



March 16, 2018

File: 1680-04 CrMC ELRUL

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Jack Brown
Chair
BC Cranberry Marketing Commission
36376 Stephen Leacock Drive
Abbotsford, BC V3G 0C2

Dear Mr. Brown:

BRITISH COLUMBIA CRANBERRY MARKETING COMMISSION 2018 SPECIAL ELECTION – BCFIRB DIRECTIONS

On March 6, 2018, the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) was advised of irregularities with the BC Cranberry Marketing Commission (Cranberry Commission) election process. The irregularities involved a premature closing of the nomination process prior to the election, and a person being nominated whose name was not on the list of Registered Growers.

Given the reported irregularities and the importance of ensuring due process, BCFIRB directed the Cranberry Commission to cancel the election scheduled for the March 7, 2018 Annual General Meeting, advising that further directions regarding the holding of the 2018 election would be forthcoming.

Following are BCFIRB's directions on the 2018 election process.

Special Election – BCFIRB Directions

The intent of these directions is to rectify irregularities in the March 7, 2018 process while still preserving the original process as set out in the Cranberry Commission's November 17, 2015 Election Policy as much as possible.

BCFIRB directs as follows:

1. The Cranberry Commission is to conduct its 2018 election by mail in ballot.
2. The Cranberry Commission is to appoint an Independent Election Officer (IEO) and establish deadlines for nominations and ballots. The election schedule will allow sufficient time to accommodate the use of mail in ballots.
3. At least five weeks prior to the voting deadline, the Commission will inform all Registered Growers of the special election, the vacancy or vacancies to be filled, and the deadline for receiving nominations and ballots.
4. The nomination procedure set out in the November 17, 2015 Election Policy applies for this special election,
5. Registered Growers eligible to be nominated and vote will be those growers whose names were on the Election Register for the 2018 election that was to be held on March 7, 2018.
6. Vote counting will be conducted by the IEO and will be scrutinized by two persons, who are not candidates, identified by the BC Cranberry Growers' Association.
7. Following the completion of a successful election, the Cranberry Commission will elect a Vice Chair and a Secretary at its first meeting following the special election.
8. All other rules and procedures of the current Election Policy will apply.

2019 Elections

For the 2019 elections, the rules and procedures contained in the Cranberry Commission's Election Policy (prior approved by BCFIRB) will apply.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD

Per:



Diane Pastoor
Member

cc: Heather Carrier, General Manager
BCFIRB website