

January 19, 2021

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Wendy Holm  
Liaison  
BC Farm Industry Review Board  
PO Box 9129 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9B5

Attention: Wendy Holm

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

**Re: List of Outstanding Questions**

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We act as legal counsel to the British Columbia Chicken Growers Association (the "Association") and write with respect to ongoing concerns on the part of the Association to fully participate in the ongoing Roundtable Review process.

As you are aware, the Association has, for a number of weeks, been raising serious concerns about the constraints you have placed on it with respect to the Association's ability to rely on experts it has retained to assist the Association and its members in fully participating in the Roundtable Review process.

The Association is comprised of chicken farmers. It does not include in its membership accountants, economists or other independent experts who, by virtue of their education and experience, have understanding and insight which my client believes are of benefit to the Association in order to fully understand and participate in the Roundtable Review process.

Presently, we understand that you have, for reasons which candidly are unclear to us, refused the Association permission to have its independent experts participate in the Roundtable Process and, even more damaging, even reviewing certain documentation provided to the Association as part of that process.

This position is untenable – first, it is a denial of my client's right to procedural fairness; second, it runs counter to the numerous cautions expressed by BCFIRB about the need for industry transparency in the review process and how blanket assertions of confidentiality by an industry stakeholder should no longer be accepted at face value; and, third, more importantly, it is eroding my client's belief that the Roundtable Review process will afford them a fair opportunity to make fulsome submissions.

Accordingly, with this letter we ask that the Association be permitted to utilize its experts as it sees fit. If there are confidentiality obligations which need to be memorialized in writing, the various experts (who have unblemished decades' long reputations in the Canadian agricultural sector) are more than

capable of adhering to such agreements without jeopardizing the confidentiality of the information or, more importantly, their professional reputations.

We look forward to your favourable reply.

Sincerely,  
Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP



Paul D. McLean

cc: Harvey Sakaki, Chair, BC Chicken Marketing Board  
Jim Collins, Chair, BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission  
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