

## Meeting of the Board of Directors

250 – 32160 South Fraser Way  
Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5

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**Strategic:** Identify key opportunities and systemic challenges and plan for actions to effectively manage risks and take advantage of future opportunities.

**Accountable:** Maintain legitimacy and integrity through understanding and discharging responsibilities and reporting performance.

**Fair:** Ensure procedural fairness in processes and decision-making.

**Effective:** A clearly defined outcome with appropriate processes and measures.

**Transparent:** Ensure that processes, practices, procedures & reporting on exercise of mandate are open, accessible and fully informed.

**Inclusive:** Ensure that appropriate interests, including the public interest, are considered.

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### MINUTES of Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** April 11, 2023

**Location:** BCEMB Boardroom

**BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:** Gunta Vitins, Chair  
Walter Siemens, Vice-Chair  
Jon Krahn, Board Member  
Jeff Regier, Board Member  
Matt Vane, Board Member

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Katie Lowe, Executive Director  
Joey Aebig, Manager Operations & Logistics  
Erin Duetta, Manager Finance  
Amanda Brittain, Director of Communications and Marketing

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#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair, Gunta Vitins, called the meeting to order at 9:40am.

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was held on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation of the Stó:lō people.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Board discussed any perceived conflicts of interest with the proposed agenda items.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was **MOVED** by Walter Siemens and **SECONDED** that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

## **1.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### 1.1 Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2023

**R23-034** It was MOVED by Jon Krahn and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Minutes of March 16, 2023 as presented.

CARRIED

## **2.0 BUSINESS ARISING/ACTION LIST**

### 2.1 2023 Board Calendar & Action Item

The 2023 board calendars and action item list were presented for information.

## **3.0 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

### 3.1 EFC Update

An update on the matters of EFC and its committees was presented, including an update on National Industrial Product, EFC's STMRQ program, and EFC's recent announcement to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

### 3.2 Regional Reports

Updates from the regional representatives were presented for information.

### 3.3 Marketing Quarterly Update

A marketing update was presented for information which included an update on the traditional advertisement campaign that will commence in April, the results from the 2022 AGM survey, communications programming, the UGM golf tournament and upcoming fairs and events.

### 3.4 2023 Provincial AGM Reports

Board members attended the Quebec provincial AGM on April 9-10. Their report was presented for information.

### 3.5 Young Farmer Delegate Presentation

The agenda item was moved to the May Board meeting.

### 3.6 HPAI Workshop: Canadian Perspectives

Animal Health Canada held a High Path Avian Influenza (HPAI) Workshop on March 29, 2023. The workshop included speakers from CFIA, Animal Health, PHAC, Do More Ag, LiveTec, BCMAF, EQCMA, UofM, CPC, and Serecon. A summary of the various presentations was presented for information.

### 3.7 Appointment to the Metro Vancouver Ag Advisory Committee

██████████ has been appointed as a member of the Metro Vancouver Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC). The committee is comprised of stakeholder representatives that provides advice

and recommendations to the standing committee responsible for matters related to the protection of agricultural land and the viability of agriculture in the region.

3.8 Island Regulation Concern

A concern voiced from a Vancouver Island registered producer regarding safety regulations of dairy products was discussed by the Board.

**Action:** Staff to follow up with the Vancouver Island producer.

**4.0 OPERATIONS (continued)**

4.1 Quota Transfers

4.1a [REDACTED]

A producer submitted a quota transfer request which was presented for discussion.

**R23-035** It was MOVED by Jon Krahn and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors grant conditional approval for the transfer of all layer quota from the partnership of [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. The shareholders of [REDACTED] have the same proportionate interest as the partners in the partnership of [REDACTED]. Therefore, in accordance with the Consolidated Order Part V 3(4)(e), a surrender of layer quota is not required.

CARRIED

4.2 Market Needs Project Team

A project team was developed to encourage greater collaboration between graders, producers and the Board to more closely align production with market needs. The first meeting was held on April 3, 2023. The Project Team determined that it would be most efficient for a meeting summary to be distributed after each meeting so the team members had a document they could share with their stakeholders.

The next meeting of the project team will be on May 5, 2023.

