

## 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:** November 20, 2024

**Location:** BCEMB Boardroom

**BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:** Al Sakalauskas, Chair  
Walter Siemens, Vice-Chair  
Jon Krahn, Board Member  
Jeff Regier, Board Member  
Derek Janzen, Board Member

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

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#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair, Al Sakalauskas, called the meeting to order at 9:05am.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was **MOVED** by Derek Janzen and **SECONDED** that the agenda be adopted as presented.

## **1.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### 1.1 Approval of Minutes of October 8, 2024

**R24-125** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Minutes of October 8, 2024 as presented.

CARRIED

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

### 2.1 2024 and 2025 Board Calendar & Action Item

The 2024 and 2025 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 were presented, including a summary from the EFC open meeting.

### 3.2 Regional Reports

Updates from the regional representatives were presented, including discussions on the current HPAI situation.

### 3.3 Committee Reports

Updates from the committee chairs and representatives were presented.

### 3.4 UEP Report

Board members attended the UEP conference from October 15-16, 2024 and a report on the meeting was presented.

### 3.5 2025 BC Egg AGM and Conference Update

The 2025 Conference and AGM has been booked at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver for February 27 and 28. An update on the speakers, sponsorship, and trade show booths were presented for information.

**Action:** Staff was directed to bring the historic quiz show details to the December board meeting.

**Action:** Staff was directed to send an invitation to the Minister of Agriculture.

### 3.6 Producer Christmas Party

The Producer Christmas party will be held on December 3 from 11 am to 3 pm at the Clarion Hotel in Abbotsford. An update on the event was presented.

The Board discussed the HPAI mitigation steps that will be taken for the event.

### 3.7 UBC Scholarship Impact Report

Since 2018, BC Egg has provided UBC scholarship funding. In turn, BC Egg asks for an impact report from UBC. A report that shows the recipients since 2018 and letters from past recipients has been received and presented for information.

The Board discussed the 2025 UBC scholarship and directed it to a particular research team within UBC.

#### **4.0 OPERATIONS**

##### 4.1 HPAI Update

Fall 2024 has resulted in another HPAI event commenced October 21, 2024. BC industry has been working with the Ministry of Agriculture and CFIA on the response. An update on the situation was presented for information.

##### 4.1a HPAI Update – Producer Payments

*W. Siemens and J. Krahn recused themselves from the discussion.*

For some producers whose eggs were picked up by their grader within 48 hours of testing positive for AI, CFIA has required those eggs to be diverted to the processor with no compensation. The grader then paid the producer at the Classic White price rather than their production type. BC Egg has determined that producers be paid their production type price in that situation as per our regulation for the minimum price established.

The Board agreed with the letter proposed by Staff that will be sent to the graders.

##### 4.2 2025 Production Sleeve

BC seeks to utilize 100% of its provincially allotted quota each year which is one of the Board's 2025 Core Strategic Objectives. To date, production sleeves have been used as an effective tool to incentivize producers to place additional birds to maximize the use of the quota that has been allocated to our province by EFC. An analysis of the production sleeve was presented for discussion, along with the EIAC's recommendation.

The Board discussed the program options to incentivize producers to be creative in placing their quota.

**R24-126** It was MOVED by Jon Krahn and SECONDED

WHEREAS the Board of Directors have approved a production sleeve of 9% from December 29, 2024 to June 28, 2025.

THAT the Board of Directors maintain the production sleeve at 9% from June 29, 2025 to June 27, 2026.

CARRIED

##### 4.3 STTMQ Request

A grading station has written to the Board asking for the extension of the current STTMQ program availability through until February 2025. The amended BC STTMQ Program was presented for review.

**R24-127** It was MOVED by Derek Janzen and SECONDED

**The Board of Directors of the BC Egg Marketing Board**

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November 20, 2024

---

THAT the Board of Directors suspend further applications for the BC STTMQ Program. All current BC STTMQ Program leases will be converted to TAP B leases, effective Week 1, 2025.

CARRIED

4.4 SE Testing Update

In events such as HPAI, field staff is grounded, and on-farm visits are cancelled. BC Egg is exploring the possibility of the Board permitting producers to conduct SE testing in their barns during extraordinary events. The draft protocol was presented for review.

The Board agreed with the direction and protocol.

**R24-128** It was MOVED by Derek Janzen and SECONDED

WHEREAS an outbreak of High Path Avian Flu has occurred in British Columbia.

WHEREAS to minimize the risk of the accidental spread of the disease while CFIA Primary Control Zones are active, all field staff have been grounded, and on-farm visits have been cancelled.

