefore, it shall be lawful for the Board of Agriculture in Lower Canada, out of the amount to which the said Counties and other electoral divisions claiming the same may be respectively entitled from the public funds, to place at the disposal of any Horticultural Society which may be formed in any County, or in any City or Town within the body or ordinary limits of such County, though not within its electoral limits, a sum equal to that which may be subscribed for that purpose by the inhabitants of such County, City or Town, and not exceeding thirty-seven pounds ten shillings, to be applied towards defraying the expenses incurred by such Horticultural Societies in promoting the main object of their institution.

V. And in order to equalize as nearly as may be, the amount to be paid out of the public funds to the Agricultural Societies of Upper and Lower Canada respectively, the sum to be paid to each County in Lower Canada, for the several Societies established or to be established therein, shall not exceed two hundred pounds; and until some Legislative enactment shall have been passed adapting the existing Agricultural Acts of Upper Canada, to the number of electoral divisions therein, a sum equivalent to any excess which may be paid to Lower Canada over Upper Canada, under this Act, shall be reserved for the several Agricultural Societies of Upper Canada, the said amount to be placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture for Upper Canada, and paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the said Board of Agriculture.

VI. In any County in which two Societies shall at present exist, or may hereafter be established, such Societies shall be equally entitled to receive the annual grant, not exceeding one hundred pounds, in the same manner as County Societies; in case only one Society shall be in operation in any of the said Counties during any year, such Society shall not be deprived of the right of subscribing the sum requisite to entitle them to the whole grant allotted to the County in which such Society shall be established; in case any one of the Societies in any of the said Counties shall not have subscribed the amount sufficient to entitle it to receive the whole of its share of the grant, the other Society upon subscribing the necessary amount, shall be entitled to obtain the balance of the said grant.

VII. Societies organized before the passing of this Act, excepting those specially referred to in the third Section of this Act, shall cease to exist, and shall provide for the final settlement of their affairs, between the day of the passing of this Act and the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven; Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall have the effect of preventing the new Societies to be established in virtue of this Act, from being so far organized during the interval, as to enable them to go into full operation upon the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven.

VIII. Every new Agricultural Society which shall be organized in virtue of this Act, previously to the first day of August next and which shall have subscribed the necessary amount, shall be entitled to the grant provided for by this Act, and any new County which contains the majority of the subscribers to any Agricultural Society, shall also be entitled to receive a similar grant, without proceeding to any new election of officers for the current year, and the officers previously elected, and residing in the said new County, shall continue to manage the affairs of the Society until the first day of January next; Provided always, that all debts now due by any former Agricultural Society, shall be paid by that Society within the limits of which the exhibitor who may have obtained the prize may reside.

IX. All sums of money subscribed or paid by any subscriber towards the funds of any Agricultural Society now formed, shall be held to have been subscribed and paid for the benefit of any Society to be formed under this Act, comprehending within its limits the residence or landed estate of such subscriber, and shall be applicable and paid by the Treasurer of the old Society to the

Treasurer of the new Society; Provided always, that such new Society shall be formed and go into operation on or before the first day of August next.

X. The several provisions, conditions and restrictions of the said first mentioned Act respecting the formation of Agricultural Societies, are hereby made applicable to the formation of Horticultural Societies, except in so far as relates to the authority to form more than one Agricultural Society in each County, and except also in so far as the same may be altered by this Act.

XI. In every case in which a Parish or Township or part or parts thereof heretofore comprised within the limits of a County entitled to form one or more Agricultural Societies, has or have been attached for representation purposes to any Town in Lower Canada, and together with it forms an Electoral Division, such Electoral Division shall be deemed a County within the intent and meaning of this Act, and all the provisions thereof and of former Acts in force relating to agriculture in Lower Canada, shall apply to such Electoral Division; provided that it shall not be entitled to more than one half of the amount of the public grant for a County.