



March 18, 2016

Mr. Jim Collins
Executive Director
British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board
PO Box 9129
Victoria, BC, V8W 9B5
Email: Jim.Collins@gov.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Collins:

RE: Supervisory Review of Proposed Amendments to the Federal Provincial Agreement for Chicken – Schedule “B” Operating Agreement

The Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan (CFS) would like to take this opportunity to formally submit comment to the British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board’s (BCFIRB) review of the Chicken Farmers of Canada proposed Operating Agreement amendments. The CFS feels that there are similarities between the Saskatchewan and British Columbia chicken industries and our comments can provide a level of understanding for you to consider.

The process that the national chicken industry has taken to achieve the current agreement has taken much time and effort. Negotiations around a different method of allocating national chicken supply occurred as far back as 2007. As part of the consultation process many industry sectors were involved in these discussions including farmers, primary processors, further processors and restaurants. Through these discussions it became evident that without farmer agreement from each province, the process would not continue. A professional mediator was hired to achieve success but could not break some strongly entrenched views. It was not until mid-2014 that provincial chicken boards reached a break-through agreement around differentially growing the Canadian chicken industry.

This break-through agreement was not met with open arms from our Western Canadian processors. As such, through discussions with our processing stakeholders we decided to entertain another option referred to as ‘Differentiated Regional Allocation’. This option was supported by both Western Canadian processors and chicken farmers, however it failed to even pass the test of agreement within the Canadian processor community. Further, the Western Canadian processors who supported this initiative failed to participate in the Chicken Farmers of Canada meeting when this option was to be presented. The result of this effort was a strong understanding that achieving an agreement different from the existing amendments to the Operating Agreement was simply not possible.

We, the Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan, respectfully submit to you that no other option is available to our industry. Numerous options have been presented, analyzed, discussed and debated, but no option other than the current amendments to the Operating Agreement have been agreeable. We have spent years along with numerous resources, human and monetary,



to find a solution that keeps our industry intact, the result is that the current national solution is the only national solution.

We thank you for your time and consideration for the comments that we have provided.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clinton Monchuk".

Clinton Monchuk
CEO, Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan

Cc: Dr. Robert Tyler, Chair, Agri-Food Council

Cc: Mr. Henry Van Ee, Chair, Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan

Cc: Mr. Corey Rudd, Manager, Agri-Food Council