



# BC Farm Industry Review Board

## 2019-20 VEGETABLE SUPERVISORY REVIEW

### *VMC Working Group and BCFIRB panel*

May 14, 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. Final supervisory topics and feedback summary**

Reviewed draft industry engagement survey and feedback summary report. Minor wording changes adopted. Survey to be sent as soon as practical with return date of May 29, 2020.

#### **III. Updates**

##### **a. What is the status of the strategic planning project; what is the timeline?**

The VMC Strategic Plan Working Group will select a facilitator and establish a draft Terms of Reference (including specific deliverables and draft timeline for discussion with the facilitator) by early June 2020.

##### **b. Has the VMC discussed Commission structure? If so, what was the outcome?**

VMC reminded the panel that it had made a recommendation to BCFIRB at the time of the Vancouver Island agency review that an independent member be added to the VMC.

The VMC advised BCFIRB that it passed a motion on May 30, 2019 for the Chair to proceed with taking the necessary steps with BCFIRB and the Ministry of Agriculture to add an independent member. It then passed a motion on August 29, 2019 that the members would review a draft letter requesting a Scheme amendment to allow for up to two independent members to be appointed to the VMC. This recommendation is now a consideration for this Review.

**c. What is the status of the agency accountability project? Timeline?**

A VMC staff member has prepared a draft agency accountability framework status report covering agency structures and operations. The three VMC advisory committees (Storage Crop Advisory Group; Greenhouse Advisory Group; Agency Advisory Group) will review and comment on it by early July 2020. The supervisory panel plans to send the VMC's draft framework out for broader industry wide consultation by mid-July. The panel will next consider the input, make adjustments if needed, and finalize its views on the framework in September 2020. This is a key requirement to the VMC determining a date for considering new agency applications.

**d. What is the status of the moratorium on agency and producer-shipper licence applications?**

The moratorium remains in place. The VMC is to consider CFP's agency application and any other agency or producer-shipper applications when the agency accountability framework is completed, and it makes any supporting changes to the General Orders (this date cannot be determined until the degree of change is determined after adoption of the accountability framework).

**i. What stage of the VMC process did the CFP application reach?**

The VMC General Manager (GM) and Chair received the full CFP application. The GM provided an Executive Summary (prepared by the applicant) to the VMC members. Members Guichon, Reynolds and Lodder recused themselves from discussion of the Executive Summary. The application was summarily dismissed for the reasons set out in the decision document prior to a panel being set to consider the application in full.

**IV. Process considerations**

**a. Process and timelines for lifting the agency/producer-shipper moratorium**

See agenda item III(d)

**b. Timing and leads for VMC composition**

A priority supervisory topic. The panel will prepare an options document to be used as a basis for industry consultation.

**c. Timing and leads for agency accountability**

A priority supervisory topic. See agenda item III(c). On the basis of the document provided by the VMC (after input from the advisory committees) the panel will establish more precise timing for the broader industry input.

**d. Timing and leads for storage crop delivery allocation**

VMC panel received a number of delivery allocation applications. Input is required from the storage crop and agency advisory committees. The timing of the input is dependent on the capacity of the committees to deal with previously prioritized referrals for input. Panel is unable to establish its timeline for review consultation and consideration at this time. It will follow up at a later date with the VMC working group on timing and for context before finalizing an issue statement and establishing its process as part of the review.

**V. How do we ensure stakeholder engagement given restraints on face to face meetings?**

Some methods will be established through the panel's survey. Other options include the use of the VMC Advisory committees and direct phone calls as necessary.

**VI. Next steps**

The panel and the VMC Working Group will meet in mid-June to discuss the outcome of the engagement survey, to receive timing updates from the VMC on projects and to discuss panel process outlines.