

IN THE MATTER OF
THE FARM PRACTICES PROTECTION (RIGHT TO FARM) ACT, RSBC 1996 C. 131
AND IN THE MATTER OF A COMPLAINT REGARDING A NOISE
DISTURBANCE FROM A PROPANE CANNON ON A NEIGHBOURING FARM IN
SAYWARD, BRITISH COLUMBIA

BETWEEN:

MICHAEL PHIPPS

COMPLAINANT

AND:

STEPHEN RALPH

RESPONDENT

DECISION

APPEARANCES:

For the British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board:

Neil Turner, Presiding Member
Pawan Joshi, Member
Jane Pritchard, Member

For the Complainant:

Michael Phipps, self-represented

For the Respondent:

Stephen Ralph, self-represented

Date of Hearing:

June 18, 2025

Place of Hearing

Campbell River, British Columbia

A. INTRODUCTION

1. This decision relates to a complaint filed with the British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) on March 1, 2024 under section 3 of the *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 131 (the FPPA) by Michael Phipps (the Complainant) against his neighbour, Stephen Ralph (the Respondent).
2. In brief, the Complainant alleges that he is aggrieved because of the Respondent's continuous use of a propane cannon as part of his farm operation. The Complainant submits that the Respondent's use of its propane cannon is improper and is inconsistent with 'normal farm practice' and has been since February 2023.

B. BACKGROUND

3. The Respondent operates a farm under the name Majestic View Farm (Majestic) in the Sayward area of Vancouver Island. Majestic is a mixed operation that produces and sells piglets, eggs, chickens and garden produce. The farm is located on a 27.8-acre property that is in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).
4. The Respondent uses a propane cannon as part of his farm operation to scare predatory birds, which he claims have killed his piglets in the past. The Complainant owns the property adjacent to the Respondent and is subject to the noise generated by the propane cannon.
5. In order to assess the Respondent's use of the propane cannon, BCFIRB retained Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agrologist, Thom O'Dell P.Ag, Ph.D. as a "Knowledgeable Person" under section 4 of the FPPA. Mr. O'Dell prepared a report (the KP Report) which describes the Respondent's farm operation and propane cannon practices. Mr. O'Dell testified at the hearing and the KP Report was included as an exhibit.
6. The BCFIRB hearing panel (the Panel) conducted a site visit of the Complainant and the Respondent's properties on June 17, 2025.
7. A hearing was held before the Panel in Campbell River on June 18, 2025. The hearing was held in person, however the Respondent attended virtually pursuant to an interim decision issued by the Panel via email on June 12, 2025.
8. The Panel has fully considered all of the facts and evidence contained in the parties' written submissions and added during the hearing. However, in this decision the Panel refers only to the facts and evidence it considers necessary to explain its reasoning.

C. ISSUE

9. Is the use of a propane cannon located on Majestic, and the noise generated, consistent with 'normal farm practices'?

D. COMPLAINANT EVIDENCE

Complainant – Michael Phipps

10. The Complainant gave oral evidence and submitted a package of documents, social media images, and photographs which were collectively entered as Exhibit #2 in the hearing record of the complaint. During the course of his evidence, the Complainant also made various submissions on the legal issue of whether the Respondent's use of the propane cannon accorded with 'normal farm practices.'
11. The Complainant submitted that the Respondent conducted improper feeding practices. He referred to the photo's entered into evidence that had been collected from social media postings. The Complainant stated that the images illustrated that food was scattered throughout the pens without proper feeding containment. The Complainant further stated that the truck parked at the Respondent's property in one of the images was full of food waste. He noted that trucks filled with food waste were often parked for several days at the Respondent's property which created a wildlife attractant, including attracting the ravens which preyed on the Respondent's pigs.
12. The Complainant submitted that the Respondent conducted improper housing practices for his farm animals. He again referred to images and associated messages from Majestic's social media postings. The Complainant described one instance in which the Respondent's pigs were reported to be located on the road beside the White River Resort. The Complainant stated that the Respondent acknowledged that his pigs were on the road in his response on social media.
13. The Complainant submitted that the Respondent's pigs were leaving the farm property because of the excessive noise of the propane cannons and because of the lack of adequate fencing to contain them.
14. The Complainant stated that the Respondent's pigs have wandered across Highway 19, through the Co-op gas station and onto the grounds of the Sayward Valley Resort (approximately 1 to 1.5 kilometers from the boundary of the farm property) on several occasions. The Complainant pointed to social media posts which attested to this failure on the part of the Respondent to properly contain his animals. The Complainant stated his safety concerns for people and for property, particularly given the risk of high-speed traffic incidents on the highway, which are adjacent to the Majestic property.
15. The Complainant also stated that the conditions for pig birthing at Majestic were not adequate, and referred to a number of images which he suggested showed a lack of clean bedding and inadequate protection from predators.
16. The Complainant referred to a policy document generated by BCFIRB titled "*Review of the Use and Regulation of Propane Cannons in the South Coastal Region*" dated May 15, 2009 (policy document). In reference to the policy

