



BC FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD

October 23, 2025

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DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Bill Vanderspek
Chair
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission
#210 - 1848 McCallum Rd
Abbotsford BC
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Dear Chair Bill Vanderspek:

RE: BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERIM DECISION TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN HATCHERIES AS DESIGNATED AGENCIES

On February 13, 2025, I [directed](#) the British Columbia Hatching Egg Commission (Commission) to report back to the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB), by April 15, 2025, on its progress in discussions with the Hatcheries on outstanding sector issues, including but not limited to: marketable egg definition, hatchery margin, and financial protection on escalating costs of US sourced eggs.

Upon receipt of the April 15, 2025, report, I [directed](#) the Commission “to continue to report back to BCFIRB on these matters and other related issues that may arise by September 15, 2025.” I received that report on the specified date.

I would like to thank the Commission for its report received by BCFIRB on September 15, 2025, and acknowledge the ongoing efforts of the Commission and the British Columbia Egg Hatchery Association (BCEHA) to work on these important matters.

The Commission’s report indicates progress to date and further steps it will take with BCEHA:

- **2026 Hatchery Licence Applications:** 2026 hatchery license applications were issued by the Commission in September to ensure time for hatcheries to submit them before the anticipated HPAI challenges this fall.
- **Marketable Egg Definition and Hatching Egg Reporting System (HERS):** Although all hatcheries have provided HERs reports since April 2025, timely and accurate reporting remains an issue for some hatcheries. BCEHA and Commission staff are collaborating to resolve issues, and the Commission has allocated additional funds to support ease of use. The Commission will initiate the Marketable Egg Definition pilot project once four weeks of accurate data is available from BCEHA. The Commission is optimistic that the pilot will proceed in October.

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- **Hatchery Margin:** On August 18, 2025, BCEHA submitted to the Commission its four key inputs cost report, updated by Serecon with 2024 data, and sought a two-cent increase. The two-cent increase request is under stakeholder review and will be on the Commission's October 23, 2025, meeting Agenda.
- **Hatchery Cost of Production:** The Commission accepts the existing four key inputs approach as a temporary solution while BCEHA actively seeks more effective and sustainable pricing alternatives.
- **Spot Market Pricing:** On September 2, 2025, BCEHA suggested that the hatchery margin increase would be sufficient to manage the additional costs associated with imported eggs.
- **Vaccination Costs:** BCEHA was informed that to receive vaccination increases it needed to provide a letter documenting the increase to the Commission. The vaccination input was increased in A-197. Additionally, the BCEHA has committed to providing the Commission with advanced notice of increases to ensure they are reflected in the Commission's COP.

DIRECTION

I am pleased with the continued progress on these issues and the Commission's plans with BCEHA to work towards resolution of the remaining matters. To that end, I am directing the Commission to continue to report back to BCFIRB on these matters and other related issues that may arise by December 1, 2025.

As previously communicated, BCFIRB continues to encourage the Commission to actively support other hatching egg supply chain stakeholder participation in discussions about these important sector matters.

Regards,



Gunta Vitins

Chair
BC Farm Industry Review Board

cc: Martha Anslow, Executive Director, BCFIRB
Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director, BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission
Ryan Whitmore, President, BC Egg Hatchery Association
Ernie Silveri, Executive Director, BC Egg Hatchery Association
Kevin Klippenstein, Chair, BC Chicken Marketing Board
Woody Siemens, Executive Director, BC Chicken Marketing Board
Bruce Apperloo, President, BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers Association
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