



# Alberta Beekeepers Commission 2026 Research Priorities

*Creating an Environment Where Bees and Their Keepers Thrive*



# 3 Year Strategic Plan



**3 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN** 2024 – 2026

**MISSION**  
CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE BEES AND THEIR KEEPERS THRIVE

**VISION**  
A VIBRANT, HEALTHY, AND GROWING ALBERTA BEEKEEPING AND HONEY INDUSTRY

## ABC STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### BEE AND HIVE HEALTH

ABC will enhance the health, sustainability, and success of Alberta's beekeepers and honey bees through:

- Reducing overwintering losses through the delivery of Colony Health Monitoring services
- Investing in miticide research initiatives
- Providing industry and research backed Integrated Pest Management tools, techniques, and education.
- Advancing honey bee stock improvement initiatives.

### MARKET POSITION AND PROFILE

ABC will elevate the value of pure Alberta honey through:

- Engaging key stakeholders to build strong, collaborative relationships
- Developing a robust Canadian honey quality, authenticity, and testing standard
- Enhancing market recognition and consumer trust through compelling story telling.

### MARKET UNCERTAINTY

ABC will actively monitor and respond to external factors that influence the success of Alberta beekeepers through:

- Identifying key issues and leveraging ABC's advocacy role to drive meaningful change
- Conducting research on the Canadian honey trade balance to inform strategic decisions
- Developing beekeeper-specific Business Risk Management (BRM) tools tailored to support resilience and sustainability.




## GOALS

- Be a **valuable resource** to Alberta producers and industry partners, and a recognized leader and innovator within the Canadian industry.
- Sustainably grow the local, national and international markets served by Alberta producers.
- Ensure the value chain considers all **essential elements** for industry success, and that all participants are inclusively **engaged** and proudly contributing.
- Champion a culture of **continuous improvement** and meaningful **collaboration** with partners and stakeholders to encourage best practices across the value chain.
- Build strong industry **partnerships** that producers can **leverage** to navigate challenges and capitalize on opportunities.

## ABC'S VALUES

- OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE
- EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE
- INCLUSIVE PERSPECTIVES
- INTEGRITY
- CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
- PARTNERSHIPS



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# 2026 Research Priorities

## **Honey Bee Health and Resilience**

- Improve bee stock quality with a focus on developing local stock and improving colony level traits
- Enhancing honey bee nutrition: improving supplements & focused crop breeding for nutrition
- Tropilaelaps preparedness and prevention

## **Honey: Market Position and Profile**

- Development of a new standard for honey
- Ensuring authenticity of all imported honeys including organic
- Development of MRLs for Quinclorac and Glyphosate