document, the Complainant stated that when propane cannons are used as the first mitigation measure, birds become habituated to the devices. He further noted the direction in the policy document with respect to the importance of tidiness of livestock operations and of excluding birds from buildings and feeding areas. The Complainant noted that the Respondent does not exclude ravens from the feeding areas or livestock buildings as demonstrated in the submitted photographs (Exhibit #3).

17. In further reference to the policy document, the Complainant noted the negative impacts to humans of the use of propane cannons, including “stress and anxiety, sleep disturbance, agitation, increased aggression, and lack of concentration”, as well as similar negative impacts for wild, farm and other domesticated animals. The Complainant stated that several elderly neighbours and a neighbouring tenant had approached him directly to complain about the Respondent’s use of the propane cannon and to describe the impacts of the noise on their health. The Complainant further stated that he has had health challenges that are impacted by the noise which impair his ability to concentrate and to run his business effectively.
18. The Complainant noted that, contrary to the recommendations included in the policy document, the Respondent apparently has no management plan for bird predation. He submitted that the Respondent should be obliged to follow the recommended management plan principles from the policy document including:
 - Propane cannons are to be managed in a manner that minimizes bird habituation, thereby maximizing their efficacy and minimizing nuisance; and
 - Propane cannons are to be deployed only when birds are present;
 - To achieve this, a bird predation management plan must include:
 - Strategies to minimize cannon use;
 - A range of approaches to prevent bird damage including other noise devices, visual scare techniques and human presence in the fields; and
 - Clear direction that canons are not to be deployed when there is no or little bird pressure and are to be turned off when bird pressure is no longer present.
19. The Complainant presented several logs documenting instances when he heard the Respondent’s propane cannon blasts. The logs covered a six-month period from January 26, 2024 until July 26, 2024. The Complainant stated that the blasts from the propane cannon occurred almost every day during that period from dawn until dusk at an interval of 2 to 3 minutes. The Complainant also referred to a log provided by another neighbour which covered an eighteen-day period from February 2, 2024, to February 20, 2024 and documented cannon blasts occurring every 2 to 3 minutes.
20. The Complainant then presented audio/video recordings that were recorded in proximity to the Respondent’s farm property, and which demonstrated the noise impacts of the propane cannons to neighbouring properties.

21. The Complainant referred the Panel to five letters and email messages from local residents that have been negatively affected by the noise from the Respondent's propane cannon.
22. The Complainant also referred to a document titled "*US Department of Agriculture Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services – February 2020 – Common Ravens and effective management methods*". The Complainant submitted based on this document that habitat modification should be used by the Respondent to deter raven predation and to minimize conflict. He further noted that the Respondent needs to undertake effective garbage management practices and properly track the piglets on his property. The Complainant noted that there are other devices that could be used by the Respondent to deter ravens, including lasers and lights.
23. In response to questions from the Panel, the Complainant stated that he first heard the propane canon more than two years ago, and that the bird population has increased over the approximately 11 years that he has lived on his property. The Complainant confirmed that the noise from the propane canon varied from day to day in its intensity. The Complainant stated that the people who sent letters and messages to the Complainant, were intimidated by the complaint process and did not want to be witnesses at the hearing.

E. RESPONDENT EVIDENCE

Respondent – Stephen Ralph

24. The Respondent gave oral evidence and made various submissions on the legal issue of whether his use of propane cannons accords with normal farm practice. He did not tender any documentary evidence and did not call any witnesses.
25. The Respondent stated that neither fencing nor netting can effectively keep out ravens. He further stated that he had been having a difficult time lately in maintaining his fences.
26. The Respondent testified that he raised his pigs through a method called 'Pasture Raised Farming' and that this method was more natural and allowed for free movement of the pigs, including the movement of piglets through any fencing.
27. The Respondent stated that the occurrence described by the Complainant where a mother and piglets were off his property was a one-time occurrence that lasted for 2 to 3 days. He also stated that he had compensated a neighbour in the past for damage from one of his pig's to the neighbour's property. The Respondent further stated that he was in the process of installing new posts, gates and a fencing system on his farm.
28. The Respondent stated that he originally had pig pens that more closely resembled those in the KP report, but that the pigs did not like them and as a result the pigs destroyed the enclosures.

