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APPENDIX C

SUMMARY OF PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION

Agricultural Land Commission Act

The Act provides a legislative framework for the preservation of land resources useful to the agricultural industry and consistent with the needs of the community. The legislation provides for the continuation of the B.C. Agricultural Land Commission and outlines its objectives and powers.

The purpose of the B.C. Agricultural Land Commission is to preserve agricultural land within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). Regulations govern the use and subdivision of land within the ALR. Requests to remove land from or add land to the ALR are evaluated by the Commission. Factors taken into consideration include: land capability, affect on surrounding agricultural uses, and the impact on the community and region.

The Act takes precedence over other provincial legislation and local government bylaws.

Agricultural Produce Grading Act

The Act provides the legislative framework for quality control standards for specific agricultural products through the establishment of grading systems. Grading systems are established for each product by regulation under the Act. The Act may be applied to produce grown, slaughtered, produced, kept, sold or offered for sale or consumption in British Columbia. A licensing system and powers and duties of inspectors to enforce the legislation are described.

Agri-Food Choice and Quality Act

The purpose of the Act is to allow a person engaged in the food or agriculture industry to obtain certification that the agri-food product they produce or the practices they follow in the production and selling of agri-food products meet prescribed standards. On the issuance of a certificate, the proponent may advertise the agri-food product as meeting the prescribed standards or being produced and sold in accordance with the prescribed standards.

Animal Disease Control Act

The Act, administered by the Provincial Veterinarian, provides a statutory authority to limit the spread of contagious diseases in animals, including aquatic animals. It allows for the control of animals infected or thought to be infected and establishes criteria for preventing health risks. The Act also covers the duties and powers of inspectors appointed under the Act, quarantine procedures, and the obligations of animal owners.

Bee Act

The Act provides for the appointment of beemasters, a system of beekeeper registration, and a system of enforcement relying on inspectors. The Act promotes the suppression and prevention of disease in bees. Inspectors are empowered to seize abandoned apiaries and destroy hives and their bees under certain circumstances.

Commercial Transport Act

This Act covers the registration, licensing and operation of commercial vehicles. Its goal is to ensure public safety. Provisions under the act cover vehicle and load size, weight, projections and overhangs. Under the Act, the police and appointed inspectors can prohibit the operation of any vehicle they feel is unsafe.

Drainage, Ditch and Dike Act

This Act establishes a system for the regulation and authorization of ditches, watercourses, drainages, and dikes throughout the province.

Drinking Water Protection Act

This Act has requirements for protecting British Columbia's drinking water supplies. The Drinking Water Regulation will require water purveyors to prepare a source-to-tap assessment of their water supply system to determine potential risks to water quality, and to prepare an assessment response plan in the event that potential hazards to water quality are identified in the assessment. For purposes of conducting these assessments a water purveyor will be considered to be an individual or group of persons that is operating a water supply system that supplies drinking water to more than one property, or where water is provided for consumption by others.

Provincial standards for drinking or potable water can be obtained from Provincial Health Authorities.

Environment and Land Use Act

This Act establishes the Environment and Land Use Committee which recommends programs to increase environmental awareness, ensures that the natural environment is considered in land-use and resource development decisions, holds public inquiries, prepares reports and makes recommendations to Cabinet about environmental issues. Recently the Act has been used to establish protected areas. Note should be made of the power of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the committee, to make orders respecting the environment or land use which override other Acts and regulations.

Environmental Management Act

This act replaces the old Waste Management and Environment Act and gives the Ministry of Environment management tools to protect human health, and the quality of water, land and air in British Columbia. Regulations that have been established under the Act are legally enforceable standards which may apply to industries, trades, businesses or operations.

