

Appendix A

Alberta Chicken Producers Communication and Consultation Process

Alberta Chicken Producers maintained open lines of communication with producers, processors, and the Alberta government throughout the negotiation process, as outlined below:

July 2007: Alberta presented “Alberta’s Allocation Proposal” to the CFC Board, which recommended a strategy to establish a means for all provinces to effectively access differential growth.

September 2007 – 2009: Alberta Chicken Producers discussed Alberta’s allocation with processors and the Alberta Hatching Egg Producers at ACPs annual Strategic Planning Retreats each fall.

May 2009: CFC held a Differential Growth Workshop and established a Policy Committee to explore options for Differential Growth.

2009 / 2010: CFC’s Committee presented numerous options to the CFC Board to address Differential Growth; however, the issue remained deadlocked by several provinces.

September 2, 2010: Alberta Chicken Producers met with the Alberta Agriculture Minister regarding Alberta’s Allocation and to discuss a process to address this issue at the National Table.

September 9, 2010: CFC held a Differential Growth Workshop. Two representatives of each of the 21 Signatories to the Operating Agreement attended. No single option garnered support from all Signatories.

October 5, 2010: Alberta Chicken Producers discussed Alberta’s allocation with processors and the Alberta Hatching Egg Producers at the ACP annual Strategic Planning Retreat.

February 22, 2011: A letter was sent from Alberta’s Agriculture Minister to the Federal Minister of Agriculture seeking support for differential growth to Alberta under the Chicken FPA.

April 21, 2011: Alberta Chicken Producers’ Board sent a letter to the CFC Chairman outlining Alberta’s intentions to achieve differential growth, utilizing the provisions in the Operating Agreement, and restating its concerns and disappointment with the direction differential growth had taken at the national table.

May 11, 2011: Alberta submitted the maximum allocation for Period A-106, following consultation with our processors and the other western provinces. Allocation was not set at this meeting as Alberta could not agree to a proposed allocation of -2.5%, which would not meet Alberta’s needs.

CFC held a conference call on May 20th to set A-106 allocation. Only after Alberta Chicken Producers’ Board received a commitment from CFC Directors on the call to address Alberta’s need for differential growth did Alberta agree to set allocation at -2.5% for A-106.

May 17, 2011: Alberta Chicken Producers consulted industry stakeholders (Processors, Hatching Egg Board, Hatcheries, Marketing Council) on the actions the Board is taking to achieve differential growth.

June 6, 2011: Alberta Chicken Producers consulted with Producers on the actions the Board is taking to achieve differential growth. Producers strongly supported the Board’s process.

July 13, 2011: CFC Executive presented a “Proposed Solution” to the CFC Board. The Proposal did not meet Alberta’s needs; however, considering the concessions required by all provinces and the value Alberta places on the national system, Alberta determined that it could support the proposal with the caveat that it was endorsed by all provinces.

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September 19, 2011: Alberta Chicken Producers discussed Alberta's allocation with processors and the Alberta Hatching Egg Producers at the ACP annual Strategic Planning Retreat.

September – November 2011: Alberta Chicken Producers consulted with Marketing Council and the Assistant Deputy Minister, Producers, Processors, and members of the Alberta Hatching Egg Board on the direction the Board is pursuing to achieve Differential Growth.

November 8, 2011 – CFC Board Meeting: The CFC Executive's Proposed Solution received clear opposition from several provinces, including Ontario and Nova Scotia. A motion was passed at the meeting: *"to table the proposal for the foreseeable future"*.

December 23, 2011: Alberta submitted an Exceptional Circumstance Request to CFC. The Request was made for Alberta's share of the domestic allocation for chicken to be adjusted in a manner and timeframe that would provide meaningful differential growth to Alberta within the Operating Agreement.

January 12, 2012: Western Boards Meeting: Alberta's Exceptional Circumstance Request was discussed; and, it was suggested that Alberta will not see its needs met until it submits a letter of notification to withdraw.

