

Plant and Animal Health Branch 1767 Angus Campbell Rd Abbotsford BC V3G 2M3 Ph: (604) 556-3093 Fax: (604) 556-3015 Toll Free: 1-877-877-2474

# Animal Health Act - General Order AIV2023-03

## Person(s) and Place Subject to Order Name of person(s) subject to this order: 1) All persons responsible for chickens and turkeys in operations regulated by one of the following: a) the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission; b) the BC Chicken Marketing Board; c) the BC Egg Marketing Board; d) the BC Turkey Marketing Board; (each a "Board or Commission") and who hold quota from their relevant Marketing Board or Commission. In this order, "Poultry" means the chicken and turkeys in the above-listed commercial operations. The following persons are excluded from the above: Any person described above who receives an exemption from their Board or Commission, where the Board or Commission has been delegated the power to issue exemptions under S. 70 of the Animal Health Act. To apply for an exemption, a person subject to this Order must: Provide a written submission to their Board or Commission detailing: 1) Why they are unable to implement the actions required by the Order, and 2) The steps they will put in place to prevent contact between their poultry flocks and wild birds. A Board or Commission who has the necessary delegation (see Delegation attached to this Order as Appendix B) may, after receiving a submission for exemption as described above, provide an exemption from this Order to the person applying if: 1) The submission has been reviewed by a Ministry of Agriculture and Food poultry veterinarian; and, 2) The Board or Commission is of the opinion that the steps the person proposes to take to prevent contact between their flocks and wild birds are sufficient to prevent transmission of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza virus. **Contact information:** Location of premises this order relates to, if applicable:

Premises identification account number(s):

Premises identification number(s):

Contact information of owner of premises, if different from above:

Contact information for operator of premises, if different from above:

Date this order is issued: October 20, 2023

Date this order takes effect, if different:

Reference Number: AIV2023-03

THE PERSON(S) SUBJECT TO THIS ORDER MUST COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER.

#### **Reason for Order**

#### The Chief Veterinarian reasonably believes the following:

This order and the actions listed are believed necessary under s. 39(1)(c)(i) of the *Animal Health Act* to address a condition that presents a significant risk of causing a threat to animal health, specifically: to prevent the occurrence and spread of highly pathogenic H5 and H7 avian influenza A virus. Based on the current risks associated with the transmission of the H5 Influenza virus in commercial poultry in the province and in neighbouring provinces, there is a need to modify management practices.

### **Background information:**

The highly pathogenic H5 and H7 avian influenza A viruses are reportable diseases under the federal *Health of Animals Act* and reportable and notifiable diseases under the provincial *Animal Health Act*.

Currently there are ongoing Avian Influenza (H5N1) investigations in AB and SK that include both commercial and non-commercial poultry. As wild birds (particularly waterfowl) are considered the main source of the virus, actions taken to limit exposure are warranted. Typically risk of transmission is considered highest in the spring and fall during peak bird migration.

This Order is in Respect of the Following						
Animal(s) (specific):						
Identification #	Age	Sex	Species	Description		

**Type of animal(s) generally:** Poultry in the Province.

Premises: All commercial Poultry operations in the Province.

### Animal products/ by-products:

Things:

### Actions which Must be Taken

**Action:** All live Poultry kept by the persons subject to this order must be maintained indoors unless this order is otherwise modified by the further order of an inspector.

For certainty, the above required action does not limit the sales, transportation or slaughter of Poultry, or the disposal of Poultry carcasses.

Date by which action must be complete, if applicable:				
Completed? Y/N	Inspector Initial and Date			
Notes:				

Other Conditions			
Additional Comments			
Additional Comments			

#### **Authority for Order**

This order is issued pursuant to sections 39, 40 and 41 of the Animal Health Act.

#### **Termination of Order**

**This Order terminates on the following date or in the following circumstances:** refer to section 50(a) of the *Animal Health Act.* See Appendix A.

### **Contact Information**

Name and contact information of inspector making order:

Dr. Theresa Burns, Chief Veterinary Officer <u>Theresa.burns@gov.bc.ca</u>

Veterinarian or diagnostic laboratory contacted:

Inspector

October 20, 2023

Date

## Orders

You have been issued an order. Failure to comply with an order is an offense under s. 81 of the *Animal Health Act*. If this order is posted, you must not remove, alter, or deface it. If an inspector believes that you are not adequately complying with this order, an inspector is authorized to enter into the place described in this document and take action to ensure this order is carried out. You are liable for all costs of any work that the inspector authorizes to be carried out to ensure compliance with this order.

You may request reassessment, reconsideration, or review of this order. A request must be in the form and manner required by the Chief Veterinarian.

### Reassessment

You may request the issuing inspector to reassess the circumstances under which this order was made, assess the extent to which it has been complied with, and determine if it continues to be necessary. The inspector may decide to confirm, vary, or terminate this order.

## Reconsideration

If you have additional relevant information which was not available when the inspector made the order you may request the issuing inspector to reconsider this order. The inspector may

- Vary, confirm, or rescind this order;
- Delay the date the order takes effect or suspend the order, if this will not be a risk to animal or public health; or,
- Reject your request if the information is not new or not relevant.

This order continues to be in effect while the inspector reconsiders it unless the inspector agrees in writing to suspend it. You will receive written reasons for the reconsideration decision. You may not request a second reconsideration.

## Review

If you have completed a request for reconsideration you may request a review of this order. This review will be based on the existing record. The reviewer may

- Vary, confirm or rescind the order; or
- Delay the date the order takes effect or suspend the order, if this will not be a risk to animal or public health; or,
- Refer the matter back to the person who made the order, with or without directions.

The order continues to be in effect during the review. You will receive written reasons for this decision. You may not request further review under the *Animal Health Act*, but may have other recourse.

# Appendix A

Section 50 of the Animal Health Act states

- **50** An order ceases to have effect on the date or in the circumstances stated in the order, or if no date or circumstances are stated, as follows:
  - (a) If an order is served by posting the order, or notice of the order, in or on a place, on the date the order or notice is removed from the place by the minister or the inspector who made the order, or by a person acting under the direction of either of them;
  - (b) If an order is served by publishing the order, or notice of the order, on the date the inspector who made the order publishes a notice that the order has been terminated;
  - (c) If an order is made under section 41 (m) *[general orders]*, on the date the person subject to the order provides evidence of compliance as required by the order;
  - (d) In any other case, on the date the inspector who made the order provides notice by any means to the person subject to the order that the order is terminated.

## **Appendix B: Board and Commission Delegation Letter**

October 20, 2023

File: 0280-30

The BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission	The BC Egg Marketing Board
#210-1848 McCallum Road,	250-32160 South Fraser Way
Abbotsford, BC V2S 0H9	Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5
The BC Chicken Marketing Board	The BC Turkey Marketing Board
#220-1848 McCallum Road,	#106 - 19329 Enterprise Way
Abbotsford, BC V2S 0H9	Surrey, BC V3S 6J8

Hereby referred to as the Marketing Boards and Commissions

Dear Marketing Boards and Commissions:

### DELEGATION

Pursuant to section 70 of the *Animal Health Act* (Act), S.B.C. 2014, c. 16, I hereby delegate to the Marketing Boards and Commissions the power to permit exemptions from General Order AIV2023-03, made by me on October 20, 2023, as described further in that General Order. This delegation remains in effect until repealed by the chief veterinarian or the repeal of General Order AIV2023-03, whichever occurs first.

Sincerely,

Dr. Theresa Burns Chief Veterinary Officer