

March
2008

Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Annual General Meeting

On the evening of March 19 the Commission Annual General Meeting was held at the Delta Town & Country Inn.

The Audited 2008 Financial Statement was presented and approved.

The General Manager reported on 2007 activity and the Commission Market Analyst provided both historical and looking forward information for regulated vegetables.

The convened producers and

guests were able to receive first hand information from guest speaker Steve Thomson of the BC Agricultural Council regarding the recently announced BCMAL Agriculture Plan.

The promotion initiatives contained in the Agriculture Plan could serve as a means for increasing the demand for BC vegetables in the Provincial market place by using key messages such as "fresh", "local" and "sustainable".

DISTRICT II & III STORAGE CROP COMMISSIONER

Call for Nominations

With the completion of the Commission election the District II & III Storage Crop position was not filled because a nomination was not received.

FIRB, the supervisory body, was informed of the situation and in its reply the options available to the Commission were explained. The limited options when a vacancy occurs conform to what is provided in the Natural Products Marketing Act Regulation.

The Commission addressed the available options during its March 19 regular Commission meeting and decided that it would proceed with a call for nominations rather than leave the position vacant.

District II & III commercial storage crop producers should expect to receive information from the Commission, including a nomination form. No different to the normal election process Producers will be able to nominate an eligible commercial storage crop Producer. The Commission will provide a 30-day period of time for receiving nominations. In the event that more than one nomination is received an election will be held.

Producer
Licensing and
Reporting
Delivery
Allocation

Call for written
submissions

2008 Cole Crop
Contracts

PRODUCER LICENSING and DELIVERY ALLOCATION

Storage and Processing Crop Producers can expect to receive information in the mail regarding annual license renewal. The annual licensing period is May 15, 2008 to May 14, 2009.

The annual license fee is \$50.00. With 5% GST the total cost is \$52.50. In order to avoid licensing at a higher class that has a higher annual license fee of

\$100.00, producers should ensure they return their form accompanied by payment well prior to May 14.

Storage crop Producers can expect to receive information from the Commission regarding 2008-2009 crop year Delivery Allocation. Anyone with questions should contact Dianne Driessen at the Commission office.

REGULATION OF SAVOY AND TAIWANESE CABBAGE

Following wide notification an information meeting regarding the regulation of Savoy and Taiwanese cabbage was held at the Delta Town & Country Inn on March 20th. In keeping with the General Order this meeting was held because the Commission received an expression of interest for adding these crops to those now regulated.

With the information meeting completed the Commission is now soliciting written submissions from interested parties. The submissions should clearly state a position and provide information supporting it.

During its next regular meeting scheduled to be held April 22 the Commission will address the question of whether or not to add the two crops to those now regulated.

If you are interested in providing written comments to the Commission please do so by no later than April 17. This can be done via email to (tom@bcveg.com), by mail or by fax to (604) 542-9735.

COLE CROP CONTRACTS

Following the completion of negotiations all vegetables for processing contracts are to be ratified by the Commission.

During the March 19th regular Commission meeting the 2008 Cole

Crop contracts were ratified.

Cole Crop Producers can expect Processors to begin contacting them regarding the production of cole crops for processing during the 2008 season.