The Act gives the Ministry of Environment responsibility for waste management throughout the Province. The Environmental Management Act establishes a prohibition on waste discharge unless said discharge is authorized by a permit, approval, order, regulation or waste management plan; regulates the confinement, storage, disposal and transportation of special wastes; regulates spill prevention and reporting activities; requires the production of regional solid, and liquid management plans; designates sewage control areas; delegates waste management powers to Metro Vancouver and other eligible regions; requires the implementation of solid and liquid waste management plans; regulates contaminated site remediation activities; provides authority to regional waste managers to issue pollution abatement orders and pollution prevention orders; includes enforcement provisions and provides for an appeal to the Environmental Appeal Board.

Regulations pursuant to the Environmental Management Act address specific issues including agricultural waste control, open burning smoke control, compost production and use, petroleum storage, antisapstain chemical waste control, and spill reporting.

Environmental Assessment Act

The Act provides that proposed projects designated as reviewable projects are subject to an environmental assessment. Decisions to approve or reject these projects are made by the Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection jointly with the Responsible Minister. Responsible Ministers are normally associated with the line ministry having the most technical expertise with the proposed project sector. Ministers are designated Responsible Ministers by Order in Council. B.C. Reg. 736/95 (am. B.C. Reg. 1418/98) names the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries as Responsible Minister for “Poultry Products Projects and Meat and Meat Products Projects”.

Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act

This Act applies to farmers operating in the Agricultural Land reserve, in other areas where farming is permitted or in areas for which an aquaculture license has been issued. Providing the farmer is operating under “normal Farm Practices”, the Act protects the farmer against nuisance actions, court injunctions or specific municipal nuisance bylaws relating to the operation of the farm.

The Act also establishes the Farm Practices Board as the tribunal that will receive complaints from persons aggrieved by odour, noise dust or other disturbances resulting from farm operations, encourage settlement of the complaints. In the case of complaints that are not settled, hear the complaints and determine whether the disturbance complained of results from normal farm practice.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries is also developing a complaint process that will involve Ministry offices and farm peer groups to attempt to resolve farm complaints to the satisfaction of all the parties involved before the complaints reach the Board.

This Act repeals the Agriculture Protection Act.

Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act

The purpose of this Act is to enable producers of commodities of the farming and fishing industries to collect levies approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The Minister establishes a council to administer the levy fund and apply those funds to initiatives that promote and benefit the industry.

Fire Services Act

This Act provides for the prevention, suppression and investigation of fires. The Act provides for the appointment of an advisory board, fire commissioner and inspectors and outlines their responsibilities and powers.

Rights to inspect any premise, motor vehicle, vessel or rolling stock in which a fire has occurred or may occur are outlined. Also detailed in the Act are the requirements and responsibilities of building owners and occupiers.

The B.C. Fire Code Regulation sets out requirements for the siting and installation of storage tanks containing hazardous substances such as combustible liquids.

Fish Inspection Act

The Act ensures quality and wholesomeness in the fish industry by providing the authority to regulate activities concerning the handling, processing, storing, grading, packaging, marking, transporting, marketing and inspection of fish and fish products. The regulations ensure that fish processed and sold within British Columbia have met specified requirements.

Fish Protection Act

The Act provides protection to fish and fish habitat by prohibiting bank-to-bank dams on provincially significant rivers and establishing special rules in relation to water licences on “sensitive streams” where the sustainability of fish habitat is at risk. The Act also provides for the development of recovery plans for “sensitive streams”, and allows “water for fish” streamflow protection licences to be issued to community-based organizations. Further, temporary reduction in water use rights during periods of drought when the sustainability of fish is threatened can be authorised. The Act allows the provincial government to establish directives for local governments in preserving streamside areas from residential, commercial and industrial development.

Some portion of the Fish Protection Act are not in force. Provisions that are in force are divided between the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management and the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Regulations that accompany the Act are the *Sensitive Streams Designation and Licensing Regulation*, and the *Streamside Protection Regulation*, which is administered by MWLAP.

Fisheries Act

The British Columbia Fisheries Act provides for licensing and regulatory control of activities associated with commercial fisheries and aquaculture operations. The primary concerns are the licensing of: fish processing plants; fish buying establishments; fishers selling their own catch; wild oyster and marine plant harvesting; and aquaculture operations with the province of British Columbia.