**Action:** Staff to distribute the finalized Market Needs Project Team summary report.

4.3 STMRQ Program Update

BC Egg is currently recovering from the fall/winter 2022 wave of HPAI which impacted our province. Additional production could be beneficial while we continue to work towards returning to regular production levels. BC and EFC programs have been made available which provide producers who have additional capacity with the opportunity to produce additional eggs. The status on the programs was discussed.

Prior to the meeting BC was referring to its program as the BC STMRQ program. While EFC is fully supportive of our program, they have asked provinces to refrain from labelling their incentive programs with the "STMRQ" title as if could create confusion while communicating with stakeholders. Moving forward, BC will be referring to its program as the BC Special Temporary Table Market Quota (BC STTMQ).

The EFC STMRQ program was prior-approved by Farm Products Council of Canada (FPCC) at their meeting on March 17, 2023 up to December 30, 2023. During this time, registered egg producers in BC could produce up to 242,779 additional layers for the processing market.

**Action:** Staff to circulate information on BC STTMQ and EFC STMRQ to registered producers.

#### 4.4 2022/2023 Allocation

A national increase to BC's federal quota occurred Week 1, 2023. As a result of the increase, BC received a provincial allocation that will be distributed to registered producers. The 2023 allocation distribution proposal was sent to BCFIRB on March 20, 2023 and is on BCFIRB's May 10, 2023 Board agenda for discussion.

#### 4.5 Grading Station Reconciliation

To ensure that producers are being paid accurately for their production, a reconciliation document was sent to each grading station in January 2023. The reconciliation sought to confirm each producer's 2022 production volume and egg type. BC Egg has received responses from some of the graders. Next steps were discussed with the Board. To close the loop on its reconciliation process, staff will randomly select producers throughout the year and request a copy of their recent pickup slips to match the eggs reported by the grader.

#### 4.6 System Migration

The current BC Egg IT system is becoming dated and does not meet many reporting needs. As such, BC Egg is currently seeking to update the system to improve functionality, ensure user satisfaction and trust of BC Egg's reporting system. Preliminary proposals received from IT companies were discussed.

**Action:** Staff to arrange for a demo of the proposed IT system for the Board to see at a future board meeting.

#### 4.7 Quota Lease Opportunity

BC producers are recovering from the impact of the 2022 HPAI. In 2023, BC Egg will not be able to fully utilize all its production capacity in the year and has been exploring the possibility of leasing a portion of its quota to another province on a short-term basis. In the previous month, HPAI resurfaced in Eastern Canada and EFC's expanded STMRQ was announced resulting in little market opportunity for provincial quota leasing at this time.

#### 4.8 2023 NPP Program

The 2023 NPP draw has been announced and BCEMB will be accepting applications from potential NPP candidates until June 2, 2023. An update to the Board regarding the NPP draw progress was presented and the Board selected potential members for the NPP review committee. The potential committee members will be approached by staff to determine if they are willing to serve on the review team. BCEMB will be holding informational webinars on April 20 and May 4 for potential applicants.

#### 4.9 AI Update

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza has been found in poultry flocks in all Canadian Provinces (except PEI) and throughout the US. Over the past year, BC industry members have been working with the Ministry and CFIA on the response. As of April 24, 2023 all active primary control zones in BC may be eligible to be revoked by CFIA, marking the end of the fall/winter wave of HPAI in BC.

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On April 6, 2023 CFIA presented its preliminary epidemiological findings at a townhall meeting.

The EOC has determined that there is an industry need to have a full-time manager, permit coordinator, and communicator. Funding for the initiative will be explored in the coming months.

### 4.10 Fowl Removal Update

An update on Fowl Removal projects, including the CO2 machine was presented for information.

At the beginning of April, BC Egg's current CO2 operator submitted their six months notice, after which they will no longer be contracting for BC Egg. Staff has contacted some potential operators and will bring an update to the Board at the next meeting.

### 4.11 Farm Audit update

The current Avian Influenza outbreak put farm audits on hold in 2022. As of April 11, 2023, there are still CFIA control zones in place and audits are still paused. Completing audits is important regarding public trust and something BC Egg makes every effort to complete. BC Egg has worked with EFC to establish a virtual audit protocol. The protocol was finalized and distributed by EFC at the end of March. The virtual audit protocol will enable BC Egg to audit qualifying farms, ensuring that BC Egg can conduct its Biosecurity, Food Safety, and Animal Care Program audits in 2023.