29. The Respondent stated that he has had the most successful number of piglets in the past year, as a direct result of using the propane cannon and that in prior years he had severe losses. He also stated that it was his neighbour who used propane cannons first to scare ravens and eagles.
30. The Respondent stated that he had observed several piglets being attacked by ravens and eagles on his farm. He noted that he was previously unsuccessful in scaring the ravens and had tried many methods to prevent the predation of the piglets, including netting over the enclosures, creating enclosures with small openings, scarecrows, scare owls, reflective ribbon and hanging CDs.
31. The Respondent stated that he believed his cannon could not blast more frequently than every 10 minutes and that he kept it in a doghouse and only pointed it along the highway to disturb the least number of residents in the area.
32. The Respondent submitted that spreading food waste in pig pens is a normal farm practice and has been part of his family's farm operation for several generations.
33. The Respondent stated that he had been in contact with the BC Conservation Officer Service and was advised that his propane cannon use was permitted and that on Vancouver Island he was not permitted to shoot and kill predators such as ravens.
34. On cross examination, the Respondent confirmed that the instance in which the fencing was breached by several pigs was approximately 2 months prior to the hearing date.
35. In response to questions by the Panel, the Respondent stated that he did not have dedicated feeders for his pigs and that he spread the food on the ground at night when the ravens were not present. He noted that he did provide bedding to the farrowing pigs, both before and after the birth of the piglets, but that he had not been successful at confining the mothers through the farrowing period.
36. The Respondent stated that his goal was to reduce the use of the propane canon and that he realized there was an impact to his surrounding community, but that he had been previously unsuccessful in using alternative methods to deter bird predation.

F. KNOWLEDGABLE PERSON REPORT (the KP Report)

37. Mr. O'Dell has been employed as a regional Agrologist by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (the Ministry) since 2022. He is an accredited professional Agrologist and also holds a Ph.D. in Botany and Plant Pathology. His role at the Ministry involves providing information to the public and local governments on agricultural and land use planning, farm practices, and agricultural production, predominantly in northern Vancouver Island.

38. Mr. O'Dell conducted site visits of the Complainant and Respondent properties on July 31, 2024. During his site visits, the propane cannon was turned on for his observation and evaluation.
39. Mr. O'Dell described the Respondent's farm as a mixed farm operation that focused on pig production. He stated that he saw 5 sows and approximately 15 piglets housed in structures built out of repurposed pallets and other wood structures. He described containment fencing that used strands of electric wire. Mr. O'Dell noted that the Respondent had told him that there had recently been a litter of piglets born outside the fencing in the forest area of his property.
40. Mr. O'Dell stated that during the site visit he observed the presence of two different propane powered noise cannons or Audible Bird Scare Devices (ABSD's). He noted that the ABSD's produced different levels of noise and that one was noticeably quieter than the other. He noted that the devices produced noise in 10 to 25 minute intervals.
41. Mr. O'Dell summarized his findings with respect to the standard practices in protecting pigs from predation in the KP Report which he confirmed at the hearing. In the KP Report he cites "The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Standards for the Raising and Handling of Pigs (May 2014)" from which he quotes as follows:
- Where outdoor access is provided, the following requirements apply:
 - Develop and implement a protocol to protect pigs from parasites and predators when on pasture, and
 - Pigs must be protected from predators on pasture, ideally by methods that do not cause death to the predator (e.g. use of guardian animals and/or electric fencing).
42. Mr. O'Dell further referenced the "BC Small Lot Pork Producer: Management and Production. v. 2020-06-01" as follows:
- Appropriate fencing is of paramount importance when raising pigs. Fencing provides a barrier to keep pigs within a defined area, while also keeping predators or unwanted visitors out, and
 - A protocol must be developed and implemented that protects pigs from parasites and predators.
43. Mr. O'Dell contacted other small pig producers on Vancouver Island on the use of ABSD's. He noted in the KP Report as follows:
- I spoke with several other current and former pig producers on Vancouver Island (from Courtenay, Merville, Sayward and Black Creek). Four of the five producers had not heard of ABSD's being used for deterring predation on pigs; only one had issues with ravens. Two out of the three who raised their pigs outdoors employed guardian dogs (Great Pyrenees) and had virtually no predation. With one exception, those who raised pigs from birth kept the piglets confined for several weeks after birth under cover.
 - One producer, a neighbor of Mr. Ralph, took Mr. Ralph's suggestion to use ABSD's. He stated that he had substantial losses from ravens and found a propane cannon to be an effective deterrent. His practice is to run the cannon from sunrise to 4pm

(when the ravens are gone) at 45-minute intervals for the first four weeks after birth. He combines this with discharging a shotgun with handicapped target loads at irregular intervals when ravens are present.

