

Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION FOR MEETING

Ref: 190241

Date: May 9, 2019

Title: Joint Minister meeting with Ministers' Donaldson, Fraser and Heyman to discuss the following topics; Forage, Wildlife, UNDRIP.

Issue: Forage, Wildlife, UNDRIP

Background:

Forage production is the largest agricultural land use in the province. In 2016, over 75% of all farmland in B.C. was devoted to forage production, including natural land for pasture; tame or seeded pasture; hay crops; corn silage; and there are areas devoted to growing forage for seed. Therefore, forage production has significant impacts on the economies of many rural communities and has an important role in environmental protection and climate change adaptation. Forage is essential to the B.C. beef, sheep, horse and dairy sectors. In particular, B.C. beef and sheep producers depend on forage produced on a mix of both private and Crown land at the individual enterprise level. As a reflection of these integrated business models, the project was envisioned to be developed in two Phases: 1) private agricultural land and 2) Crown Range and Crown ALR.

Phase 1 (completed May 2018) involved an environmental scan, seven regional sessions and one provincial engagement session, a provincial online survey of stakeholders, and one on one interviews with AGRI staff, identified subject matter specialists, researchers, stakeholder organizations and producers.

A backgrounder and environmental scan subsequently informed the development of the Phase 1 component of the draft Plan. The Phase 1 Plan identifies some key focus areas for the Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI):

- Research and knowledge transfer
- Wildlife and invasive plants, pests and disease
- Climate, weather and water
- Land use, availability and affordability:
- Transportation and market access

Regional priorities were reflected in the aforementioned list, but many were weighted differently depending on the specific region.

Phase 2 was planned at the outset, as a full partnership with FLNR (holds Crown land management mandate). It supports the shared responsibility of AGRI and FLNR to encourage a vigorous, efficient and world competitive ranching sector. Phase 2 has not been started.

First Nations Considerations:

Implementation of Phase 2 will require an engagement strategy in partnership with FLNR that solicits input from First Nations on impacts of potential forage initiatives on Crown range and Crown ALR on rights & title on traditional territories.

Discussion:

The key focus areas identified above for Phase 1 were grouped into near term (0-2 years) and longer term opportunities. The following are the suggested actions that could be supported or implemented by AGRI in the near term:

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Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 190296

Date: May 24, 2019

Title: Progress Report on Feed BC: Increasing BC Food in Government Facilities

Issue: Feed BC in Healthcare status update and next steps

Background: Ministry of Agriculture staff are working with government and industry partners to advance the Minister's mandate for Feed BC: increase the use of BC-grown and processed foods in schools, hospitals and other government facilities. Increasing the use of BC food requires innovative support to producers and processors and a system change in food procurement by government facilities and in industry along the value chain.

Feed BC is focused on strategies that encourage, inspire and support a shift to more BC food by:

- Building capacity of producers, processors and distributors to increase supply and availability
- Shifting procurement priorities and practices within government facilities
- Tracking and reporting on success

Feed BC in Healthcare

In October 2018, Minister Popham and the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reconfirmed direction and support for Feed BC in BC's health authorities and an early initiative to reach a 30 percent aspirational target for BC food with Interior Health.

In January 2019, the Ministry of Health issued a policy communique directing health authorities to report on their purchase of BC food and, without violating trade agreements, to seek opportunities with group purchasing organizations, broadline distributors, and contracted food service companies to procure more BC-grown and processed foods.

Discussion: As previously reported to the Minister, there has been significant progress across all Ministry of Agriculture Feed BC streams and future briefings will focus on results in these streams. The following is a status update on Feed BC within the healthcare stream only.

Feed BC within Canada

Feed BC's unique approach to food producers/processors, distributors/purchases and government facilities is of key interest to other Canadian jurisdictions. Addressing gaps across the system is seen as critical to effecting a change to local food. The significant collaboration between the ministries of Agriculture and Health in advancing Feed BC in healthcare, and the whole-value-chain approach has enabled collective understanding, relationships and impact, and resonates across jurisdictions. In May 2019, Agriculture and Health Feed BC staff were invited to present at the Nourish Symposium for the Future of Food in Healthcare in Toronto. Feed BC was repeatedly recognized by organizers for its unique and comprehensive approach. Management from a major Montreal hospital will be introducing Feed BC's Agriculture-Health collaborative approach to the Quebec Minister of Agriculture next week.

Update on Interior Health Initiative

Further to the March 3, 2019, formal launch of Feed BC with Interior Health (IHA) and ongoing project support (facilitators, promotional materials and food service staff support and training), IHA successfully switched to BC-raised shelled eggs (6,000 per year) and BC-processed ground beef (45,000 lbs per year). IHA is currently exploring local frozen vegetables and hospital-ready muffins. One of IHA's produce suppliers, S&G Farms in Oliver, has expanded tomato and pepper crops to double supply to IHA.

