



Creekside Hothouse Ltd.
17830 16 Avenue
Surrey, BC
Canada

Ph: 778-669-5234

September 04, 2023

**Re: Request for Supplemental Written Submissions – MPL BC Distributors Inc.
Agency Prior Approval Process**

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this written submission in response to your request for all eligible participants to discuss implications of the Ruling on the designation of MPL BC as an agency and implications of the voluntary reporting requirement agreed to by MPL BC.

In response to Chair Donkers' Ruling that Phase II of the Supervisory Review be discontinued and concluded for MPL BC, I agree. Clearly, as outlined by Mr. Donkers in his January 25, 2023 ruling made in the Allegations of Bad Faith and Unlawful Activity supervisory review (the Ruling), MPL BC has taken the necessary steps to ensure that they will be constructive members of the BC regulated vegetable sector. I am confident that MPL BC will play an integral role in the continuance of orderly marketing in BC and will advance the BC greenhouse sector at a national level.

I have witnessed first-hand the positive impact MPL can have on a local farming operation. The company has opened the doors for our company and other BC growers to enter the grocery store shelves of retailers that were otherwise sourcing from Eastern provinces and Mexico. The national contracts that MPL has with companies such as Walmart Canada are now being supplied by my farm here in BC - when they were previously being supplied by products from growers outside of this province.

Further, with support and encouragement from MPL, I am in the process of expanding my operations by 60 acres between Delta and Abbotsford. This acreage will supply existing contracts with A&W and Wendy's, and once again, will block product coming in from other provinces and Mexico. Through these current and ongoing expansions, we have created approximately 140 new positions this season at the Delta facility and will add an additional 60 more in Abbotsford by October 2023. I am confident that MPL will work in BC with integrity and within high professional standards, paving the way for other growers to flourish as well.

In response to your request to discuss the implications of the 18-month quarterly reporting to BCFIRB, I believe that the heightened reporting requirements will be of no consequence to this company with almost 70 years of industry experience. From what I



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have experienced, MPL has excellent reporting and accounting processes – the likes of which I have never experienced before while working with other agencies in BC. All accounts are paid upon due date, and records are easily attainable if requested. The company provides clear, detailed communications and team members are readily available to meet about any number of topics at any time. I am sure you will find the quarterly reporting will be detailed and completed in a timely manner. Personally, I feel that 18 months is seemingly long, but again, it won't be an issue for this veteran greenhouse sector participant.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission. I trust that it will be taken into consideration on any final decisions made about the MPL BC Agency license approvals. Please contact me if you wish to have further details about this submission as provided.

Thank-you,

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