

Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee

Meeting Minutes: October 21, 2019

Meeting date and time: October 21, 2019, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Attendees: Mike Nielsen, WorkSafeBC
Anita Cairney, WorkSafeBC
Bruce Calbick, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE)
Megan Roberts, Employment Standards Branch (ESB (chair)

All participants in attendance by teleconference/Skype

Roadside Inspections

- Reviewed 2019 statistics: 13 roadside inspections dates and 166 vehicles inspected between April and September 2019
- Increased number of vehicle's inspected (2018:133; 2017: 111) and violations/contraventions found by all agencies. WorkSafeBC issued 20 stop use orders. Discussed MOU and protocol for information sharing between CVSE, WorkSafeBC and ESB to support inter-agency reporting of service and stop use orders.
- WorkSafeBC continues to provide first aid service and amenities including weather shelters, portable toilets and water for roadside inspection sites. WorkSafeBC active in resolving sanitation issues at inspection sites to ensure safe and clean environment for all.
- Reviewed updated Farm Worker and Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee pages on ESB website, including *Terms of Reference* and Statistics. ESB continues to publish quarterly statistics <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards/hiring/farm-workers/iacc> subject to update during subsequent quarters.

Education Initiatives

- Education letters sent by ESB to all licenced farm labour contractors in April, June and October 2019. Mail outs included:
 - ESB Agriculture Compliance Team and Farm Labour Contractor Factsheets,
 - duties of farm labour contractors including safe transport of workers,
 - updated ESB phone (toll free multi-lingual line **1 833 236-3700**) and email,
 - links to refreshed ESB website including registration information for education seminars and website links to CVSE, WorkSafe and other Committee members.
- WorkSafe, ESB and CVSE continue to provide information and printed educational material to workers and drivers during inspections which occur throughout BC. Due to 2018 changes to roadside inspection protocol, passengers do not normally attend inspection sites. As a result, educational material, including translated versions, are provided by WorkSafe and ESB to drivers during roadside inspections and workers during work site inspections.
- From May through August 2019, ESB conducted free monthly education seminars for farm labour contractors with additional farm work industry speaking engagements completed. Discussed WorkSafe and CVSE partnering on education seminars where appropriate. Registration information available at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards/forms-resources/education-seminars> .

Next Committee Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for March 2020