

F. Industrial Hemp |

Indiana, *Representative Don Lehe*

North Dakota, *Representative Dennis Johnson*

Canada's Experience, *Ted Haney, Canada Hemp Trade Alliance*

- Rep. Don Lehe, IN
 - Provided some background and history on the issue of hemp – came to attention prior than 2014 but never address how to make it a viable process; There was interest in treating certain types of epilepsy. There was also interest in fiber with manufacturers in IN that were importing hemp fiber. Most of the opposition came from prosecutors and law enforcement. Purdue was not interested in research that would put other federally funded programs in jeopardy.
 - Then, 2014, put in place process for Purdue to research.
 - In 2017, placed legislation to help children, including a registry for parents to get advice and not be liable to prosecution. Repealed the registry in 2018 and anyone could buy low THC, CBD for use.
 - Following the 2018 farm bill, there was legislation in 2019 to respond to the USDA regulations, and applications in 2019 are still under the research program.
 - The seed commissioner is getting 1000s of requests. Rep. Lehe expressed concern that they will likely overproduce.

- Rep. Dennis Johnson, ND
 - 2014 was a big year to have the Farm Bill allow for research. The University had 12 different varieties in a test plot that summer.
 - North Dakota passed legislation in 2015. In 2016, the ND Dept. of Agriculture had five growers and inspected the acres to check THC levels. Growers increased in 2017 and 2018.
 - The 2018 federal farm bill opened new windows of opportunity with transportation and could go across state lines for processors.
 - In 2019 – now 9 processors, 7 more ready to go; ND Dept of Agriculture has been active, including seed registration. Law enforcement has full access.
 - 2020 – not sure what rules will be operating under. Dept. of Agriculture will be working with USDA and DEA

- Ted Haney, Canada Hemp Trade Alliance –
 - The trade alliance was formed five years after hemp was allowed again in Canada. It serves as an industry association and go to place for information and connections. Members from 9 out of 10 provinces.
 - There is debate now on sativa vs. indica – different plants? Or, could indica be a sub species?
 - The absence of the plan has been costly since the 1938 prohibition. The years since has been a time of the development of pesticides and

herbicides, increased work on nutrition, and work on understanding bioactivity. Hemp did not benefit from these developments. The number one challenge worldwide is understanding the genetics.

- Canada has a developed food market and is developing others. First significant growth in hemp production in Canada started in 2010. Canada mostly focuses on grain. China focuses on fiber and soil remediation. Europe focuses on fiber and CBD. (Slides with statistics on economic numbers were provided.)
- Open Discussion and Q&A -
 - Sen. Gabbard asked about the explosion of hemp in the US and impact on Canada?
 - Haney responded that Canada loves competition and that hemp is for plant for grain a good northern latitude crop. When American hemp moves to grain production it will help with innovation.
 - Sen. Thompson (LA) asked if someone can make a higher THC through reheatating?
 - Haney responded that there are developed genetics to grow the plant as a grain and they are not as prepared for CBD. Plant breeding and need to avoid the uncontrolled release and use of genetics.
 - No chemicals labeled in the US. In Canada, falls under the minor use category and very limited weed suppression available.