

February 12, 2013

File: 1680-04 EMB

## **DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

Al Sakalauskas Executive Director British Columbia Egg Marketing Board 250-32160 South Fraser Way Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5

Dear Mr. Sakalauskas:

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA EGG MARKETING BOARD ELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES APPROVAL**

In a letter dated December 17, 2012 the Egg Board has requested that the British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) renew its approval of the British Columbia Egg Marketing Board Election Rules and Procedures dated February 2, 2009. Under the *British Columbia Egg Marketing Scheme* s. 18.1(2), election rules and procedures do not come into effect until approved by BCFIRB.

I have been appointed by the Chair of the BCFIRB as a one person panel to review the election rules and procedures of the commodity boards and commissions.

Given the importance of election rules and as a matter of good governance practice, the Egg Board is directed to conduct its next full review of the Election Rules and Procedures no later than December 31, 2015. Consistent with the practice of other commodity boards, the Egg Board is also directed to include the following or a like provision in the Election Rules and Procedures either at the time of that review or in the event of any earlier amendments:

The Election and Appointment Rules and Procedures shall be reviewed every three years, with the next such review to take place no later than December 31, 2015.

BCFIRB appreciates the Egg Board providing a description of its consultation process, the results of that consultation and its analysis in coming to its decision to make no changes to the Election Rules and Procedures at this time. In reviewing the analysis section, BCFIRB has two observations for future reference.

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- The Egg Board may wish to review their consultation process as the lack of producer feedback (including no consistency of view point) could potentially be a result of the short time frame and possible lack of context provided for producers.
- With reference to the discussion concerning section 12 of Election Rules and Procedures, BCFIRB notes it is not unusual to find legislation and associated regulations reflected in commodity board election rules and procedures for the purposes of transparency. A provision like section 12 is common, as can be seen from a review of other commodity board election rules and procedures.

Based on the information provided by the Egg Board, including its position regarding nomination requirements that "...the Egg Board is aware that these requirements could present difficulties in the future and it will not hesitate to advocate for changes should it become necessary to do so", I renew BCFIRB's approval of the February 2, 2009 Election Rules and Procedures.

Yours truly,

Suzanne K. Wiltshire Member