

November 22, 2013

File: 44200-60 MMB QUOTA REVIEW

## **DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

Jim Byrne Chair BC Milk Marketing Board 200 – 32160 South Fraser Way Abbotsford BC V2T 1W5

Dear Mr. Byrne:

## SUPERVISORY REVIEW OF BC DAIRY QUOTA GOVERNANCE

Congratulations to you and your team on completing the first round of consultations as part of the BC Milk Marketing Board's <u>BC Dairy Quota Policy & Governance Review</u>. As we noted on April 5, 2011, it represents an important step in supporting "...the business of the industry growing forward while still respecting Government's overarching policy objectives for the regulated marketing sector".

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for inviting BCFIRB board and staff as observers to the recent industry stakeholder sessions. Although we were unable to attend all the sessions, it was a valuable learning opportunity for us to attend those in Nanaimo, Chilliwack and Salmon Arm.

The work the Milk Board has done to date connecting with industry stakeholders and promoting dialogue contributes to achieving a fair, inclusive, transparent and effective consultation process. It is our impression – from the regional meetings that our members and staff attended and the feedback received from others – that the sessions were well planned and facilitated, as well as having a high level of participation and engagement from the dairy industry. The results seemed to be positive and welcomed as an opportunity for open discussion.

For all boards, one general challenge is effectively and strategically engaging stakeholders outside of the immediate industry. The Milk Board has taken steps to publically advertise the Quota Governance Review and opportunities for input on the BC Agriculture Council and Milk Board web sites. We encourage the Milk Board to give ongoing consideration to opportunities

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 Location: 1st Floor, 780 Blanshard Street Victoria BC V8W 2H1 Email: firb@.gov.bc.ca Website: www.firb.gov.bc.ca November 22, 2013 Page 2

throughout the review to actively connect with stakeholders who are not directly involved in the dairy sector.

In wrap up to the first step of the review (*Establishing Common Understanding of Expectations*) and in keeping with BCFIRB's higher level, principles/outcomes based approach, we are offering a guidance document (attached) that summarizes our previously communicated general supervisory expectations.

Finally BCFIRB would like to note our appreciation for the Milk Board's ongoing proactive communication with us to date through the consultation team.

Please feel free to contact us at anytime if you have any questions, concerns, or wish to discuss this review.

Yours truly,

Ron Kilmury Chair

Attachment

cc: BCFIRB Web site

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 Location:

1st Floor, 780 Blanshard Street Victoria BC V8W 2H1 Email: firb@.gov.bc.ca Website: www.firb.gov.bc.ca