44. Mr. O'Dell summarized his findings and recommendations in the KP Report as follows:
1. Better housing and fencing to keep pigs in and predators out.
 - Fencing should consist of hog panels or page wire with top and bottom boards with a height of five feet and buried at least 1½ feet. Double fencing is recommended as a back-up and to prevent nose to nose contact with wildlife. Avoid only electric fencing.
 - Adequate shelter is important protection for pigs, especially piglets, from the elements and predators.
 - The National Farm Animal Care Council Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs states (p. 10):

“Housing systems and their components must be designed, constructed and regularly inspected and maintained in a manner that reduces the potential for injury, provides suitable ... fresh air, and clean conditions, and allows for inspection of all pigs.”
 2. Isolating sows prior to farrowing through weaning to keep them from giving birth in the forest and to protect piglets from predators.
 3. Employing livestock guardian dogs to discourage predators.
 4. If employing ABSD's follow standard practices:
 - Implement a wildlife management plan.
 - Limit use of ABSD's to daytime hours and only when a problem is evident.
 - Use a variety of scare methods. Visual scare devices include, but are not limited to, mylar strips or flash tape, inflated owls and other fake predators, scarecrows, etc.
 - Keep a log of the time of day, duration and interval of use of ABSD's.
 5. The quieter propane cannon is preferable for reducing impacts to neighbors.
45. In cross examination, Mr. O'Dell stated that there are only two farmers that he is aware of that use propane cannons to prevent raven predation of piglets, one being the Respondent and the second being the neighbour noted in the KP Report.
46. Mr. O'Dell confirmed that at the time of his visit to the farm the Respondent was using two different propane cannons. Mr. O'Dell confirmed that he was not aware that the dogs that he observed at the Respondent's property were in fact guardian dogs as they were not presented to him by the Respondent as such. He stated that many different dog breeds can be trained to act as guardian dogs.
47. In response to questions from the Panel, Mr. O'Dell stated that he did not believe that the fencing or confinement on the property was adequate, as he had witnessed piglets exiting the fenced area.

48. Mr. O'Dell stated that newborn piglets should be confined and protected from predators for between 10 to 12 weeks after birth. Mr. O'Dell described adequate shelter for the pigs as being similar to that illustrated in the "*BC Small Lot Pork Producer*" document that was outlined in the KP report. Mr. O'Dell confirmed that the housing for the pigs at the Respondent's property did not meet that standard.
49. Mr. O'Dell confirmed the presence of netting at the Respondent's farm property, and that netting could be effective as a deterrent for ravens, if used in combination with other tools. Mr. O'Dell also confirmed that ravens are a recognized predator of livestock.
50. Mr. O'Dell confirmed that he had no knowledge of the number of piglets lost by the Respondent to predation or where those piglets may have been lost.

G. ANALYSIS

51. This complaint was filed pursuant to section 3(1) of the FPPA which reads as follows:
 - 3(1) If a person is aggrieved by any odour, noise, dust or other disturbance resulting from a farm operation conducted as part of a farm business, the person may apply in writing to the board for a determination as to whether the odour, noise, dust or other disturbance results from a normal farm practice.
52. Normal farm practice is defined in Section 1 of the FPPA as follows:

Normal farm practice means a practice that is conducted by farm business in a manner consistent with:

 - a) proper and accepted customs and standards as established and followed by similar farm businesses under similar circumstances, and
 - b) any standards prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and includes a practice that makes use of innovative technology in a manner consistent with proper advanced farm management practices and with any standards prescribed under paragraph (a).
53. When a person files a complaint under the FPPA, section 3 requires the Complainant to demonstrate both that he is aggrieved by the complained of disturbance (which arises out of a farm operation, carried on by a farm business) and that the complained of practice is inconsistent with 'normal farm practice' (proper and accepted customs and standards as established and followed by similar farms in similar circumstances).
54. If, after a hearing, the Panel is of the opinion that the odour, noise, dust or other disturbance results from a normal farm practice, the complaint is dismissed. If the disturbance results from a practice that is not a normal farm practice, BCFIRB may order the farmer to cease or modify the practice.

