



BC Farm Industry Review Board

2019-20 VEGETABLE SUPERVISORY REVIEW

VMC Working Group and BCFIRB panel

Held: June 15, 2020

Meeting Report

Attendees:

BCFIRB: Daphne Stancil, Panel Chair, Tamara Leigh, Member, Dennis Lapierre, Member, Wanda Gorsuch, Manager Issues & Planning; Karl Martinson, Issues Management Analyst

VMC: Debbie Etsell, Chair, Peter Guichon, Vice Chair, Mike Reed, Member, Blair Lodder, Member, André Solymosi, General Manager

I. Introductions

Attendance confirmed.

II. Engagement Survey outcomes

Reviewed Engagement Survey outcomes. 24 responses in total representing a 16% return rate from all registered stakeholders; all licensee categories represented. Most request direct one-on-one consultation with the panel either by telephone or some form of video conference with the ability to submit a written submission. Small and large group consultations were the least favoured options.

III. Commission Updates

a. What is the status of the strategic planning project?

The Terms of Reference will be circulated shortly to short-listed candidates. Once the completion date is determined, the supervisory panel will revisit with the VMC Working Group on the timing of the lifting of the moratorium on agency licence applications.

b. What is the status of the agency accountability project?

The three VMC advisory committees (Storage Crop Advisory Group; Greenhouse Advisory Group; Agency Advisory Group) are now being scheduled to review and comment on the draft agency accountability framework status report to start in July 2020. The VMC is in the process of setting a schedule. The agency accountability framework remains a key requirement for the VMC in determining a date for considering new agency and producer-shipper applications. The supervisory panel plans to consult with industry members this summer. Further discussion is required to synchronize the Commission and panel's work.

IV. Panel update on Review Work Plan

The supervisory panel is developing a background document on VMC structure and agencies to support consultation with industry members this summer.

V. Panel technical questions

Discussed VMC rationale for seeking an additional independent member and what skills and experience could be needed. VMC explained what “bootlegging” is in the context of the current consolidated orders and related regulatory and food safety issues. what industry profile information may be available was also discussed.

VI. Next steps

Leverage VMC and supervisory panel scheduling so progress on projects is efficient.

Next meeting date to be determined.