The IHA project will run until December 31, 2019 and the lessons learned will inform the Feed BC rollout to other BC health authorities.

Onboarding New Health Authorities

In 2019, Feed BC in healthcare will expand to projects with Northern Health (NHA) and Fraser Health (FHA). FHA will be the first health authority under BC to use some contracted foodservices (Compass and Sodexo). The learnings from implementing Feed BC in this environment will support work with the remaining health authorities and Feed BC in post-secondary institutions.

Health Authority Contracts

Other Canadian jurisdictions have demonstrated that food service contracts present a significant opportunity for local food procurement. Several BC health authority food service contracts will expire over the next one to three years, offering an important opportunity to build Feed BC into the contract processes. Some existing contracts have provisions for BC foods (e.g., targets in Vancouver Coastal Health/Providence Health Care via Sodexo). Staff will explore opportunities to encourage BC food procurement language and tracking as contracts come up for renewal.

Traditional Foods

Staff are exploring how traditional foods might fit within Feed BC. Several BC healthcare facilities have facility-specific programs to serve traditional foods to Indigenous patients (fish, wild meats and berries), most notably in Haida Gwaii. Provincial food safety regulations were identified as a key barrier to serving these foods in institutions. The BC Centre for Disease Control, First Nations Health Authority and the Ministry of Health are working towards potential new guidelines with indigenous community members and broadening the scope to traditional foods in other government facilities (childcare, schools, hospitals/long term care). The Ministry of Agriculture is participating in discussions to explore how traditional foods align with the Ministry of Agriculture mandate and Feed BC.

Next Steps for Feed BC in Healthcare and Beyond

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Contact: Kristina Bouris, Senior Policy Analyst, 778-974-3488

ED DT ADM JM DM WS

Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR DEPUTY MINISTER FOR INFORMATION FOR MEETING EU
AMBASSADOR

Ref: 190297

Date: May 23, 2019

Title: Introductory meeting with European Union Ambassador

Issue: Meeting to discuss the province's trade policy priorities.

Background: His Excellency, the Honourable Ambassador Peteris Ustubs from the European Union (EU) has requested an introductory meeting with the Deputy Minister of Agriculture to discuss B.C.'s trade policy priorities, including the uptake of recent trade agreements (Canadian-European Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), the Comprehensive and Progressive Transpacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA)).

In 2017, the Ambassador began his four-year term of Ambassador to Canada with the mandate to advance the implementation of the CETA and the Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement¹ and forge closer ties with his Canadian counterparts (see Appendix A: Ambassador Ustubs and the list of EU countries). The CETA, the comprehensive trade agreement between Canada and EU member states, provisionally came into force in the fall of 2017. The agreement grants Canadian companies duty-free access to 98% of EU tariff lines, including in the areas of agriculture and seafood. On the whole, the outcomes of CETA one year in have been positive. Canada posted that from Q4 2017 to Q2 in 2018 two-way goods and services trade between Canada and the European Union totaled \$110.6 billion, a 6.1% increase over the equivalent pre-CETA period.

In addition to implementing CETA in 2017, in December 2018 the CPTPP came in force for the first six ratifying countries, of which Canada was included. The CUSMA agreement was also signed in 2018, but it is not yet ratified, and until it is, NAFTA remains in effect.

The EU is an important market for B.C.'s agrifood sectors. From a trade balance perspective, in 2017, B.C. exported \$88 million of agrifood and seafood products to the EU² approximately 2% share of total exports, and imported \$561 million. Top B.C. exports to EU countries included: food preparations for manufacturing & natural health products; hake; wild chum salmon; cherries; and, mushrooms. In 2017, B.C. imported \$561 million of agrifood and seafood products, top products included: wine; spirits; beer; waters; and, olive oil. See Appendix B for an EU country breakdown of exports.

Discussion:

B.C. Trade Policy: The Ministry's service plan contains a number of goals related to increasing exports and opening new and maintaining existing markets. Support for B.C. companies exporting to all of Europe is also provided by the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology (JTT) through British Columbia's Trade and Investment Representative Office in London, and export guides to Germany and Spain have been developed.

From a provincial agriculture, food processing and seafood perspective the EU trading bloc is not considered a priority growth market, however, it is still an important trading relationship. Meetings such as this one are an opportunity to express appreciation and extend a desire to collaborate.

