



ABOUT US

The Farmers' Advocate Office (FAO) was established by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1973 as a resource for Alberta farmers and ranchers. The FAO works to ensure that the rights and interests of rural Albertans are recognized, understood and protected.

ADVOCACY

The FAO assists by bridging the gap between rural Albertans and the provincial government, bringing the concerns of farmers and ranchers to decision-makers and advocating for legislative and policy change on behalf of rural communities and groups.

RURAL CONCERNS & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The FAO assists landowners on a broad range of issues that sometimes require in-depth intervention through meetings, site visits, facilitation or mediation.

Farmers and ranchers experiencing conflicts may contact the FAO for objective and unbiased ideas for resolving disputes.

AFSC REVIEWS & LEGISLATED APPEALS

Upon request, the FAO can conduct appeals under the Crop Insurance program and reviews of AgriStability decisions administered by Agricultural Financial Services Corporation (AFSC). The FAO also coordinates appeals for various pieces of agriculture related legislation.

NUISANCE COMPLAINTS

Under Part 1 of the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act*, an appointed Panel, coordinated by the FAO, can review complaints related to odour, dust, noise, or smoke arising from an agricultural operation.

WATER WELL RESTORATION OR REPLACEMENT PROGRAM (WRRRP)

If you suspect damage to your water well because of energy activities and settlement negotiations with the company have been unsuccessful, you can apply to the FAO for reimbursement of the costs of restoring or replacing the water source.

Applicants must first obtain an investigation report from the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER).

ENERGY, UTILITIES & SURFACE RIGHTS

The FAO is a resource for farmers and ranchers affected by energy and utility developments. The FAO helps empower Alberta landowners with knowledge by providing information and advice on legislation and policy, and landowner rights and responsibilities. When disputes arise between landowners and industry, the FAO can assist with mediation and dispute resolution services.

FARM IMPLEMENT AND DEALERSHIP ACT

The *Farm Implement and Dealership Act* helps protect the investment farmers make in their machinery. FAO staff, the Farm Implement Inspector, and the Farm Implement Board work to settle warranty complaints and address situations involving breach of lease/sale agreements or machinery performance issues. The FAO also licenses Alberta's farm implement dealers and distributors.

FARM & RANCH INSURANCE

The FAO coordinates appointed panels to handle farm safety insurance appeals under Part 0.1 of the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act*.

Contact Us

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