THAT the Board of Directors approves on-farm personnel to conduct SE tests on their facilities when requested by BC Egg field staff throughout the 2024-2025 HPAI response. This process shall remain in effect until February 28, 2025, unless renewed or extended by a subsequent motion before that date. If no renewal or extension motion is passed by February 28, 2025, the process will automatically revert to the current procedure in place.

CARRIED

4.5 NPP Consultation Update

An objective of the 2025 Strategic Plan is to conduct a fulsome NPP consultation. An update on the timeline was presented for information.

4.6 2025 EPA Budget

*J. Clarke joined the meeting at 10:30am.*

The 2025 EPA budget was presented for review along with an overview of applicable policy changes. The HPAI situation and producer feedback were also discussed.

*J. Clarke left the meeting at 11:10am.*

4.7 2025 Marketing Budget

The 2025 Marketing Budget was presented for review, along with a brief presentation from Food Banks BC.

The Board reviewed the budget and agreed as presented.

**Action:** Staff was directed to provide the CCFI Public Trust Report to the Board.

4.8 2025 Budget

**The Board of Directors of the BC Egg Marketing Board**

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November 20, 2024

---

The 2025 draft budget methodology was presented for discussion including programming recommendations.

The Board reviewed the recommendations and provided feedback.

4.9 System Migration Update

BC Egg is in the process of developing a new data management system and is in the testing phase. An update on the progress and next steps were presented for information.

4.10 NPP Request

A 2024 NPP winner has requested special permission to receive his NPP allotment on family land due to a delayed succession planning process. The request was presented for review.

The Board reviewed the request and discussed the situation.

**R24-130** It was MOVED by Derek Janzen and SECONDED

WHEREAS ██████████ was successful in having his name selected in BC Egg's 2024 New Producer Program Draw.

WHEREAS ██████████ has requested special consideration from the Board of Directors to be granted quota without having ownership of the land.

WHEREAS Part IV 5. (1) (d) of the Consolidated Order states (1) Layer Quota issued under the New Producer Program may be held for production by the entrant subject to all special terms, conditions and restrictions imposed with respect to the applicable New Producer Program draw, and only for so long as the entrant: (d) continues to own an Egg Production Unit conforming to all applicable requirements under the Consolidated Order;

WHEREAS ██████████ submitted a sworn declaration which attested to his commitment that he owns, or will own prior to the commencement of egg production an Egg Production Unit conforming to all application requirements under the Consolidated Order and 2024 New Producer Program Draw.

THAT the Board of Directors decline the request from ██████████ for special permission to receive his NPP quota allotment without conforming to the New Producer Program requirements.

CARRIED

**R24-131** It was MOVED by Derek Janzen and SECONDED

WHEREAS the 2024 New Producer Program states *Failure of a selected applicant to place their flock within a reasonable timeframe, as determined by their business plan, will result in forfeiture of their opportunity for New Producer Program Quota, forfeiture of their Performance Deposit, and removal from the program.*

WHEREAS the Board of Directors have declined ██████████ special request which may delay the expected start time for an unknown timeframe.

**The Board of Directors of the BC Egg Marketing Board**

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November 20, 2024

---

THAT the Board of Directors request a revised business plan from [REDACTED] within the next 60 days. This will include a plan for landownership with a revised first placement date to occur no later than December 1, 2025.

CARRIED

**4.11 Allocation Update**

At the November 14, 2024, EFC Open Board meeting, the EFC Board passes a motion to request an increase to the National Allocation from FPCC. If approved by FPCC the National increase to our federal quota would occur on Week 1, 2025. Assuming the increase is approved then ratified by EFC, BC would receive a provincial allocation to distribute to qualifying registered producers. A preliminary allocation analysis was presented for review.

**R24-129** It was MOVED by Walter Siemens and SECONDED

WHEREAS on November 14, 2024, Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) passed a motion to request Farm Products Council of Canada (FPCC) approval for a National Quota Allocation increase of 2,494,009 quota units, which may be approved by the FPCC in December 2024.

WHEREAS this distribution shall only take effect if and when the FPCC approves and EFC ratifies the requested National Quota Allocation increase, with an effective date of December 29, 2024.

THAT, contingent upon FPCC approval and EFC ratification, the Board of Directors approves the distribution of a 10.0% pro-rata increase, with a minimum issuance of 100 units, to all qualifying registered producers currently in good standing with the BCEMB Consolidated Order effective December 29, 2024. The 385,603 quota units available for distribution derive from the 2024 EFC allocation increase of 364,523 quota units and 21,080 from the Reserve.

CARRIED

**4.12 COP Study**

On November 11, EFC sent a survey request regarding the COP Study. To continuously improve the process for future work on the COP, EFC seeks feedback which will serve to document best practices and outline recommendations and possible improvements which can be passed on to future COP Committees and project teams. The request was presented for review.