¹ The Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) is a framework for cooperation. It lays out a strategic direction for stronger future relations and collaboration between Canada, the EU, and its member states at both the bilateral and multilateral level. The SPA will improve cooperation in important areas such as energy, environment and climate change, migration and peaceful pluralism, counter-terrorism and international peace and security, and effective multilateralism.

² For context, in 2017, B.C. exported a total of \$3.9 billion worth of agrifood and seafood products to 157 markets.

Suggested Response B.C. Trade Policy:
s.13,s.16

CETA/CPTPP/CUSMA Uptake: B.C. continues to work on promoting free trade agreements, including CETA. Generally there has been some concern that Canadian companies are not taking advantage of the agreement to the same extent as their European counterparts. Federal information was not available in time for this meeting.

Ministry staff are engaged with JTT on their Free Trade Agreement Promotion Roadshow throughout B.C. The focus of the roadshow is to engage with small-to-medium size companies that are not yet exporting but would like to export, and exposing them to the opportunities available through our various trade agreements and government support programs. While much of the focus will be on the CPTPP, the CETA opportunities will also be highlighted.

The replacement to NAFTA has yet to be ratified; Canada refers to the agreement as the “Canada-US-Mexico Agreement” or CUSMA. The USA is B.C.’s top priority market due to its proximity and similar consumer base. CUSMA is generally regarded as a positive agreement for the agriculture and agrifood sector. It is possible that the Ambassador will ask about Canada’s supply management system and the impacts that CUSMA will have on the dairy sector. Canada is the lead on that work, and B.C. is confident that Canada’s work will honor the terms of the agreement.

Suggested Response CETA/CPTPP/CUSMA Uptake:
s.13,s.16

Wine - B.C.'s wine policies remain a concern for the EU. In 2018, B.C. was involved in two separate World Trade Organization (WTO) trade disputes with the US and Australia. B.C. was able to resolve the dispute with the U.S. through a side-letter in the CUSMA agreement, which agreed to change measures relating to the sale of wine in grocery stores to meet international trade obligations by November 1, 2019. This resolution was offered to Australia as well; resulting in the extraction of B.C. from the dispute resolution process (other provinces remain).

Despite the foreseeable resolution of B.C.'s wine in grocery store policies, the EU has mentioned to Canada its interest in discussing other wine policies of concern to them through the CETA Committee on Alcoholic Beverages. EU wine concerns typically are quite comprehensive and include mark-ups, farmers markets, wholesale pricing, and B.C. wine stores, among other things. The next meeting of the CETA Committee on Alcoholic Beverages is this July.

Suggested Response Wine:
s.13,s.16

COOL: It is possible the Ambassador will raise country of origin labelling (COOL) requirements for pasta products, which are an irritant for Canadian grain farmers. This coupled with anti-import campaigns organization by one of Italy's farm organizations (Coldiretti) it is thought to be the reason for significantly reduced Canadian durum wheat exports to Italy in 2018 (80% less durum wheat exports from Canada to Italy year-over-year and in 2017, B.C. exported approximately \$106, 000 of wheat to Italy, down from \$210, 000 the previous year.). Emilia Romagna officials are aware of the situation and are sympathetic to the impact the misinformation campaign has had on Canadian exports of durum. Note that on June 5th B.C. a second meeting is scheduled with Honourable Simona Caselli, Minister of Agriculture and Trade for the Italian region of Emilia-Romagna (see CLIFF 190171 for more information).

B.C. supports the Government of Canada comments on COOL labelling which have focused on the view that origin labeling should be left to the company to voluntarily decide and that EU rules on origin labelling should not provide for the allowance and/or coexistence with mandatory country of origin labelling approaches and schemes adopted by individual EU Member States. Any discussion about the anti-import campaign or COOL regulations would be an opportunity to confer Canada's commitments on science-based rules to trade and the view that COOL labeling requirements should be voluntary.

Suggested Response COOL:
s.13,s.16

Contact: Anna North, Manager, Intergovernmental Relations and Trade, 778-698-7941

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Appendix A: Ambassador Ustubs

Ambassador Ustubs arrived in Canada after serving as Americas Senior Advisor to Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission. He was also European External Action Service (EEAS) Director for West and Central Africa and Senior Coordinator for the Sahel. Prior to that, he served as Deputy Head of Cabinet of Andris Piebalgs, former European Commissioner for Development. Ambassador Ustubs also held senior positions with the Latvian government, including Under-Secretary of State and Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister.

Ambassador Ustubs is fluent in English, French, Latvian and Russian. He has received state decorations from Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Latvia.

