

INTERIM GUIDANCE  
REGIONAL OPERATIONS BRANCH | September 2023

## Interim Public Consultation Guidance Pesticide Use Notice Applications Integrated Pest Management Regulation

### Purpose of this document

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The public consultation requirements for consulting on a draft pest management plan under the Integrated Pest Management Regulation (IPMR) were recently amended. While the previous requirement involved publishing two notices in a newspaper or newspapers circulated in the communities around the treatment area, the requirement under s.61 of the IPMR now states that an applicant must publish two notices “in the manner specified by the administrator”. The intent of this change is ultimately to provide a comprehensive, digital option for proponents to use for public consultation. This option is currently being developed.

The purpose of this document is to communicate interim guidance for applicants to follow when conducting public consultation, to meet the updated wording in the Regulation.

### Interim Requirements for Public Consultation – pest management plan

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The following options are available to proponents to meet the current wording in s.61 of the IPMR:

**Option 1:** At least 45 days before submitting a pesticide use notice to the administrator, publish the first of two notices containing the required information (see below for details), at least 40 cm<sup>2</sup> in size, that must be published in a two week period in a newspaper circulated in the communities in the area to which the pest management plan applies and, if no newspaper is circulated in those communities, in the newspaper that is circulated nearest to those communities (essentially, following the previous requirement under s.61).

**Option 2:** At least 45 days before submitting a pesticide use notice to the administrator, publish a notice containing the required information (see below for details) for a minimum of three days per week for two consecutive weeks using digital media news websites used or viewed by individuals in the communities in and around the treatment area, or in the communities closest to the treatment area. “Digital media news websites” include mainstream digital media news sources, as opposed to sources

that are primarily social media or social networking. The notice must also include a link to a website where the Pest Management Plan is accessible for public viewing.

**Option 3:** If the applicant wishes to pursue a different public consultation plan, contact the ministry by sending an email to [IPMPBC@gov.bc.ca](mailto:IPMPBC@gov.bc.ca) to obtain approval from the administrator *prior* to commencing the process.

## Content of the Notice and additional requirements

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All published notices must contain the following information, as per s.61 (2) of the IPMR:

(2) A notice for the purpose of subsection (1) must contain all the following:

- (a) the heading "DEVELOPMENT OF A PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN" in block letters;
- (b) a reference number or other identifier unique to the proposed pest management plan;
- (c) the applicant's name, address and telephone number;
- (d) a statement that the use of pesticides is intended within the area to which the pest management plan applies;
- (e) a description, with reference to communities, of the area to which the pest management plan applies;
- (f) the proposed duration of the pest management plan;
- (g) the trade name and active ingredient of the pesticides proposed to be used under the pest management plan;
- (h) the proposed manners of applying the pesticides identified under paragraph (g);
- (i) a location where copies of the proposed pest management plan and maps of the proposed treatment area may be examined;
- (j) the following paragraph:

A person wishing to contribute information about a proposed treatment area, relevant to the development of the pest management plan, may send copies of the information to the applicant at the address above within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

As per s.61 (3) of the IPMR:

- (3) If a proposed pesticide use under a pest management plan has the potential to significantly impact an individual or member of an organization or community, the confirmation holder must make

reasonable efforts, starting at least 45 days before submitting a pesticide use notice to the administrator, to contact and consult those individuals.

**Disclaimer**

*The guidance provided in this document helps to clarify ministry policy and the provisions of the Integrated Pest Management Act (the Act) and the Integrated Pest Management Regulation (IPMR). This is not a legal document and the information in it does not constitute legal advice or impose any legally binding requirements. Guidance provided in this document does not replace the Act, the IPMR or any other applicable law. Any amendments to the Act, the IPMR and other legislation referred to in this document may affect provisions of the guidance; in the event of an inconsistency, the Act, IPMR or other applicable legislation will prevail.*

REVISION HISTORY			
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