## BC Farm Industry Review Board

August 20, 2021 File: 44200-60\VALL

## **DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

Dentons Canada LLP 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Bankers Court 850-2<sup>nd</sup> Street SW Calgary, AB T2P 0R8

To Christy J Lee:

## DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE ORDER EXTENSION: ALLEGATIONS OF BAD FAITH AND UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY SUPERVISORY REVIEW

On August 13, 2021, I ordered British Columbia Distributors Inc. (MPL) to produce all relevant documents in its possession or control on or before August 20, 2021. On August 18, 2021, counsel for MPL wrote to the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) panel and requested an extension of time to September 17, 2021.

The extension MPL requests would provide no time to take any other steps, including document production from the Commission and Commission members, in advance of the oral hearing, which is currently scheduled to begin September 27, 2021. Due to counsel availability, if the hearing does not proceed on that date, it will not be heard until, at the earliest, January 2022.

The Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules) in this supervisory review were issued on July 9, 2021 and included the timeline for document disclosure. MPL did not advise that it would not participate in the Supervisory Review until July 19, 2021, and subsequently did not provide any documents by the July 23, 2021 deadline. The Rules and the accompanying decision clearly set out that MPL would be required to produce documents regardless of whether or not it elected to participate in the Supervisory Review. MPL has had six weeks to begin assembling its documents.

In these circumstances, I do not consider MPL's extension request to be reasonable. However, in light of the fact that MPL appears to be willing to comply with the Order, I am prepared to provide MPL with one additional week to assemble its documents. This would provide MPL with two weeks from the date of the initial Order, which corresponds with the timeline for production of documents by participants in the Rules. In that regard, I am advised by Hearing Counsel that Prokam Enterprises Ltd., a party in the

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Supervisory Review, was able to assemble and provide more than 4,000 pages of documents within that two-week period.

I therefore grant MPL an extension of time to produce the requested documents **to August 27, 2021.** 

Regards,

Peter Donkers Chair

cc: Ravi Hira, Q.C.

Claire Hunter, Q.C. Kenneth McEwan, Q.C.

Robert Hrabinsky

Dean Dalke

Robert McDonnell Nazeer Mitha, Q.C.

Mark Underhill

BCFIRB web site