

## Code of Conduct

The Commission is responsible “to promote, control and regulate in any respect the production, transportation, packing, storage and marketing of a regulated product” as set forth in the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act and the British Columbia Vegetable Scheme.

A Commissioner owes a duty to act in the best interest of the Commission’s legislated regulatory responsibilities. The Chair and other members of the Commission acknowledge and accept the scope and extent of our duties as directors. We have a responsibility to carry out our duties in an honest, fair, diligent, ethical and professional manner, and within the scope of our authority. As members we must act within the bounds of the authority conferred upon us and with the duty to make and enact informed orders, decisions, and policies in the best interests of the BC Vegetable Industry on behalf of all producers and in the public interest.

The Commission has adopted the following Code of Conduct and our members are expected to adhere to the standards that follow:

Commission members will:

1. Act in the best interests of the vegetable industry;
2. Act honestly, fairly, diligently, ethically and with integrity;
3. Conduct themselves in a professional, courteous and respectful manner;
4. Comply with all applicable laws, orders, rules and regulations;
5. Act in good faith, responsibly, with due care, competence and diligence, without allowing their independent judgment to be subordinated;
6. Contribute to discussions and decision-making in a positive and constructive manner. The Commission encourages constructive debate with differing points of view.
7. Act in a manner to enhance and maintain the reputation of the Commission;
8. Use your best efforts to provide progressive, collective leadership and direction to the Commission in support of its vision, mission and mandate.
9. Comply with the **Conflict of Interest Rules** and disclose potential conflicts of interest that they may have regarding any matters that may come before the Commission, and abstain and recuse themselves from discussion and voting on any matter in which the member has or may have a conflict of interest;
10. In the event a Commissioner is an appellate, or intends to become an appellate, of a Commission decision he shall disclose that information at the earliest opportunity and not participate in any further relevant Commission discussions until the matter is completed.

11. Make available to and share with fellow members information as may be appropriate to ensure proper conduct and sound operation of the Commission;
12. Regardless of their personal viewpoint, Commissioners shall not speak against, or in any way undermine Commission solidarity once a Commission decision has been made.
13. Respect the confidentiality of information relating to the affairs of the Commission acquired in the course of their service as members, and refrain from disclosing such confidential information, including the content of discussions and any decisions, resolutions, recommendations or directives made or given at Commission meetings, or any confidential communications between the Commission and its members or between some or all of the members in relation to the affairs of the Commission, except when authorized or legally required to disclose such information;
14. Not use confidential information acquired in the course of their service as members for their personal advantage.
15. Commissioners shall be prepared to commit sufficient time and energy to fulfill the duties of a commissioner and attend to Commission business.
16. Commissioners shall adhere to the principle that the General Manager is responsible to all Commissioners collectively and, consequently, that no single Commissioner has authority over the General Manager.
17. Without restricting normal communications, Commissioners shall adhere to the principle that the Chair is the communications link between the Commission and the General Manager.
18. Commissioners shall ensure that there is a current Position Description and annual work plan for the General Manager and that there is a process for his/her annual evaluation.
19. Commissioners shall not attempt to exercise individual authority or undue influence over the Commission.
20. The official spokespersons for the Commission are the Chair and the General Manager and consequently, all public requests for comment on Commission policies shall be referred to them.
21. The Chair may make public statements on policy matters that are within the scope of a policy approved by the Commission, or a reasonable extension of a policy.

A member who has concerns regarding compliance with this Code should raise those concerns with the General Manager of the Commission, who will determine what action shall be taken to deal with the concern.

**CONFIRMATION**

- (a) I agree that failure to abide by the guidelines set down in this Code shall be cause for my termination as a director of the marketing board.
- (b) I have read the code of conduct (the "Code") and confirm that:
- (c) I have complied with, and will continue to comply with, all provisions of the Code;
- (d) I am not aware of any violations of the Code by any other person (including the marketing board); and
- (e) I will provide the Chair of the BCVMC with prompt written disclosure of all matters which appear to constitute violations of the Code.

**DATE:**

**NAME OF MEMBER:**

**SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:**

X

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