



July 22, 2019

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**DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

Debbie Etsell  
Chair  
BC Vegetable Marketing Commission

Dear Ms. Etsell:

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING PROJECT (PARP) – 2019 FIRST REPORT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Thank you for the submission of the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission's (Vegetable Commission) PARP report by the extended timeline of June 21, 2019. The British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) appreciates the work done by your board and staff in preparing this report and contributing to this important initiative.

This report is an important step towards supporting and demonstrating effective governance and sound leadership of the regulated agricultural sectors.

The Vegetable Commission's report reflects recognition of some outstanding governance and decision-making gaps, and the concrete, strategic steps it is taking to address those gaps. In particular, the report notes the actions the Vegetable Commission is taking to address long-outstanding challenges with agency accountability and joint development of an industry vision and strategic direction for the vegetable supply chain. Highlighting accomplishments and areas for development demonstrates the Vegetable Commission's public commitment to continuously improve how it operates for the benefit of producers and the public.

BCFIRB is currently in the process of reviewing the eight commodity board PARP reports and will be publishing a summary of the eight reports in the near future. In developing the summary report, BCFIRB staff may need to follow-up with your staff should any questions arise. The BCFIRB summary report and web site link will be sent to you once this work is completed. All commodity board PARP reports, including the Commissions', will also be made publically available through BCFIRB's web site.

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BCFIRB staff will be in touch with you shortly to schedule a meeting with your PARP board and staff representatives for this fall. We will use the meeting to review and discuss the reporting requirements and measures (Industry Performance Targets, Governance, Quota Management and Movement), the issues that arose within these first reports and the reporting process, and identify any adjustments as appropriate.

Thank you again for your ongoing support for this initiative.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Sakalauskas', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Al Sakalauskas  
Vice-Chair

cc: K. Pedersen, Executive Director, BCFIRB  
A. Solymosi, General Manager, Vegetable Commission  
BCFIRB web site