Food Products Standards Act

This Act allows the Province to establish compositional and quality standards for processed foods by:

- adopting federal standards if they exist under the Food and Drugs Act (Canada); or
- by establishing provincial standards by regulation if federal standards do not exist; or

c) if federal or provincial standards have already been established under the first parts, by establishing premium product standards that are more rigorous than the federal or provincial standards.

Forest Act

This is the primary legislation to do with forestry in British Columbia. This act is primarily concerned with crown land issues, however, it also covers a number of private land issues. Timber marks, movement of timber and Christmas trees on public highways are controlled by regulations of this act. Forest practices are regulated by other Acts. The 'Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act' will be replaced by the 'Forest and Range Practices Act' by December 2004.

Fur Farm Act

This Act is applicable to all animals, wild by nature, kept in captivity for the commercial purpose of producing fur. In practice, the Act applies to mink, marten, fisher, fox, nutria and chinchilla. The Act provides a licensing system for farmers of those animals and ensures animal health standards and record keeping requirements are met.

Game Farm Act

This Act enables the orderly development and production of the game farming industry. It allows for specific types of game to be raised for agricultural purposes, conditional on a Game Farm License being issued.

Gas Safety Act

The Act provides the legislative framework for gas safety in British Columbia. Permission (in the form of a permit) must be obtained to install or alter a gas system and all regulations must be followed. The Act provides for the appointment of inspectors and outlines their powers. It also outlines the duties and responsibilities of people using gas systems and equipment. Specific regulations cover the construction, installation, testing, operation and alteration of gas systems and equipment.

Health Act

The Act provides the legislative framework which permits the health of British Columbians to be monitored and safeguarded. Included in the Act are provisions aimed at preventing disease, removing health hazards, and permitting appropriate actions when problems arise.

Specific regulations cover the reporting and control of infectious, contagious and communicable diseases, the prevention and removal of health hazards, sanitation standards in private dwellings and public buildings, ventilation, sewage handling, and water and food safety.

Restaurants, bakeries, slaughterhouses, canneries, dairies, market gardens and farms handling manure are bound by specific regulations included in the Act. Regulations also cover dead animal disposal, on-farm washroom facilities and workplace conditions.

The Act regulates farm practices that may result in a health hazard. Such hazards can occur when nutrients, contaminants or pathogens are discharged into or on to land, water or air. Refuse, unpurified sewage, and other substances may not be discharged to the environment.

Inspections and enforcement are carried out by public health inspectors and local boards of health or may be assigned to community health councils. Inspection personnel have the authority to order that a hazard be eliminated.

Integrated Pest Management Act

The *Integrated Pest Management Act* regulates all aspects of pesticide sale, transport, storage and use.

A pesticide is defined under the *Integrated Pest Management Act* as a “micro-organism or material that is represented, sold, used or intended to be used to prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate a pest and includes (a) a plant growth regulator, plant defoliator or plant desiccant; and (b) a control product as defined in the federal *Pest Control Products Act* and (c) a substance that is classified as a pesticide by regulation but does not include micro-organisms, materials, substances or control products excluded from this definition by regulation.” Pesticides therefore include insecticides, fungicides, herbicides and rodenticides.

Integrated Pest Management, as defined under the *Integrated Pest Management Act*, means a process for managing pest populations that includes the following elements:

- a) planning and managing ecosystems to prevent organisms from becoming pests
- b) identifying pest problems and potential pest problems
- c) monitoring populations of pests and beneficial organisms, damage caused by pests and environmental conditions
- d) using injury thresholds in making treatment decisions
- e) evaluating the effectiveness of pest management treatments
- f) suppressing pest populations to acceptable levels using strategies based on considerations of:
 - biological, physical, cultural, mechanical, behavioural and chemical controls in appropriate combinations, and
 - environmental and human health protection

Islands Trust Act

The object of the trust is to preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.

Land Act

The Act governs the disposition, management and administration of Crown land in the province, as well as the surveying of Crown land. The Act provides authority for the naming of geographic features in the province, and for base mapping and land information systems in the province. Decision-making powers provided for under the Act include: determining whether a disposition of Crown land is in the public interest; temporarily reserving Crown land from disposition, designating Crown land for a particular use or prohibiting certain uses of Crown land; making a disposition of Crown land by temporary permit, licence of occupation, lease, right-of-way or easement or by Crown grant in fee simple; disposing of Crown land in accordance with the terms and conditions the minister considers advisable; ordering or rejecting a survey of Crown land; setting standards for base mapping and land information systems, and for related remote sensing and survey control functions; and undertaking trespass actions regarding the unauthorized use of Crown land. Specific regulations cover fees, the creation of land reserves, and the prohibition of certain recreational vehicles in certain areas.

Land Title Act

With the addition of two sub sections to Section 86 (1) of the Land Title Act, approving officers have powers to assess impacts of new subdivisions on farmland when they consider applications. Before subdivision approval is given, adequate buffering or separation of the subdivisions may now be required to ensure the subdivision has no unreasonable interference with a farming operation on adjoining or reasonably adjacent properties.

Liquor Control and Licensing Act

This Act provides for the establishment of British Columbia's Liquor Control and Licensing Branch and outlines its duties and powers. These include the right to sell liquor for immediate consumption in public places, grant licenses and permits, impose terms and conditions concerning the type of liquor sold, hours of operation, seating capacity, whether food must be served, whether entertainment is permitted, supervise the conduct and operation of licensed establishments, and license and oversee the production and storage of liquor and wine. Specific regulations cover license types, fees, and terms and conditions including hours of operation, employees' and customers' age, staff training, advertising, price lists, entertainment, food sales, off sales, etc.

Liquor Distribution Act

The Act governs the wholesale and retail sale of liquor in British Columbia. Permission may be granted under the Act to establish a liquor store at a manufacturing premise, such as a winery or brewery, to sell products to the general public.

Livestock Act

The Act:

- a) permits establishment of livestock districts and of bull control areas, and describes the powers of bull control committees. Livestock districts are established to permit, with minor exceptions, livestock running at large within the district boundaries;
- b) permits the establishment of Bull Control areas, which under the direction of a Bull Control Committee determine the number, breed, breeding, quality and age of bulls allowed to run at large within the area;
- c) permits the establishment of pound districts to allow keepers, peace officers and others to capture of animals at large within a specified area, and allows for the sale of unclaimed impounded animals and the reimbursement of the keeper; and
- d) provides authority for the establishment of artificial insemination centers and describes the necessary qualifications of licensed artificial insemination technicians.

Livestock Identification Act

The Act establishes a system for the registration of brands in the province, for brand inspection and for the transfer of brands. The Act describes inspectors' powers. The Act stipulates that records of cattle, beef and hides purchased must be kept. Regulations under the Act address the shipment of livestock and provide terms and conditions for the licensing of hide dealers, slaughterhouses and livestock dealers.

Livestock Lien Act

The Act creates a possessory lien in favor of every keeper of a livery, boarding or sale stable and every agistor of cattle holding any livestock or effects. The lien on the livestock or effects left with them by their owners is for the value or price of food, care, attendance or accommodation furnished for the livestock.

Local Government Act

The Act provides the legislative framework which enables municipal governments to operate, as well as regional districts and improvement districts. It covers such things as the creation of new municipalities, the definition of boundaries, the election of a council, the assessment and collection of taxes, administration, property management, and spending.

The Act also determines municipal governments' powers concerning the licensing and regulation of local businesses, community planning, zoning, public works and utilities, highways, waterways, waste disposal, public health and welfare, justice, fire protection, heritage conservation, parks, recreation and community services.

Under the Act certain provisions address farming such as those covering: (1) community planning, (2) zoning, (3) nuisance regulations, (4) the removal and deposit of soil, (5) weed and pest control, and (6) water use and drainage.

Amendments to the Municipal Act address planning for agriculture. Changes to this Act state that community plans may include policies that help maintain and enhance farming and may now designate development permit areas to protect farming (e.g. buffering to separate farming and residential areas).