Established in 1976, the European Union Delegation to Canada is a fully-fledged diplomatic mission and, as such, the natural contact point in Canada between the EU and the Canadian authorities. It also has a strong public diplomacy mandate designed to enhance the knowledge and understanding of the European Union as well as EU-Canada relations.

List of EU Member States

The EU is a political and economic union, consisting of 28 member states that are subject to the obligations and the privileges of the membership. Every member state is part of the founding treaties of the union and is subjected to binding laws within the common legislative and judicial institutions. In order for the EU to adopt policies that concern defence and foreign affairs, all member states must agree unanimously.

Member states include:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom*

Appendix B – 2017 EU Top Five Countries B.C. agrifood export

1. United Kingdom

- 10th overall, representing 0.5% share of total B.C. exports
- \$21.5 million in food preparations for manufacturing & natural health products, sablefish and coffee & tea

2. Netherlands

- 13th overall in total B.C. exports
- \$11.4 million in food preparations for manufacturing and natural health products, cherries, mushrooms, hake, and salmon

3. France

- 15th overall in total B.C. exports
- \$9 million in salmon, mushrooms, and rape/colza seeds

4. Italy

- 21st overall in total B.C. exports
- \$6.6 million in salmon, seaweed and cranberry juice

5. Lithuania

- 22nd overall in total B.C. exports
- \$5 million in hake and salmon).

Ministry of Agriculture
INFORMATION NOTE FOR PREMIER'S CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MEETING

Ref: 190304

Date: May 8, 2019

Title: Premier's Chief of Staff to meet with the B.C. Seafood Alliance and Seafood Producers Association.

Issue: Discussion on the recently released Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans (FOPO) on Pacific fisheries licensing policies.

Background: The Premier's Chief of Staff, Geoff Meggs, will meet with Christina BurrIDGE, Executive Director of the British Columbia Seafood Alliance (BCSA), and Chris Sporer, Executive Director of the Seafood Producers Association of British Columbia (SPABC). The purpose of the discussion is on the recently released Report on the FOPO report regarding Pacific fisheries licensing policies.

The two associations often align on policy positions and work closely together on achieving goals of a sustainable and profitable wild seafood sector. Some of their key initiatives include working on maintaining commercial fisheries access in light of Indigenous Reconciliation and conservation efforts, attaining eco-certifications (e.g., Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)), marine planning consultations, and responding to recent amendments to the federal *Fisheries Act*.

B.C.'s extensive coastline and unique geography provide for a significant fisheries and seafood industry. In 2016, fisheries and aquaculture in B.C. harvested over 100 different species of fish, shellfish and marine plants with a wholesale value of \$1.72 billion. The aquaculture and fisheries sectors provide 1,600 and 1,800 jobs to British Columbians, respectively. Continued increasing demand for seafood globally, population growth, and climate change will likely increase the importance and value of fisheries and seafood to B.C. moving forward.

The B.C. government, through the Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI), has a long history of working with BCSA including on emerging fisheries and seafood issues that impact the Pacific industry or Canadian sector at large. In 2017, the Ministry provided funding to the BCSA to carry out a labour market assessment project, to form the basis of a labour market "self-description" for seafood producers to assist with certification requirements.

FOPO Report: "West Coast Fisheries: Sharing Risks and Benefits"

In September 2016, the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Minister tasked The House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans (FOPO) to review and study changes made to the Fisheries Act in 2012, with an aim to restore lost protections to fish and fish habitat and modernize the legislation. In 2017, DFO advised all provinces that they would be adding components to the amendments to the Act related to fisheries management and socioeconomic fisheries policies.

More specifically, DFO would look to enshrine historic Atlantic owner-operator fisheries policies within the Fisheries Act. B.C. has participated fully in reviews of the amendments to the Act both bilaterally and through the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers (CCFAM) tables. Due to the sensitivities regarding the imposition of Atlantic fisheries policies on the west coast, B.C. relayed strong messaging to DFO on the need for full public consultation regarding any changes to the management and licensing structure in the Pacific.

While studying the proposed amendments to the Fisheries Act, FOPO heard many conflicting statements from B.C. fisheries stakeholders on the benefits and drawbacks of the current licensing and quota system in the Pacific. This prompted FOPO to undertake a separate process to hear from over 40 witnesses through early 2019 and develop a stand-alone report with recommendations on improving the distribution of economic benefits generated by the fishing industry in B.C. Both associations provided submissions to the FOPO hearings.

On May 7, 2019 FOPO released a report titled *West Coast Fisheries: Sharing Risks and Benefits* includes 20 recommendations (Appendix 1). Some of these are sweeping recommendations to change the current socioeconomic dynamic of the industry in B.C., specifically to the current licensing and quota regime in place, as well as other recommendations aimed at improving transparency and accessibility to fishing resources. The Province is specifically listed in a number of recommendations.

