

**Constitution of the Agricultural Society of the North Riding of the
County of Lanark, adopted at a General Meeting of the Subscribers, held in the
Town Hall at Ramsay. “27th March, 1858”.**

1st. This Society shall be denominated the AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF THE NORTH RIDING OF THE COUNTY OF LANARK, to aid in affecting the views of the Provincial Legislature, for the improvement of Agriculture in this Province.

2nd. This Society shall be conducted by a President, two Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and seven directors, who shall form a managing committee, any four of whom shall form a quorum likewise three auditors whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts of the Society and give in a written report, prior to the election of office bearers at the general meeting in January.

3rd, There shall be an annual meeting of the members of the Society held on the third Wednesday of January at eleven o'clock am. at which time a new election of officers shall take place, to serve for the ensuing year. There shall also be a general meeting of the members one week previous to the Provincial Exhibition, in each year at eleven o'clock a.m. at which a Cattle show shall be held, where all stock, implements of husbandry, etc., intended for Premiums shall be exhibited, which show shall be under the direction of the managing committee.

4th. An Annual subscription of one dollar shall constitute the subscriber a member, and a donation of forty dollars a member for life, and no member will be allowed to draw more than three times the amount of his subscription in prizes, unless he subscribes previously to the amount of four dollars.

5th. The President and Secretary shall have power to call meetings of the Directors, when they think it most available, and if the President and Secretary neglect or refuse to do so, any three directors shall have power to call a meeting, due notice of which shall be given previous to its taking place for two weeks in the Carleton Place Herald.

6th. Any persons neglecting to pay their subscriptions before the first day of May may compete for Premiums by paying three times the amount of their original subscriptions at least one week previous to the annual exhibition.

7th. The Treasurer shall keep on account of the receipts and expenditures of the Society, and the names of the members who may have neglected to pay their annual subscriptions, to be exhibited at the annual meeting and also a list of all the members of the Society; he shall also have charge of all the money and property of the Society, subject to the orders of the directors, all orders on the Treasurer to be signed by the President or presiding Vice President, and countersigned by the Secretary. The Treasurer shall exhibit a statement of the funds and property of the Society when ever required to do so by the Directors and shall also give such security as may be approved of by the Directors or President, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office

8th. The Secretary shall record the proceedings of the Society and exhibit the same when required by the Directors, and all the books and papers of the Society shall be open to the inspection of members at said meeting,

9th. It shall be the duty of the Directors to conduct the affairs of the Society agreeable to the constitution, and to make such further temporary rules and regulations as may be necessary for carrying its designs into effect, also to make out and advertise a list of Premiums, which in their opinion should be offered, within the limits of their funds, for any object tending to the improvement of domestic manufacturers and the Agriculture of the country, and to offer large Premium to parties importing improved stock, instead of becoming owners of said stock and to purchase any grain, grass seeds, useful implements of husbandry, or whatever else may conduce to the improvement of the Agriculture of the country.

10th. No member of the Society shall be allowed to receive a first Premium for the same domestic animal in the same class, oftener than once in four years, but a member taking a second or third prize, may compete for a higher premium, and persons competing for Premiums of Crops, shall exhibit to the judges an account of the manner of cultivation the same, which account shall be considered as belonging to the Society.

This to apply only to Farms, Agricultural implements and Domestic animals,

11th. A report of the proceedings of the Society, the state of its finances and a general view of its affairs, shall be published once in each year by the Directors, and shall be exhibited to the Society at its general meeting, held in the month of January;

12th. No premium shall be given for any article which has not been bred, raised, grown or made within the Electoral Division, except Entire Horses, Brood Mares, Matched draught, and carriage Horses, and Oxen, Bulls, Cows, Rams, Ewes; Boars, Sows and Implements and all such stock and implements must have been in possession of the party at least three months previous to exhibition to entitle him to a premium, and that no person shall receive a premium for any such article which. in the opinion of the judges is not considered deserving of it.

13th. That while the directors will take every possible precaution to ensure the safety of articles sent to the exhibition, yet they wish it to be distinctly understood that the owners of the articles must themselves take the risk of exhibiting them; and that should any article be accidentally injured, lost or stolen, the directors will give au the assistance in their power towards the recovery of the same but will not make any payment for the value thereof.

14. The Officers of the Society shall have power to fill vacancies which may occur in their numbers by death or otherwise, until the next annual meeting.

15th. That the prize list be made as large as possible, and should the funds of the Society be such, that the whole amount of prizes awarded cannot be paid then only a certain percentage on the amount shall be paid.

16th. Any member who shall impose or attempt to impose by false representation, or any other way in order to obtain a premium or any other advantage or any judge who shall show partiality, upon complaint being made before the Directors or a quorum thereof and fully substantiated shall be liable to be deprived of his premium, or to be expelled from the Society, as the directors may think fit.

17th. This constitution may be altered or amended at any general meeting where at least fifteen members are present, provided they are unanimous, twenty-five or upwards, three fourths to carry, thirty-five or upwards, two thirds to carry and fifty and upwards a majority.

JOHN MENZIES, President,

DAVID CAMPBELL, Secty and Treas.