



March 23, 2005

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DELIVERED BY FAX AND/OR EMAIL

Bruce Cook, Chair
British Columbia Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Ron Kilmury, Chair
British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board

David Taylor, Chair
British Columbia Egg Marketing Board

John Jansen, Chair
British Columbia Milk Marketing Board

Ron Charles, Chair
British Columbia Turkey Marketing Board

Brian Hughes, Chair
Certified Organic Associations of British Columbia Implementation Team

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

**REVIEW OF SPECIALTY PRODUCTION AND NEW ENTRANT PROGRAMS –
IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE SUPPLY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The following is provided in response to questions that have been raised concerning the expectations of the British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board (the “Provincial board”) regarding the additional consultation that should take place between the commodity boards and their mainstream and specialty industry stakeholders after March 31, 2005.

The commodity boards are encouraged to continue with the consultation processes they have in place leading up to the initial submission of their proposed plans to the Provincial board. A process outline for the April 1 to June 30, 2005 timeframe was provided in a March 21, 2005 letter from the Chair of the Provincial board. In order to foster ongoing communication with respect to these plans, this timetable is provided again with a suggested consultation framework included in italics:

British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board

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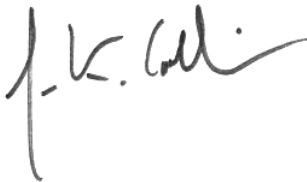
- March 31* *Commodity boards submit their plans to the Provincial board, copying the plans to all their industry stakeholders and posting them on their websites. Should a commodity board consider it useful to do so, they could also ask their Industry Advisory Committee to provide formal advice. In anticipation that the Provincial board may require revisions (it will be seeking industry feedback in any event) each commodity board should request their stakeholders to be proactive in providing comments on the published plans to the commodity board.*
- April 1 to April 11 Initial review of the plans by Provincial board and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (“Ministry”) representatives in consultation with Mr. Leroux and Ms. Gibson.
- April 12 to April 15 Provincial board and Ministry representatives meet with each of the commodity board working groups to review and assess the plans *and the feedback received to that point*. Mr. Leroux and Ms. Gibson will also attend these meetings.
- April 18 to April 30 Commodity boards revise their plans as necessary in response to Provincial board direction and conduct final consultation with their industry stakeholders regarding those revisions (*and concerns which have arisen following the March 31 release of the proposed plans*). Mr. Leroux and Ms. Gibson will be available to assist the boards and will meet also with specialty representatives to ensure their concerns are identified and brought to the attention of the commodity boards.
- By May 1 The commodity boards submit their revised plans to the Provincial board. *These revised plans should also to be copied to industry stakeholders and posted on commodity board websites*, with notification that further input on the plans should be provided in writing directly to the Provincial board.
- By May 16 Deadline for interested persons to provide their final, written comments on the commodity board plans to the Provincial board. Provincial board consultation with the Ministry.
- By May 31 Provincial board issues its directions and approvals as required.
- By June 30 Plans implemented by each commodity board in the form of orders.

This process provides industry with about a month to review the proposed plans after they are in written form and to discuss them with the commodity boards. This will be followed by further

opportunity to provide written input to the Ministry and to the Provincial board before the plans are approved as directed by the Provincial board. Industry stakeholders will need to be both proactive and prompt in reviewing the plans and providing their feedback to the commodity boards and subsequently to the Provincial board.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the process, please contact this office.

Yours truly,



Jim Collins
Acting General Manager

pc: Daphne Stancil, Assistant Deputy Minister
Strategy, Policy and Legislation
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

George Leroux
Kathleen Gibson

Council of Marketing Boards of BC
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers Association
BC Chicken Growers' Association
BC Egg Producers Association
BC Milk Producers Association
BC Turkey Association
BC Egg Hatchery Association
Certified Organic Associations of BC
Pro-Cert Canada Inc.
Primary Poultry Processors Association of BC
Lilydale Co-operative Ltd.
Fairline Developments Ltd.
Wingtat Game Bird Packers Ltd.
Bradner Farms Ltd.
Farmcrest Foods Ltd.
Avalon Dairy Ltd.
BC Egg Processors Council
BC Dairy Council
BC Poultry Committee
BC Specialty Egg Producers Association
BC Specialty Bird Association
Small Lot Agriculture Initiative
c/o Fraser Valley Direct Marketing Association
Island Farmers Alliance
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals