## BC Farm Industry Review Board

May 27, 2020 File: 4200-20/WAT

## **DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

Mr. Gordon S. Watson Suite #4 5177 William Head Rd Victoria BC V9C 4H5

Dear Mr. Watson

## REQUIREMENT FOR BCFIRB STATEMENT

Thank you for your May 6, 2020 letter.

You ask the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB), in support of your current Supreme Court Petition, to provide a written statement that BCFIRB and the BC Milk Marketing Board (Milk Board) were aware in 2005 that:

...British Columbians do milk cows they own and do use and enjoy as much milk for personal consumption, outside of the scheme for distribution of milk in commerce. And that – at least theoretically – there always was a way for such people to continue to do so without offending pertinent statutes.

It is not possible for BCFIRB to provide any comment on what BCFIRB (or the Milk Board for that matter) may or may not have been aware of in 2005. To the extent that you are referencing the 2005 Specialty and New Entrant Review, I can confirm that BCFIRB did not collect information on personal milk consumption as the concern in that review was how specialty or niche markets for fluid milk were being met by the regulatory system. To the extent that you are asking for a legal interpretation of where milk for personal consumption fits within the regulatory framework, I cannot provide you with legal advice and suggest that you seek your own independent legal advice on this issue.

Email: firb@gov.bc.ca
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As for your concerns regarding the Milk Board, based on your included correspondence it appears that it has responded promptly and courteously to your request for documents under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Best Regards,

Kirsten Pedersen Executive Director

cc: Rob Delage, Executive Director

BC Milk Marketing Board

BCFIRB web site