



January 16, 2018

Mr. John Les, Chair
BC Farm Industry Review Board
780 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC
Via email: firb@gov.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Les:

BC Milk Marketing Board Quota Tools Assessment Review

BC Dairy Association (BC Dairy) represents the 486 licensed dairy producers of British Columbia. We are writing to express our concerns about the delay in FIRB releasing its supervisory instructions.

We understand that panel is now anticipating to release its decision no later than February 9. As you know, this is the second time the release has been delayed.

We appreciate that the panel understands the importance of the decision and the commitment to finalizing a decision as soon as possible.

Nevertheless, we remain very concerned about this further delay.

As has been amply demonstrated in the QTAR submissions, producers are experiencing real difficulties effectively managing quotas under present rules. The uncertainty around future direction has exacerbated these issues.

We'd further note that producers' collective ability to manage production is an important environmental consideration for processors when they are making investment decisions. Processors across Canada are expanding their capacity. Economic growth for British Columbia's dairy industry relies on a stable policy environment. The ability of producers to manage production (through quota management) is crucial.

We urge the members of the FIRB to advance the Review as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Taylor", written over a light blue horizontal line.

David Taylor
Chair, BC Dairy Association