The Board discussed the COP process and feedback from other provinces.

**4.13 Temporary EFP Sleeve**

Egg Farmers of Canada's (EFC) Eggs for Processing (EFP) program may permanently cease effective Week 1, 2025 as the program is being incorporated into quota that will be distributed amongst all provinces using the Quota Allocation Calculation (QAC), provided FPCC has approved it. As a result, the Board may wish to address the EFP temporary sleeve that is currently issued to producers. Options for consideration were presented.

**R24-132** It was MOVED by Walter Siemens and SECONDED

**The Board of Directors of the BC Egg Marketing Board**

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November 20, 2024

---

WHEREAS BC Egg currently has an EFP Temporary Sleeve which is available to all registered producers.

WHEREAS Egg Farmers of Canada will be seeking approval from Farm Products Council of Canada to incorporate the EFP program into quota on Week 1, 2025 which if approved then ratified by Egg Farmers of Canada will end the EFP Program and result in a quota increase to all qualifying BC Egg Producers.

THAT upon Farm Products Council of Canada approval and EFC ratification of the Week 1, 2025 quota increase, the Board of Directors end the EFP Temporary Sleeve program. If the condition is not met by Week 1, 2025 then no action will be taken.

CARRIED

4.14 TAP B2

BC Egg's strategic objectives include the goal to achieve full quota utilization. BC Egg is expecting to receive a 9.46% increase to its provincial quota allotment effective week 1, 2025. Meanwhile BC Egg producers have lost approximately 650,000 layers and pullets to HPAI this fall. To address the production shortfall we are expecting, staff is proposing that BC Egg run a second TAP B program beginning Week 1, 2025. Details for the potential program were presented for review.

The Board agreed with the proposal.

**R24-133** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors authorize the TAP Pool B program for usage from December 29, 2024 to June 27, 2026 for 500,000 quota units.

CARRIED

**5.0 GOVERNANCE**

5.1 Policy Review

The BCEMB Policy Review Table was presented for information.

5.1a Freight Subsidy Policy

Staff have suggested minor formatting amendments to the Freight Subsidy Policy.

**R24-134** It was MOVED by Jon Krahn and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the updated Freight Subsidy Policy as presented.

CARRIED

5.2c Committee Per Diems

As there is no formal committee per diem policy and rates have not been reviewed since February 28, 2018, staff is recommending an amendment to the Board Per Diem and Expense Policy to update the rate.

**R24-135** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

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

CARRIED

**R24-136** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors increase the industry committee per diem to \$325, retroactive to March 1, 2024.

CARRIED

## 5.2 Committee Minutes

### 5.2a EIAC Minutes of April 15, 2024

The EIAC Minutes of April 15, 2024 were presented for information.

### 5.2b EIAC Minutes of June 3, 2024

The EIAC Minutes of June 3, 2024 were presented for information.

## **6.0 PERFORMANCE REPORTS**

### 6.1 Dashboard

The Dashboard report was presented for information.

### 6.2 Financials

#### 6.2a Period 9, 2024 Board & Committee Per Diems and Expenses

The Period 9 Board & Committee Per Diems & Expenses were presented for review.

**R24-137** It was MOVED by Derek Janzen and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Period 9, 2024 Board & Committee Per Diems & Expenses as amended.

CARRIED

#### 6.2b AR Report

The AR Report was presented for information.

#### 6.2c Period 9, 2024 Financial Statement

The Period 9, 2024 financial statements were presented for information.

The Board discussed the ULPT fund balance and how it is determined.

**R24-138** It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Period 9, 2024 Financial Statement as presented.

CARRIED



**The Board of Directors of the BC Egg Marketing Board**

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November 20, 2024

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6.2d Grader Incentive Program

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

6.2e ULPT

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

6.3 Industrial Product

6.3a IP Report

The IP Report was presented for information.

6.3b Specialty Production

The summary detailing specialty dozens graded over the past five years versus shipped to the processor was presented for information.

6.3c Specialty Buyback and Egg movement

The summary detailing dozens downgraded under the Specialty Buyback Program and interprovincial trades was presented for information.

**7.0 MEETINGS HELD & UPCOMING**

7.1 2024 Meetings Held

The 2024 record of meetings held was presented for information.


7.2 2024 and 2025 Meetings Upcoming

The 2024 and 2025 records of upcoming meetings were presented for information.

The Board discussed the IEC conference attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED by Derek Janzen and SECONDED that the meeting be adjourned at 3:04pm.

  
Board Chair

  
Certified Correct, Secretary