

**Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee
Meeting Minutes: March 2, 2020**

Meeting date: March 2, 2020 Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Attendees:

WorkSafeBC:

Mike Nielsen and Anita Cairney

Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE):

Sandra Goes, Darren Kennedy, Rick Wiltshire and Jim MacMillan

Employment Standards Branch (ESB):

Megan Roberts (chair) and Shane O'Grady

All participants in attendance by teleconference/Skype

Roadside Inspections

- Reviewed Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee (Committee) roadside inspection 2019 statistics:
 - 13 roadside inspections dates and 166 vehicles inspected between April and September 2019; represents substantial increase in inspections from 2017 and 2018. Statistics are limited to Committee roadside inspections and do not include other inspections, compliance initiatives or industry activities. 2019 statistics and adjusted quarterly and after calendar year end to include all confirmed 2019 violation, orders, contraventions and penalties.
- Reviewed Committee terms of reference, Memorandum of Understanding and Release of Information - Farm Labour Contractor (ESB). Discussed continued information sharing between members to enhance ongoing enforcement activities.
- CVSE currently determining 2020 roadside inspection schedule and will follow up with other committee members for review.
- Discussed requirements on driver's licence classes (class 4 versus class 5), validity of foreign driver's licences for visitors to BC and practice of noting seatbelt violations during initial vehicle stop by CVSE. WorkSafeBC and ESB may rely upon information noted by CVSE on reports/orders when determining contraventions and violations.
- Where possible, CVSE will advise ESB of instances where children are observed in vehicles stopped for inspections.
- WorkSafeBC working collaboratively with committee members on a guide to improve consistency and roadside inspection process.
- WorkSafeBC will continue to provide amenities including weather shelters, portable toilets and water at roadside inspection sites and share multi-lingual resources. All members will work together to discuss ideas and options for maximizing worker dignity during inspections while also ensuring compliance objectives are met.

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Education Initiatives

- All member agencies will continue to conduct outreach and education at and during roadside inspections.
- Reviewed ESB website for Committee information including mandate, members, terms of reference and Memorandum of Understanding, statistics and meeting minutes <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards/hiring/farm-workers/iacc>
- Discussed public education seminar initiatives as included on ESB website: [Education Seminars - Province of British Columbia](#)
- CVSE and WorkSafe invited to participate and partner in ESB education seminars “*Farm Workers and Farm Labour Contractors*” scheduled to date (March 17, 2020, April 22, 2020 and May 14, 2020)

Next Committee Meeting: Fall 2020