Is the Complainant aggrieved by the noise disturbance from the Respondent's farm?

55. The Complainant provided compelling evidence of the noise disturbances caused by the Respondent's propane cannons, including several logs of the cannon blasts and video recordings of blast occurrences. The Panel finds the Complainant has met the evidentiary burden of demonstrating that he is aggrieved by a disturbance resulting from a farm operation carried out by a farm business. In this case, the disturbance is the noise generated by the Respondent's propane cannons, and in particular, the frequent and constant use of the cannons.
56. The Respondent stated several times during his evidence that despite the effectiveness of the cannons, he would be investigating ways to reduce the frequency and use of the cannons, so as not to further impact his neighbours. The Respondent's evidence as to the effectiveness of the cannons is not a consideration for the Panel with respect to whether the Complainant is aggrieved in the first instance, and the Respondent's acknowledgement that his cannons are impacting his neighbours (while laudable) supports the finding that the Complainant is an aggrieved party under the FPPA.

Is the Respondent's use of the propane cannon consistent with 'normal farm practice'?

57. To determine whether a complained of practice falls within the definition of 'normal farm practice', the Panel must determine whether the practice is "consistent with proper and accepted customs and standards as established and followed by similar farm businesses under similar circumstances."
58. This determination requires a consideration of general industry practices, together with the specific contextual circumstances of the Respondent's farm in relation to properties around it. The analysis may involve asking what, if any, reasonable steps the Respondent should take to mitigate disturbances resulting from the farm operations – sometimes called the "good neighbour principle": see *Harrison v. Mykalb*, (January 30, 2013), *Ollenberger v. Breukelman* (November 18, 2005), and *Eason v. Outlander Poultry Farms Ltd.* (March 10, 2000).
59. The normal farm practice test was discussed in detail in *Swart v. Holt*, January 12, 2016, at para. 89 to 96. We adopt those paragraphs in their entirety, and we quote from paragraphs 96 and 97 of that decision:
 96. It is important that the test for normal farm practice be clearly stated. It is pivotal to the operation of the *FPPA*. BCFIRB has been given primary responsibility to interpret this highly specialized and ambiguous term.
 97. BCFIRB is entitled to adopt any reasonable construction that it considers best achieves the objects of the *FPPA*. In our view, and to address any confusion that may arise from the Holt Court Decision on this issue, we find that the principles set out in *Pyke* as adopted in BCFIRB decisions, are the principles that best achieve the objects of the *FPPA*. Only a fully contextual approach can meaningfully account for

the words “proper” and “similar circumstances” in their context, and achieve the balancing of interests that is inherent in the very creation of a complaints structure. This also means, as set out by the BC Supreme Court in *Ollenberger* that this panel will consider if on application of the “good neighbour principle”, it is required to go beyond accepted farm practices to order a farm to do something more in order for its practices to be consistent with normal farm practice. That is the approach we have applied to this case.

60. The KP Report states that there are several related factors that need to be considered and integrated to achieve an effective wildlife management plan to reduce the threat of predators (including ravens or eagles) on a pastured pig farm. It is clear from the evidence that the Respondent does not have an effective wildlife management plan. An effective wildlife management plan would ensure that steps are taken to separate the animals, reduce attractants for wildlife and undertake various other steps to mitigate the predation of the pigs. This wildlife management plan would include the use of several methods to scare predators, including visual scare devices, trained livestock guardian dogs, and potentially the limited use of propane canons.
61. The Panel finds that there is inadequate housing and fencing to contain and protect piglets and young pigs from the threat of predation. This finding is supported by the Respondent’s own testimony and in particular his admission that he has new posts and gates on the farm and that work needs to be completed on fencing the farm immediately. The Respondent testified that he has attempted to construct housing for the farrowing of the pigs, but that it has been destroyed by the pigs, and was insufficient to contain a harrowing pig in any event.
62. The Panel finds that the Respondent’s practice of scattering food waste in the pig pens, and the lack of proper containers for feeding, invariably increases the risk of attracting predatory ravens.
63. The Panel finds that the use of propane canons to mitigate bird predation can represent a normal farm practice when they are used as part of an effective wildlife management plan. That wildlife management plan would include efforts to reduce the direct interaction of the predator and livestock and efforts to reduce any additional predator attractants. The cannons would also be implemented on a limited basis as part of a varied and integrated suite of ABSD’s. Propane canons should only be used sparingly, given the likely disturbance to neighbours, and considering the “good neighbour principle”.
64. The Panel finds the Respondent has not taken adequate steps to prevent predation of his livestock and that his methods are inconsistent with proper and accepted customs and standards as established and followed by similar farm businesses under similar circumstances. As such, the Respondent’s use of propane cannons is not a normal farm practice.

