



August 29, 2018

File: 44200-40 Fed-Prov TRQ

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Wes Shoemaker
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture

Dear Mr. Shoemaker:

CANADIAN TARIFF RATE QUOTAS (TRQs) UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (CPTPP)

The BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) has been informed that the BC Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology, in collaboration with the BC Ministry of Agriculture, is preparing BC's submission to Global Affairs Canada's consultation process on the administration of dairy, poultry and egg TRQs under the CPTPP.

BCFIRB is submitting this letter in support of the preparation of BC's submission to Global Affairs Canada.

Background

The CPTPP is a multilateral trade agreement signed on March 8, 2018 by Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. Once it enters into force, it will reduce or eliminate tariffs on a wide variety of products, including agricultural goods.

Under the CPTPP, Canada will grant new access to imports for various goods in the dairy, poultry and egg sectors. This additional market access will be administered by the creation of 20 new TRQs. These new TRQs will be implemented and administered by Global Affairs Canada under the [Export and Import Permits Act](#) (EIPA). The rules and policies that will govern the implementation and administration of the TRQs under the EIPA will be determined by the Minister of International Trade before CPTPP comes into force.

**British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board**

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The consultations will help define the policies that will govern the allocation and administration of TRQs once the CPTPP comes into force.

Submission

BCFIRB understands that the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology has received information or submissions from the BC Chicken Marketing Board (BCCMB), the BC Turkey Marketing Board (BCTMB) and the BC Milk Marketing Board (BCMMB), along with various agriculture industry representatives.

The BCCMB, in the attached letter dated August 21, 2018, indicated that the introduction of these new TRQs provides an opportunity to address a historic imbalance in TRQ distribution in Canada, with about 88% currently held or granted to companies located in Ontario and Quebec, leaving about 12% for the rest of Canada. The BCCMB believes that BC should receive a higher share of this new TRQ, a share that is representative of BC's population and mirrors BC's share of the national chicken allocation. Further, the lack of a fair share of TRQ in the past has resulted in BC processors having to compete with vast amounts of TRQ available to their competitors in central Canada who use low cost imports to their competitive advantage.

BCFIRB supports the position of the BCCMB and agrees that increased TRQ for BC is essential to benefit both BC's chicken grower and processing industries. BC has a very active further poultry processing sector within western Canada, and increased TRQ would help ensure that this sector in BC remains viable and competitive within Canada as a whole.

BCFIRB agrees that the turkey industry in BC would benefit from an increase in TRQ allocation under the CPTPP, particularly given anticipated future increases in consumer demand and market growth in the further processing sector.

BCFIRB is advised that the BCMMB has suggested that new TRQ be managed to minimize disruptive impacts on the market and to maximize production in existing BC processing facilities, thus mitigating negative impacts on BC producers and processors to the greatest degree possible. BCFIRB agrees that the distribution of new TRQ in the dairy industry should be done in a manner that has the greatest benefit for the dairy industry overall within BC, minimizing disruptions in the market place.

If there is anything further that BCFIRB can do to assist this process, please contact Kirsten Pedersen, Executive Director, she would be happy to discuss.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Les". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

John Les
Chair, BC Farm Industry Review Board

cc: Anna North, Manager, Ministry of Agriculture

Katie Lowe, Executive Director
BC Egg Marketing Board

Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Rob Delage, General Manager
BC Milk Marketing Board

Bill Vanderspek, Executive Director
BC Chicken Marketing Board

Michel Benoit, General Manager
BC Turkey Marketing Board

BCFIRB web site

Attachment – BCCMB letter of August 21, 2018