January 17, 2012: Alberta's Processors submitted a letter to CFC expressing support for Alberta's Request.

February 1, 2012: CFC Board Meeting: Alberta's Exceptional Circumstances Request was presented.

March 20, 2012: CFC Board Meeting: Alberta's Request was defeated by a 10/4 vote. The CFC Chair acknowledged the gravity of this issue and expressed commitment for CFC to continue to work on developing a solution. The CFC Executive announced its plans to present a proposal at the May 30, 2012 CFC Meeting.

May 30, 2012: CFC Board Meeting: The CFC Executive presented a proposal to the Board for discussion

June 8, 2012: A Committee of the Western Provinces met to discuss options for common ground on a solution to differential growth.

June 21, 2012: Alberta Chicken Producers held a Special Meeting with Producers regarding Alberta's Allocation. Also in attendance were representatives from the Alberta Government, Alberta's Agricultural Products Marketing Council, Processors, and Alberta Hatching Egg Producers.

Following the presentations and discussions, Alberta's chicken producers passed a motion: 'If the board anticipates that meaningful progress in addressing Alberta's allocation will not be achieved in 2012, that the Board pursue a letter of notification to withdraw from the Federal-Provincial Agreement from Alberta's Minister of Agriculture'.

75.3% of Producers voted in favor. A Communiqué was sent to CFC and the Provincial Boards following the meeting.

July 24-25, 2012 - CFC Board Meeting: Proposals were made by Ontario and the Western / Atlantic provinces. Quebec announced its plans to prepare a proposal later in August to present at the September CFC Meeting.

August 9, 2012: Alberta Chicken Producers' Chair and Executive Director met with Alberta's Minister of Agriculture to address Alberta's Allocation issue.

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September 6, 2012: Quebec's Executive Director presented Quebec's Proposal to the Alberta Chicken Producers Board.

September 17, 2012: Alberta Chicken Producers discussed Alberta's potential withdrawal from the FPA with processors and the Alberta Hatching Egg Producers at the ACP annual Strategic Planning Retreat.

September 26, 2012: Alberta Chicken Producers' Chair submitted a formal request to Alberta's Minister of Agriculture to seek a letter of notification to withdraw from the FPA on November 22, 2012, should a resolution not be achieved by this date.

October 2, 2012: The ten provincial chicken boards met in Montreal in an effort to find common ground to achieve a solution by November 22, 2012. The inflexibility of some provinces led to little progress at this meeting.

November 22, 2012: Alberta Chicken Producers submitted a letter of notification to withdraw from the FPA to the CFC Chairman.

January – December 2013: Throughout 2013, Alberta's withdrawal instigated CFC and the provinces to work through a negotiated process to reach a long-term allocation agreement.

September 23, 2013: Alberta Chicken Producers discussed the potential for a CFC mediated process to address the national allocation issue, and Alberta's involvement in the process, with processors and the Alberta Hatching Egg Producers at the ACP annual Strategic Planning Retreat.

November 2013 – July 2014: ACP provided regular updates to processors on the ten provinces' negotiations on the board and processor allocation calls.

July 2014: A solution was reached, and all ten provincial chicken marketing boards signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to begin allocating production under the new allocation formula, effective in production period A-127.

September 8, 2014: Alberta Chicken Producers discussed the allocation agreement with processors and the Alberta Hatching Egg Producers at the ACP annual Strategic Planning Retreat.

September 23, 2014: Alberta signs and Interim Service Agreement with CFC.

November 2014: All ten provincial chicken marketing boards provinces agree to the wording of the Final MOU and moving forward with Operating Agreement amendments.

September 23, 2015: Alberta Chicken Producers met with the Alberta Minister of Agriculture to discuss the process for Alberta to re-enter the FPA once the Operating Agreement amendments have been fully ratified.

Throughout this timeframe, Alberta Chicken Producers also provided regular updates to processors, producers and government through its Industry Advisory Committee meetings, held in the Spring and Fall of each year; and via written communications to producers.