

January 2, 2018

File: 1680-04 EMB ELRUL

## **DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

Gunta Vitins Chair BC Egg Marketing Board 250 – 32160 South Fraser Way Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5

Dear Ms. Vitins:

## EGG MARKETING BOARD SPECIAL ELECTION APPROVAL REQUEST

Under the *British Columbia Egg Marketing Scheme*, 1967, s. 18.1(2), election rules and procedures do not come into effect until approved by the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB). I have been appointed by the Chair of the BCFIRB as a one-person supervisory panel under section 7.1 of the *Natural Products marketing (BC) Act* to review and approve the election rules and procedures of the commodity boards and commissions.

On December 20, 2017, the BC Egg Marketing Board (Egg Board) requested permission from BCFIRB to hold a special election. The special election would be used to fill an unscheduled vacancy. The vacancy is a result of an Egg Board member, elected in February 2017, resigning from their three year term effective December 31, 2017.

Under the Egg Board 2015 Election Rules and Procedures (Election Rules) s. 13, when there is an unscheduled vacancy created on the board due to a resignation in writing, the Egg Board may continue with the vacant position or appoint someone to fill the vacancy until the term is complete. The appointment is subject to BCFIRB approval.

The Egg Board determined that two years is too long for the position to remain vacant, and that appointing a member to represent Vancouver Island for that length of time is not a procedurally fair option. The Egg Board requested a temporary amendment to its Election Rules to allow for a special election.

Given the rationale provided by the Egg Board, I approve a one-time exception to the 2015 Election Rules and Procedures. This exception allows the Egg Board to hold a special election concurrently with its general election scheduled to start in January 2018. The special election is for the

British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board Mailing Address: PO Box 9129 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9B5 Telephone: 250 356-8945 Facsimile: 250 356-5131 Gunta Vitins January 2, 2018

Vancouver Island Region representative for a two-year term commencing March 2018. The process followed for the special election is to be the same as for the general election.

At the next Election Rules and Procedures review, scheduled for 2019, I recommend that the Egg Board consider adding a special election option in its election rules, to address early term vacancies such as occurred here.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD Per:

Diane Pastoor Member

cc: BCFIRB website