

May 28, 2003 File: 44200-35/AGEN

DELIVERED BY FAX

Chair and Members BC Vegetable Marketing Commission 201 – 7560 Vantage Way Delta BC V4G 1H1

Dear Chair and Members:

DESIGNATION OF AGENCY

On May 9, 2003, the British Columbia Vegetable Marketing Commission (Vegetable Commission) recommended that the British Columbia Marketing Board (BCMB) approve the appointment of Fraserland Organics Inc. as an agency to market organic potatoes in District 1. The Vegetable Commission provided a copy of the transcript of the hearing and documentation considered by the Commission in arriving at its decision.

The BCMB struck a panel of three members to consider the application under s. 12(4) of the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act*. The BCMB Panel has assessed the Vegetable Commission's recommendation both in its process and in its substance. The BCMB Panel is satisfied that, as a matter of process, the Vegetable Commission has complied with its own guidelines for designation of agencies, and with the BCMB's *Procedural Policy for the Appointment of Designation of Agencies*. The BCMB Panel is satisfied that all parties have received a fair and balanced hearing of their positions. The BCMB Panel is also satisfied that the Vegetable Commission's decision, and the conditions attached to that decision, is sound and appropriate as a matter of marketing policy.

It is the decision of the BCMB that subject to the terms and conditions established by the Vegetable Commission, the designation of Fraserland Organics Inc. is approved.

The Commission is asked to notify industry members of this approval, as well as the following disclaimers:

1. BCMB approval is not a warranty to producers concerning any aspect of the agency's business, including the ability of the agency to pay for products delivered to them. Producers should independently and consistently assure themselves of the financial viability of the entity to which they sell product.

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2. The conferring of an agency designation is a privilege under the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act*. It is non-transferable and is not approved in perpetuity. The designation of agency may be reviewed by the Vegetable Commission from time to time and upon any material changes in the conditions giving rise to the initial approval. In the event of a proposed sale of the business of the agency, by way of sale of assets or shares, the party seeking to continue the business must receive the Vegetable Commission's prior approval. Without prior approval, the agency designation will terminate.

The BCMB commends the Commission on the thoroughness of their agency review process and the quality of the decision.

Yours truly,

(Original signed by):

Ross Husdon, P.Ag. Chair