Are there measures that the Respondent can take to bring his operation back within normal farm practice?

65. As noted above, the use of a propane cannon to mitigate bird predation can be consistent with normal farm practice if it is integrated as part of an effective wildlife management plan. For the Respondent to bring his use of the propane canon within the bounds of normal farm practice the following measures would need to be taken:
1. The completion of fencing, gates and pens with housing similar to that described in the KP Report;
 2. The proper storage and distribution of food in areas that can be adequately separated from ravens and other predatory birds;
 3. The development of a varied and adaptable system of predator deterrents that does not rely solely on propane canons;
 4. If cannons are used, the use can only occur on a minimal basis that ensures the least noise impact to neighbouring properties as follows:
 - The cannon(s) can only be used when there is a threat to piglets,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used with 10 minute or more intervals,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used from dusk to dawn on any given day,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used when ravens are observed on the property,
 - The cannon(s) will be positioned to minimize the noise impact to neighboring properties, and
 - The respondent will keep a record (log) of the use of the cannons, and the steps that were taken prior to the use of the cannons to prevent bird predation.

H. ORDER

66. The Respondent will immediately cease his use of propane cannons at his property.
67. The Respondent will be at liberty to recommence his use of propane cannons at his property if within 120 calendar days of the date of this order he provides the Panel with a report from an Agrologist which confirms the following:
- The completion of fencing, gates and housing similar in construction to the design in the KP Report at the Respondent's property;
 - The completion of feeding containers and food storage containers that will effectively reduce potential bird attractants;
 - The completion and implementation of a wildlife management plan that includes various predator mitigation methods and ABSD's.

68. If the Respondent complies with the requirements set out at paragraph (67) above, he is then able to recommence the use of his propane canons at his property, as long as the following conditions are met:

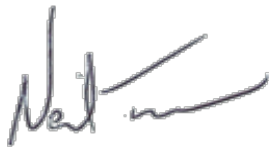
- The cannon(s) can only be used with 10 minute or more intervals,
- The cannon(s) can only be used from dusk to dawn on any given day,
- The cannon(s) can only be used when it is observed that there are bird predators and piglets less than 12 weeks old present on the property,
- The cannon(s) will be positioned in a manner to minimize the noise impact to neighbouring properties, and
- The Respondent will keep a record (log) of the use of the cannon(s), and the steps that were taken prior to the use of the cannon(s) to mitigate bird predation.

69. There is no order as to costs.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia, this 11th day of August, 2025.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD

Per:



Neil Turner, Vice Chair & Presiding Member



Pawan Joshi, Member



Jane Pritchard, Member

CORRIGENDUM

Released: August 12, 2025

This is a corrigendum to the Panel's Decision issued August 11, 2025 for the third bullet point under paragraph 65(4) and the second bullet point under paragraph 68. These paragraphs should have read 'The cannon(s) can only be used from **dawn to dusk** on any given day.' See below for the change to the Decision:

- 65.(4) If cannons are used, the use can only occur on a minimal basis that ensures the least noise impact to neighbouring properties as follows:
- The cannon(s) can only be used when there is a threat to piglets,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used with 10 minute or more intervals,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used from **dawn to dusk** on any given day,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used when ravens are observed on the property,
 - The cannon(s) will be positioned to minimize the noise impact to neighboring properties, and
 - The respondent will keep a record (log) of the use of the cannons, and the steps that were taken prior to the use of the cannons to prevent bird predation.
68. If the Respondent complies with the requirements set out at paragraph (67) above, he is then able to recommence the use of his propane canons at his property, as long as the following conditions are met:
- The cannon(s) can only be used with 10 minute or more intervals,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used from **dawn to dusk** on any given day,
 - The cannon(s) can only be used when it is observed that there are bird predators and piglets less than 12 weeks old present on the property,
 - The cannon(s) will be positioned in a manner to minimize the noise impact to neighbouring properties, and
 - The Respondent will keep a record (log) of the use of the cannon(s), and the steps that were taken prior to the use of the cannon(s) to mitigate bird predation.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FARM INDUSTRY REVIEW BOARD

Per:



Neil Turner, Vice Chair & Presiding Member