



December 18, 2019

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Jim Collins
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Stephanie Nelson
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Harvey Sasaki
BC Chicken Marketing Board

Bill Vanderspek
BC Chicken Marketing Board

Ray Nickel
BC Chicken Marketing Board

Jack Brown
BC Cranberry Marketing Commission

Coreen Berrisford
BC Cranberry Marketing Commission

Jeff Regier
BC Egg Marketing Board

Katie Lowe
BC Egg Marketing Board

Joey Aebig
BC Egg Marketing Board

Bert van Dalssen
BC Hog Marketing Commission

Christine Koch
BC Hog Marketing Commission

Gerd Andres
BC Milk Marketing Board

Rob Delage
BC Milk Marketing Board

Shawn Heppell
BC Turkey Marketing Board

Michel Benoit
BC Turkey Marketing Board

Debbie Etsell
BC Vegetable Marketing Commission

André Solymosi
BC Vegetable Marketing Commission

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING PROJECT (PARP) – MEETING FOLLOW UP

On behalf of the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB), I would like to thank all PARP representatives for attending the December 9, 2019 meeting in Abbotsford. Your preparation and open discussion contributed to a productive meeting that will help shape PARP reporting going forward.

**British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board**

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The following summarizes the key points and actions coming out of the meeting:

- Importance of reporting for transparency, accountability and decision-making.
- There was discussion of what data and information could be considered confidential or sensitive. Some concerns identified where very few producers exist in an industry (e.g., hogs). BCFIRB will discuss concerns with individual boards and address in determining how information is presented.
- Issues raised about harms to BC's competitive position. BCFIRB would need further information and rationale from boards setting out the nature of the harm and how/why a board believes a competitive harm could result from certain data or information disclosure.
- The public reporting requirements in other provinces were discussed. BCFIRB advised that supervisory boards in other provinces requested, and are receiving, updates on PARP implementation and reporting from BCFIRB, and may be interested in exploring a similar process.
- Need for government and BCFIRB input and support on strategic direction of industries. For example, increasing retailer consolidation is negatively impacting producers across many sectors.
- Suggested changes to some definitions provided, clarifications requested to some of the proposed measures for governance, sector basics and quota management and movement.
- BCFIRB to review feedback, discuss with individual boards as necessary, and incorporate changes to the reporting requirements and templates.

Finalized templates will be sent to all boards by late January 2020.

Thank you for your ongoing support for, and engagement with, this initiative to support and demonstrate effective governance and sound leadership of regulated agriculture.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Sakalauskas', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Al Sakalauskas
Vice Chair, BCFIRB

Attachments: December 9, 2019 meeting presentations

cc: BCFIRB web site