



November 22, 2016

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DELIVERED BY E-MAIL

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Dear Colleagues:

QUOTA ASSESSMENT TOOLS EVALUATION

On September 1, 2005 the BC Farm Industry Review Board provided its specialty and new entrant program principles and directions to B.C.'s five supply managed commodity boards following extensive consultation, research and analysis.¹ The principles and directions related to quota transfer were subsequently extended to all quota on September 2, 2005.²

As the supervisory agency under the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act*, BCFIRB is responsible for ensuring the supply manage sector achieves its legislated objective – sound marketing policy.

¹ 2005 September 1. BCFIRB. [Specialty Market and New Entrant Submissions: Policy, Analysis, Principles and Directions](#).

² 2005 September 2. BCFIRB. [Quota Transfer](#).

**British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board**

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Over the last eleven years BCFIRB has noted that:

- There have been changes to supply-managed production and its associated value chains;
- Several commodity boards have proposed various changes to the quota transfer assessment directions for their individual sectors; and,
- Informal stakeholder input continues to be received on the effectiveness, utility and continued appropriateness of the quota assessment tools.

Given the above, BCFIRB has determined that a SAFETI³-based review focused on the outcomes of the 2005 quota transfer assessment directions is warranted and timely.

BCFIRB anticipates working in coordination and cooperation with the commodity boards on the evaluation, including finalizing what evaluation focus areas are strategic, along with determining roles, process and timelines.

Evaluation Purpose

To evaluate the outcomes of BCFIRB's 2005 Specialty Review transfer assessment directions, as they pertain to the effectiveness, utility and continued appropriateness of quota assessment tools, in light of BCFIRB's 2005 transfer assessment related policy objectives; and, supporting delivery of sound marketing outcomes in a rapidly changing environment.

Evaluation Focus

The three areas of proposed focus include:

1. Quota movement
 - a. Evaluate whether and how the current structure of transfer assessments is impacting the movement of quota between producers.
2. Barriers to entry
 - a. Evaluate the current quota-related barriers to entry and potential tools and/or actions that could further reduce quota-related barriers to entry.
3. Industry renewal
 - a. Evaluate the traditional outlook on succession (family) and related quota transfer assessment exemptions.

These areas of focus may be adjusted or added to as the project unfolds.

Next steps

BCFIRB staff will be in touch with your office shortly to set a date for the first meeting hopefully in late January. The purpose of this meeting will be to spend a one day session on reviewing, discussing

³ Strategic Accountable Fair Effective Transparent Inclusive

Greg Gauthier
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November 22, 2016
Page 3

and finalizing the evaluation focus, roles, process and timeline. Minimum expected attendees from each board include Chair, Executive Director and a producer elected member.

Meeting information will follow, including a draft agenda and supporting materials.

Current and Pending Amendment Requests

BCFIRB received a request for amendments to its new entrant quota directions from the BC Turkey Marketing Board. It is also aware that the BC Egg Marketing Board is planning on submitting a request for amendments to BCFIRB's quota transfer assessment directions in December. BCFIRB will be in touch with each board individually to discuss whether and how these requests may integrate with the Quota Assessment Tools Evaluation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Les", with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

John Les,
Chair

cc: Derek Sturko, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture

James Mack, Assistant Deputy Minister
Agriculture Science and Policy
Ministry of Agriculture

BCFIRB web site