

January 31, 2020

To: BC Egg Marketing Board

From: BC Egg Producers' Association

RE: Quota Allocation and Policy Consultation

The BC Egg Producers' Association is a producer elected board made up of 9 directors, 5 from the Fraser Valley region, 2 from the Interior region, and 2 from Vancouver Island. Our directorship consists of 5 new entrants and 4 multi-generation farms. 6 of our directors are below the average farm size for BC with 5 of them being 6000 or less birds. All production types are represented, 2 conventional producers, 4 free range, 2 free run, and 1 organic producer.

Through our discussions we came to the unanimous conclusion that it would be best to temporarily hold the 14,916 quota units and make use of it through Temporary Allotment Pool B until enough quota is allocated to be able to fulfill the 150 per farm commitment made in 2019, as outlined in option #3 in the 2020 Quota Allocation Proposal.

The BCEPA would like to see the BCEMB follow through on the allocation policy approved in 2019 as it creates stability and predictability in the industry. Producers can accurately predict growth that will be coming to their farm and this will allow them to put quota into production much more rapidly than in the past. Deviating from this plan will create uncertainty and producers will be cautious when considering future expansions. Borrowing quota from new producer programs with the expectation of future growth is too uncertain, especially given the slowing growth rate.

By holding the allocation in the temporary allotment pool, the quota becomes available quickly to all producers with space, allows for producers to plan moving forward, and creates a standard that can be repeated in the future.

In summary the BC Egg Producers' Association supports allocating according to Option #3 in the 2020 Quota Allocation Proposal

Please feel free to contact me for more detail and/or clarification on our perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Siemens', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Siemens

President - BC Egg Producers' Association

604-807-4866