Of particular importance is a new division, added to Part 29 titled Division (4.1) - Farm Standards and Bylaws. This new division:

- requires the approval of the minister responsible for FPPA for rural land use bylaws and zoning bylaws of local governments that would restrict the farm use of land in farming areas. Farming areas are defined as land within the Agricultural Land reserve or under an aquaculture license.
- allows for the creation "farm bylaws" that will give more flexibility in specific planning standards for agricultural operations.
- allows the minister to establish agricultural standards for the guidance of local governments in the preparation of the various bylaws affecting agriculture.
- enables the regional implementation of a three-year process to review zoning and rural land-use bylaws to meet the minister's standards.

Meat Inspection Act

The Act establishes a framework for the regulation of animal slaughter and the sale of meat and meat byproducts in British Columbia. The Act provides for the appointment of inspectors and outlines their powers and responsibilities. It also outlines meat slaughterers' duties. Regulations cover facility and equipment requirements, slaughtering procedures, sanitation standards and the disposal of condemned carcasses and byproducts. The slaughter of meat for one's own consumption is also covered in the Act.

Milk Industry Act

The Act spells out what requirements must be fulfilled in order to operate a dairy farm. On proof of compliance, the Ministry issues a certificate indicating that the farm is an approved dairy farm for the purpose stated in the certificate. Under the Act, every dairy farmer is required to maintain suitable milk houses, provide housing for cattle and an adequate supply of water, and use safe and clean methods of milk production. The Act provides for an inspection system to ensure that standards of sanitation are adequate and places certain restrictions on milk vendors.

Provisions creating and dealing with the Milk Board were repealed by the Milk Industry Amendment Act, S.B.C. 1989, Chapter 70, and the Milk Marketing Board was established under the (B.C.) Natural Products Marketing Act. The amending Act established a single classification for dairy farms, which is tied to the end use of milk. It requires that all milk, except raw milk used in the production of certain specialty cheeses, be pasteurized.

Under the Natural Products Marketing Act and the B.C. Milk Marketing Board Regulation, the British Columbia Milk Marketing Board is mandated to promote, control and regulate the production, transportation, packing, storing and marketing of milk and milk products interprovincially.

Motor Carrier Act

This Act requires that all motor carrier operators who offer themselves for hire must be licensed. Terms and conditions specified on a license can cover the area or district to be served, the routes to be traveled, and the kind of freight that may be transported and for whom. The Act outlines operators' duties and restrictions which must be obeyed.

Motor Vehicle Act

The purpose of the Act is to protect people traveling on public roads. The Act spells out licensing and safety requirements, as well as the rules of the road.

Specific provisions cover the movement of farm equipment on public roads. Farmers may drive, propel, draw and move implements of husbandry on certain roads. They may also carry farm produce, supplies, stock, fertilizer, seed, and tools in trailers. Slow moving vehicles may not impede other traffic.

The Act regulates the distance at which signs can be erected from highways in rural areas of British Columbia, as well as light emissions and reflections which may affect visibility on the highway. Other provisions cover the parking of vehicles along highways and the use of vehicles along highways to sell produce.

Specific regulations cover the location of cattleguards, fences and gates.

Under the Act it is an offence to dump or deposit any "noisome, nauseous or offensive matter" on a highway or right-of-way.

These provisions are enforced by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Motor Vehicle (All Terrain) Act

This Act provides for the regulation of the licensing, operation, sale, and maintenance of all terrain vehicles. At present, regulations exist only for snowmobiles.

Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act

The Act provides for a system of schemes that enable the producers of agricultural commodities to control and regulate the production, transportation, packing, storage and marketing of natural products in the province.

The Act provides for the constitution of marketing boards and commissions under these schemes and gives them certain powers. A supervisory and appellate Board, the B.C. Marketing Board, is also created under the Act.

Under the Act, marketing boards and commissions may promote the commodities their members produce. They may also restrict or prohibit the production, transportation, packing storage and marketing of those products in whole or in part.

