

FAQ FOR AUCTION MARKETS

CHANGE TO COLLECTION RATES FOR INTERPROVINCIAL CATTLE SALES

WHAT IS CHANGING?

The Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency (the Agency), with support from the BC Cattle Industry Development Council (CIDC), Alberta Beef Producers (ABP) and the Saskatchewan Cattle Association (SCA), implemented a change in the way that beef check-off is calculated and collected on cattle sold in those three provinces.

Prior to August 1, 2025, cattle from non-resident sellers in those three western provinces had the check-off rate applied from the province where the sale takes place.

Effective August 1, 2025, the rate applied to each marketing is that of where the seller resides. This means that the rate will essentially “follow the cattle” no matter where in Canada they are sold.

WHY DID IT CHANGE?

With check-off rates changing across the country, there is less parity between provinces. The change in how the rates and collections are applied in western Canada will ensure stronger alignment and equity on cattle marketings. It will ensure that each provincial cattle association is eligible to receive their own check-off rate back on behalf of their own producers in all marketing instances.

WHY DID THE RATE IN SASKATCHEWAN CHANGE?

Each provincial cattle association is responsible for determining their own provincial check-off rate. Increases or decreases to that rate can depend on a variety of factors, like inflation, administration costs, increased or decreased cattle marketings, or a change in the programs and services the organization chooses to invest into on behalf of their beef producers.



LOOKING FOR HELP?

Send an email directly to our team at info@cdnbeefcheckoff.ca

CAN YOU COMPARE THE TWO SYSTEMS?

Absolutely. Let's use Alberta and Saskatchewan as examples, with Saskatchewan's new check-off rate of \$5.25 vs Alberta's rate of \$4.50.

Old System: Check-off rate on sales taking place in BC, AB and SK was that of where the sale took place, regardless of what province the seller of the cattle resides in.

New System: Check-off rate would be tied to the residency of the seller for all provinces. Where the sale took place would have no impact on the rate of check-off collected.

Example 1:

Old System: An Alberta producer sells cattle into a Saskatchewan auction market. The auction market deducts \$5.25, because that's where the sale is taking place, even though the producer lives in Alberta and would normally only pay \$4.50. This would be considered an over collection.

New System: An Alberta producer sells cattle into a Saskatchewan auction market. The auction market deducts \$4.50, because that's the rate where the seller of the cattle lives.

Example 2:

Old System: A Saskatchewan producer sells cattle into an Alberta auction market. The auction market deducts \$4.50, because that's where the sale is taking place, even though the producer lives in Saskatchewan and would normally pay \$5.25. This would be considered an under collection.

New System: An Alberta producer sells cattle into a Saskatchewan auction market. The auction market deducts \$4.50, because that's the rate where the seller of the cattle lives.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME AS AN AUCTION MARKET?

The change will mean some adjustments to the software or bookkeeping/inventory system you use to track your marketings and the check-off deductions. This can be automated computer-based systems or done manually; we understand that every system is different and has its unique complexities.

Currently, your systems may still be set up to apply the check-off rate for the province where you are operating, regardless of where the cattle come from. This means in Alberta and Saskatchewan, they are currently set to apply a rate of \$4.50, and in BC, set to apply a rate of \$5.00.

If you have not yet made the change, your system will need to be adjusted to account for a different check-off rate based on the residency of the seller. A list of rates effective August 1, 2025 can be found on our website, or by contacting your provincial cattle association.

The changes in your software or system should also include the ability to adjust rates as necessary, if other provinces plan to make changes. If you prefer to make changes manually or in another manner other than your software system, we are more than happy to support those changes as well.

CAN I RECEIVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CHANGES I MAKE?

There is a rebate program where remitters can apply to receive up to 50% of their total costs for implementation back as financial support. This can include any software updates, programming changes or technology upgrades related specifically to the mechanism change, or can include material and labour costs to update manual or paper systems.

The deadline for the rebate program has been extended to June 1, 2026.

More information: www.agricommodity.ca

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR HELP CHANGING MY SYSTEM?

Send an email directly to our team at:

info@cdnbeefcheckoff.ca

We will do our best to reach out to you in 1-2 business days.