



December 4, 2016

File: 1680-04 EMB ELRUL

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Brad Bond
Chair
BC Egg Marketing Board
250 – 32160 South Fraser Way
Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5

Dear Mr. Bond:

BRITISH COLUMBIA EGG MARKETING BOARD 2016 ELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES REVIEW – APPROVAL

Under the *British Columbia Egg Marketing Scheme, 1967*, s. 18.1(2), election rules and procedures do not come into effect until approved by the BC Farm Industry Review Board (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.

On December 24, 2015, a previous BCFIRB panel approved the BC Egg Marketing Board's (Egg Board) Election Rules and Procedures for the 2016 election cycle, and directed that another review be completed by November 4, 2016.

After reviewing its 2016 Election Rules and Procedures, the Egg Board submitted proposed changes to BCFIRB on October 31, 2016. On November 23, 2016, the Egg Board submitted an additional change to the Election Rules and Procedures. I hereby approve these revised Election Rules and Procedures.

2019 Election Rules and Procedures Review

Although I am approving the attached Election Rules and Procedures, dated December 4, 2016, the Egg Board is to conduct thorough and meaningful consultation and analysis of its regional board electoral model and nomination requirements.

The consultation process used by the Egg Board in reviewing its Election Rules and Procedures should be as broad as possible and consider the entire table egg value chain (e.g. producers, graders, and breakers). The SAFETI¹ principles provide a useful checklist for planning and implementing a consultation process.

Consultation Questions

Specifically, the Egg Board is to consult on the following in 2019:

1. Further to BCFIRB correspondence dated February 2, 2009 and October 19, 2012, the requirement that nominations are endorsed by not less than five registered producers holding quota in the region in which the election is being held [section 5(1)(a)]

What is the potential impact of this minimum requirement of five registered producers on encouraging new candidates to stand for election in the Interior and Vancouver Island regions, given they have smaller numbers of registered producers? For example, as a way to address smaller producer numbers, the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission requires three endorsements and the BC Hog Marketing Commission requires two.

2. The regional approach to board membership, with separate elections for the Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland, and Interior regions and the rule that one elected member from any region can represent a specific region [section 1(3)]

Is this regional approach to board membership necessary to ensure that regional concerns are properly addressed by the board? If specific regional knowledge is required for principles-based decision-making, what are some other approaches to ensure that the board, as first instance regulator, has adequate regional and industry knowledge to make sound marketing policy decisions?

In summary, the Egg Board is to explore whether the regional board electoral model and nomination requirements in the Election Rules and Procedures continue to meet the needs of producers and deliver sound marketing policy outcomes for the industry. This direction does not preclude the review of any other elements of the Egg Board's Election Rules and Procedures.

Closing

In reviewing the Egg Board submission, I noted concern for ensuring members bring appropriate skills and knowledge to the table. One avenue the Egg Board may wish to pursue further is the addition of one or more non-producer members to the board.

¹ SAFETI: Strategic, Accountable, Fair, Effective, Transparent, and Inclusive

The appointment of independent members can bring advantages, such as:

- facilitating cooperation and efficiencies across value chains;
- providing access to appropriate expertise; and
- bringing a spectrum of industry, consumer, and public interests.

The approval of the attached BC Egg Marketing Board Election Rules and Procedures, dated December 4, 2016, is subject to receiving a signed motion from the Egg Board that its members have reviewed and formally approved these rules.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD

Per:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Locke". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "B" and a cursive "Locke".

Brenda Locke
Presiding Member

Attachment: December 4, 2016 BC Egg Marketing Board Election Rules and Procedures