Park Act

This Act provides for the establishment, classification and management of provincial parks and recreation areas dedicated to preservation of the natural environment for the inspiration, use and enjoyment of the public. Parks can be designated either by schedules to the Act or by order in council. Under the Act, the Minister has decision-making powers concerning the issuance of park use permits to applicants wishing to conduct commercial enterprises in a park (including those which operate and maintain campgrounds on behalf of BC Parks) and the appointment of a board to oversee operations of a Class C park.

Passenger Transportation Act

The Act requires the registration of motor carrier operators for hire and outlines licensing and commercial vehicle safety requirements for the transportation of passengers between residences and places of employment.

Pesticide Control Act

This Act establishes a regulatory regime for the control of pesticides. The Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection is responsible to licence and certify sales, purchases and the use of pesticides in the Province. This duty also includes regulating the application, storage, disposition and transportation of pesticides. Specific regulations spell out requirements.

Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act

The Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act provides the legislative authority for the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province of British Columbia as a corporation under the name of the College of Pharmacists of British Columbia. It provides for registering pharmacists, setting standards of practice and for the sale and disposal of drugs that are available for health care in the province. The statute is primarily administered by the Ministry of Health. The provisions relating to the manufacture and sale of medicated feed and veterinary drugs (sections 63 - 69) are administered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.

Plant Protection Act

The Act provides for the prevention of the spread of pests destructive to plants in British Columbia. It gives inspectors the power to enforce provisions in the Act, including the establishment of quarantine areas. This Act is the provincial counterpart to the federal Plant Protection Act. The B.C. Plant Protection Advisory Council helps enforce the Act by advising provincial and federal officials of potential insect, plant disease, weed and other hazards.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act

The purpose of the Act is to ensure that animals are treated humanely. The Act provides a legislative mandate for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) in British Columbia and outlines the membership, the constitution, and powers of the society and its officers. The Act also covers the seizure, disposal and sale of animals taken into custody.

Range Act

The Act provides the legislative framework for the use of Crown land for livestock grazing and hay cutting. Details concerning the award and administration of grazing licenses and permits, temporary permits, and hay cutting licenses and permits are outlined in the Act, as are livestock owners' responsibilities. The Act also allows the Ministry of Forests to manage grazing leases.

Safety Standards Act

Electrical Safety Regulation

This Act provides the legislative framework to ensure electrical safety throughout British Columbia. The Act provides for the appointment of inspectors and outlines their powers. It outlines the duties and responsibilities of owners and occupiers of structures in which electrical equipment is used. It outlines what is required of contractors and employees designing, installing, testing and using electrical equipment. Specific regulations provide further detail on what may or may not be done.

Power Engineers, Boiler, Pressure Vessel and Refrigeration Safety Regulation

The purpose of this Regulation is to ensure boiler and pressure vessel safety in British Columbia. The Regulation provides for the appointment of inspectors and outlines their powers. The Regulation outlines the responsibilities of boiler, pressure vessel and refrigeration equipment owners and qualifications needed by personnel operating it. Specific regulations cover the design, construction, installation, inspection, operation, condition, alteration maintenance, transportation, repair, testing, sale and exchange of boilers, pressure vessels, pressure piping, fittings and refrigeration equipment.

Seed Potato Act

The Act facilitates the growing of certified seed potatoes. It provides for the creation of seed potato control areas and the appointment of seed control committees and lists members' functions, powers and duties. It also places restriction of growth of any but seed of a variety prescribed by the committee in a seed potato control area.

Transportation Act

The Act governs all public highways and roads. Its purposes are to ensure travel on these routes is safe and to protect B.C.'s transportation infrastructure. Provisions in the Act prohibit a variety of activities which may damage public highways and roads.

Under the Act, it is an offence to place or leave any material on public roads. This includes all noxious, filthy or offensive substances (such as mud or manure), dead animals, containers, logs and other debris. Also prohibited are water flows which damage public roadways and fires. Signs and mail boxes cannot be erected without a permit from the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Highways. To obtain a fruit stand sign, a roadside vendor must provide safe access and sufficient parking. Lights which distract motorists are forbidden.

