

WINTER
2023

THE COMMISSION REPORT

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Quarterly Newsletter

<https://www.bcveg.com>

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE BCVMC!

WARM GREETINGS AS WE CELEBRATE THE GIFTS OF FAMILY, GOOD

FRIENDS, HEALTHY FOOD AND HOLIDAY CHEER!

BCVMC 2023 Holiday Hours

Friday, December 22nd: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Monday, December 25th (Christmas Day): Closed

Tuesday, December 26th: Closed

Friday, December 29th: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Monday, Jan. 1st, 2024 (New Year's Day): Closed

MESSAGE FROM ANDRE SOLYMOSI, GM BCVMC

On December 7th we circulated a message from our Chair, Derek Sturko, informing you of several key activities that the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (Commission) has worked on over this past year, and notifying you of an updated Commission General Orders. A copy of this message has been posted on our webpage under 'News and Notices'.

Coming into effect on January 1, 2024, the Commission Consolidated General Orders of March 16, 2005 (as amended) is repealed, in its entirety, and replaced with the British Columbia Vegetable Marketing Commission General Orders of January 1, 2024. In addition, the Interim Order to Preserve the Orderly Marketing of Storage Crops Pending Further Review made by the Commission on November 18, 2019 is repealed.

A copy of the Commission's new General Orders, the Repealing Order, and the Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual that will come into force on January 1, 2024 are posted on our website at the following link: <https://www.bcveg.com/regulatory-bulletins.html>. If you have any questions, please direct inquires to the Commission office.

Recent News Releases: <https://www.bcveg.com/news-and-notice.html>

2023-12-15 - BCVMC 2023 Industry Survey Report

2023-12-07 - Commission Chair Message to Industry

2023-11-06 - Decision on Red Sun Farms Agency Application

KEY DATES

December 15, 2023

- 2023 Industry Survey Report posted to website under 'News and Notices'

January 1, 2024

- New BCVMC General Orders come into effect in addition to the Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual.

January 8th to 26th

- Meetings held with Agency management to review the Agency Accountability Framework and rules.

January 22nd

- Notification of the 2024 Commission election of two Producer members and election schedule is issued to all licensed Producers and Agencies.

February 5th

- Election nomination forms are electronically sent to all Producers.

March 1st

- Annual Licence renewal of Agency, Wholesaler, Processor and Commission Salesperson.



• **2024 COMMISSION ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS**

One (1) independent member position is up for appointment in 2024 and two producer member positions (one (1) Storage Crop category and one (1) Greenhouse category) are up for election in 2024. Member terms are for three (3) years and commence on May 1st, 2024. Notices on both the election and appointment process will be distributed to stakeholders in January. We encourage Producers to let their name stand for nomination and take the opportunity to get involved as a member of the Commission. In the New Year we will continue to work towards ensuring regulations are responsive to the needs of the industry, clear and concise, and enhance the administrative efficiency of the Commission. Please reach out to a Commissioner if you have any questions and would like to discuss these opportunities.

• **BCVMC Staff Changes**

In October, Aanchal Sandhu left the BCVMC to return to India to be closer to her family. Debbie Oyebanji (nee Oyenuga) has rejoined our team following the completion of her maternity leave. We are very excited to have Debbie join us again in the role of Regulation and Data Management.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Keep those spuds clean!

Here is the clip from the BCVMC minutes dated November 4th, 1940:

Mr. Nicols reported on complaints received from Housewives, particularly when new potatoes were being marketed, that the potatoes were dirty having soil adhering to them. He remarked that potatoes being marketed in this condition caused a consumers resistance, and was not good business.

P.S. – Reminds me of my military days on K.P. (Kitchen Patrol) when the Mess Sergeant would yell at us to “scrub those spuds!”



DID YOU KNOW...

A Greenhouse is defined as “an enclosed structure where Regulated Product is grown.”

This means that any structure, no matter how it is constructed, as long as it is “enclosed” is a Greenhouse. This is to ensure that the new developing technology of “Vertical Farming” and similar developing technologies are regulated to not cause market disruption to current production using traditional Greenhouses. This includes any area producing Regulated Product in a container or warehouse using these new technologies.

WHO WE ARE:

The BCVMC is a Public Sector Organization (PSO) charged by the BC Government to administer and ensure compliance with the provisions of the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act (NPMA) as it relates to regulated vegetables.

