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File: 1680-04 ELECT REV

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

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BC Hog Marketing Commission
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BC Turkey Marketing Board
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Dear Colleagues:

ELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES – REMINDER OF REVIEW SCHEDULE & APPROVAL PROCESS

Given you will be conducting a full review of your respective Election Rules and Procedures (Election Rules) this year, this is a good opportunity to revisit the related regulatory requirements and BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) expectations.

Election Rules are an important component of good governance. Scheduling regular, rigorous reviews helps ensure that Election Rules continue to provide a SAFETI¹-based approach to elections. The 2017 review schedule, as reflected in your respective Election Rules, is set out below for your convenience.

BC Hog Marketing Commission	every four years, with the next review to occur in 2017
BC Chicken Marketing Board	every three years, with the next review to occur in 2017
BC Turkey Marketing Board	every four years, with the next review scheduled for 2017

¹ Strategic, Accountable, Fair Effective, Transparent, Inclusive

Regulatory Requirements and Expectations

As per your respective Schemes, any amendments to Election Rules are subject to BCFIRB approval. For the purposes of good governance and transparency, BCFIRB requires that you publish the approved Election Rules in the publically-accessible area of your websites.

BCFIRB expects the boards will provide the following information with their submissions to facilitate a timely, effective, and accountable approval process:

- Any wording amendments, including your election schedule, preferably in MS Word format.
- A rationale for any proposed amendments that clearly demonstrates the rules have been reviewed in light of the “Guidelines for Approval of Election Rules and Procedures Submitted by Marketing Boards and Commissions” (see Appendix 1) and the SAFETI principles.
- A description of the stakeholder consultation process and a summary of feedback received.
- A letter or email stating that the board has looked at the Election Rules, including any proposed changes, and is ready to submit to BCFIRB for review.

A copy of the motion made by the board to approve the final version of the Election Rules will be required before BCFIRB approves the Election Rules.

Based on its experience with Election Rules reviews, BCFIRB suggests it may be effective to consider a longer review cycle (e.g. every five years) for Election Rules, as long as the Rules retain the clause allowing registered producers to request a review should an issue arise. In any circumstance, BCFIRB retains the right to direct a full review of the Election Rules at any time.

BCFIRB recommends that boards allow several weeks for the approval process. If there are extenuating circumstances, please provide a sound rationale for urgency and BCFIRB staff and members will do their best to expedite the process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katia Gauvin, Issues Management Analyst, at 250-356-7819 or Katia.Gauvin@gov.bc.ca.

Best regards,



Wanda Gorsuch
Manager, Issues and Planning

Attachment: Appendix 1: BCFIRB Guidelines

Cc: BCFIRB website