Ditches, culverts, or flumes cannot be changed or installed without permission. The ministry may impose load restrictions limiting the size and weight of agricultural vehicles on certain roads. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police and local police enforce the Act. (Cattle drive permits may be obtained from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.)

Transport of Dangerous Goods Act

The Act establishes requirements to provide for the safe transport of goods deemed to be dangerous. It provides for the appointment of inspectors and outlines their powers. Under the Act, all safety requirements must be met and all dangerous goods and vehicles transporting dangerous goods must be appropriately marked. Regulations specify which substances and organisms are dangerous and establishes classes of dangerous goods. They are: (1) explosives, (2) gasses, (3) flammable and combustible liquids, (4) flammable solids, (5) oxidizing substances, (6) poisonous and infectious substances, (7) radioactive materials, (8) corrosives, and (9) miscellaneous products, substances or organisms dangerous to life, health, property or the environment.

Trespass Act

The Act outlines the rights and responsibilities of property owners, provides a definition of a trespasser, and outlines trespassers' obligations. The Act does not codify every aspect of trespass. Common law also applies.

Veterinarians Act

The Act provides a legislative framework for those practicing veterinary medicine in the province to regulate their qualifications, conduct and practice. The Act recognizes the British Columbia Veterinary Medical Association and describes membership application procedures.

Water Act

This Act creates a system for the regulation of the Province's fresh water systems. Provisions and legislated responsibilities covered by the Act include the granting and management of water licenses; entertaining objections to licenses; apportioning rights under licences; authorising licensees' rights with respect to compensation and expropriation; holding public inquires; regulating changes in or about a stream; operating appropriate appeal procedures to the Comptroller and Environmental

Appeal Board; reserving and removing bodies of water from being used under the Act; and issuing certificates incorporating water users' communities.

Weed Control Act

The Act places responsibility for the control of noxious weeds on the occupiers of land. It provides for the appointment of inspectors to ensure compliance and, failing that, for a method by which they can control weeds and recover the costs of doing so from the occupier. Weed Control Committees may be established by municipal councils to administer the Act within a municipality. Committees report to the municipal council and the Minister.

Wildlife Act

This Act provides a system for the regulation of hunting, angling and for the protection and management of the Province's fish and wildlife resources. The Act enables the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection to acquire and administer land, improvements on land and timber, timber rights and other rights on private land, and to stipulate what wildlife may be destroyed and under what circumstances it may be destroyed. Specific responsibilities outlined in the Act include: establishing and protecting wildlife management and critical wildlife areas; declaring and protecting endangered species; regulating import and export of wildlife; regulating the conditions under which wildlife can be killed for recreational reasons and for the protection of property; enforcing the Act; granting, suspending and cancelling licenses; establishing and enforcing quotas; and establishing and operating appeal procedures.

Workers Compensation Act

The Act provides for the Workers Compensation Board of B.C. The WCB has regulatory responsibility for health and safety in the workplace in B.C. Virtually all employers and workers in the province are covered by the WCB under the Act.

The WCB promotes occupational safety and health practices by monitoring compliance with Industrial Health and Safety Regulations, conducting worksite inspections and providing education and consultation services to employers and workers. The WCB is also responsible for providing rehabilitation and income compensation, as well as vocational training to workers who are injured or suffer from an occupational disease.

Four sets of health and safety regulations cover B.C. companies, large and small:

- a) WCB Industrial Health and Safety Regulations establish minimum health and safety requirements.
- b) WCB Occupational First Aid Regulations outline the first aid services and equipment employers must provide.
- c) Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System regulations cover hazardous substances and the information that must be provided.
- d) Occupational Environment Regulations cover work conditions such as illumination, atmospheric contaminants and ventilation in factories, shops and offices.

Regulations for Occupational Health and Safety in Agricultural Operations address hazards specific to agriculture.