## 5.0 GOVERNANCE

### 5.1 Consolidated Order Review

The Consolidated Order is required to be reviewed every five years. The current document was last reviewed in 2017. A final consultation has now been conducted and the results, along with the legal review have been reviewed by the Board.

At the March 16, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting, the Board approved the first reading of the updated Consolidated Order with a proposed implementation date of July 1, 2023, pending BCFIRB's approval.

At April's meeting, the Board discussed the integration of the proposed changes as well as opportunities to simplify the more complex language used periodically within the Order.

BC Egg's desired changes to the Consolidated Order that will impact quota must be approved by BCFIRB. BC Egg is in the process of drafting the submission document which will incorporate the proposed changes along with consultation, rationale, and SAFETI analysis.

**Action:** Staff to complete draft submission to BCFIRB for Consolidated Order changes. Staff to bring draft to Board for review at the May Board of Directors meeting.

### 5.2 Board Per Diem and Expense Policy Review

The Boards Per-Diem and Expense Policy was reviewed and amendments were made.

**R23-036** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Board Per Diem and Expense Policy as amended.

CARRIED

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### 5.3 EFC Pricing Coordination Memo

The COP is published by EFC and reviewed by the EIAC and BC Egg Board of Directors monthly. To ensure producers receive their COP over time and the process does not cause significant market disruption, provinces/territory communicate and coordinate their approach when considering pricing changes. Whether the price change results in a decrease or increase, our stakeholders appreciate advance notice. EFC provided Egg Boards with possible dates for pricing discussions so that each province could coordinate their intentions internally prior to a broader national discussion. Those dates were provided for information.

### 5.4 BC Egg Marketing Scheme Request

Production and marketing of eggs is regulated under the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act (NPMA) and the British Columbia Egg Marketing Scheme, 1967 (Egg Scheme). Section 37(c) of the Egg Scheme requires BC Egg to obtain BCFIRB prior approval to vary quotas the BC Egg has issued to producers, and the terms and conditions upon which quota shall be issued or transferred.

Currently BC Egg is the only supply managed commodity in BC that requires prior approval from BCFIRB to vary quota. BC Egg has notified the Ministry of Agriculture of their intention to request the removal of the prior approval requirement from the Scheme. Changes or amendments to the BC Egg Marketing Scheme requires an amendment to the Order in Council.

Ministry staff have notified BC Egg that they intend to review that request if it moves forward with the same Order in Council request as the Federal Provincial Territorial Agreement (FPTA).

**Action:** Staff to continue researching the background information for the requirement for prior approval from the Egg Scheme.

### 5.5 Committee Minutes

#### 5.5a November 17, 2022 EIAC Minutes

The November 17, 2022 EIAC Meeting Minutes were presented for information.

#### 5.5b December 23, 2022 EIAC Minutes

The December 23, 2022 EIAC Meeting Minutes were presented for information.

## 6.0 PERFORMANCE REPORTS

### 6.1 Dashboard

The Industry Dashboard was presented for information.

### 6.2 Financials

#### 6.2a Period 2 Board & Committee Per Diems & Expenses

The Period 2 Board & Committee Per Diems & Expenses were presented for review.

**R23-037** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Period 2 Board & Committee Per Diems & Expenses as presented.

CARRIED

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6.2b AR Report

The AR report was presented for information.

6.2c Period 2, 2023 Financial Statement

The Period 2, 2023 Financial Statement was presented for review.

**R23-038** It was MOVED by Jeff and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Period 2, 2023 Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED

6.2d Grader Incentive Program

An update on the grader incentive program was presented for review.

**Action:** Staff to bring details on how the Grader Incentive Program is communicated to future Board meeting.

6.2e ULPT

The summary detailing levy remitted to EFC under their updated Uniform Levy Project Team was presented for information.

6.3 IP Report

The IP Report was presented for information.

**7.0 MEETINGS HELD & UPCOMING**

7.1 2023 Meetings Held

The 2023 meetings held were presented for information.

7.2 2023 Meetings Upcoming

The 2023 upcoming meetings were presented for information.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED by Jon Krahn and SECONDED that the meeting be adjourned at 3:03pm.



Board Chair



Certified Correct, Secretary