First Nations Considerations: First Nations communities provide approximately 20 per cent of the workforce in the fishing sector, substantially higher than the provincial average of 5 per cent. The Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) was launched by DFO in 2007 to develop economically viable First Nations involvement in commercial fisheries through redistributing voluntarily relinquished fishing licences or quota to fishing enterprises established by First Nations. Approximately \$140M worth of commercial fishing access has been purchased by DFO and distributed to date. Some First Nations indicate that First Nations input in PICFI's decision-making is lacking and that many licences purchased by First Nations enterprises go back to the open market to the highest bidder, contributing to prohibitive prices of licences and quotas.

Recommendation 18 in the report is specific to the inclusion of First Nations, recommending that transition strategies should take account of the recommendations, needs, rights and capacities of First Nations and the framework for reconciliation.

Discussion: The report makes many comparisons to East Coast owner-operator quota systems and compares economic performance data that suggests no growth in landed values in B.C. while both Atlantic Canadian and Alaskan fisheries have seen significant growth.

In Atlantic Canada in 2007, DFO adopted the Policy for Preserving the Independence of the Inshore Fleet in Canada's Atlantic Fisheries (PIIFCAF). PIIFCAF was put in place to ensure that commercial inshore fish harvesters remain independent, and that the benefits of fishing licences flow to the fisher and coastal communities. PIIFCAF also serves to strengthen the Fleet Separation Policy which keeps the ownership of the fish harvesting sector separate from the processing sector, and the Owner-Operator Policy which requires the holders of licences for inshore vessels to be present on the boat during fishing operations.

In the Pacific, DFO introduced measures to manage fish stocks including: a limited entry licensing regime, total allowable catch (TAC) limits, and individual transferable quotas (ITQs). ITQs give their owners exclusive and transferable rights to catch a given portion of the TAC of a given fish stock. ITQs can be owned by individual active and non-active fishers, non-fisher investors, vessels or enterprises, and are transferable through selling, buying and leasing in an open market. Over time, some owners of ITQs found they can make more money leasing out their quotas than fishing it themselves.

ITQs were introduced as a solution to overfishing, safety concerns and allowed better quality products over a much longer season which has enabled higher returns to both fishermen and processors. Upon introduction of the ITQ system all fisheries showed an increase in industry product and most fisheries showed an increase in wages and person-year employment. However, ITQs shifted the balance of power

where the licence/vessel owner appropriates a greater share of the increase in ‘industry value’ than does the processor or crew.

Studies presented within the FOPO report noted that ITQs create inflationary markets for licences and quota and are becoming increasingly concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. The studies show high market value of quota is well outside the reach of many rural working families, First Nations and younger fishermen, and that many rural communities and First Nations see few benefits accruing from adjacent fisheries resources.

The report outlines that the federal responsibilities within fisheries management include economic, social and environmental factors and that DFO’s fisheries assessment and management have focused on biological productivity with insufficient consideration of social (including cultural), economic, and institutional (governance) aspects.

With the majority of fisheries management jurisdiction residing with the federal government, most of the recommendations in the report are aimed at DFO. However, there are implications for the Province’s interests in the commerce of fisheries in all the recommendations, as well as three recommendations that specifically list the Government of British Columbia, which include:

Recommendation 7: *That Fisheries and Oceans Canada undertake discussions with the Province of British Columbia to explore the establishment of a model for a loan board to support harvesters’ intent on purchasing licences and/or quota, to maintain or modernize existing vessels or to purchase new ones.*

Recommendation 10: *That Fisheries and Oceans Canada work with the Government of British Columbia to develop strategies to expand value-added fish processing in British Columbia and the recapture of benefits from processing in adjacent communities.*

Recommendation 14: *That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a new policy framework through a process of authentic and transparent engagement with all key stakeholders: [...] The Minister responsible for fisheries in the British Columbia government; [...].*

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DFO staff in the Pacific region also received the report when it was released publicly. They are analyzing it internally. No decision has been made on what DFO’s response might be, as there are considerations around the federal election timing that may be preventative. It is likely any response will be led out of DFO headquarters in Ottawa, rather than Pacific Region.

Staff will continue analysis of the FOPO report and remain engaged with DFO on any responses. Staff will also reach out to stakeholders (e.g., B.C. Seafood Alliance, etc.) on their views of the report.

Key Messages:

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Appendices:

1- List of FOPO report recommendations.

2 – Letter from Don Wright to Wild Salmon Advisory Council members.

Contact: Mike Turner, Senior Policy Analyst, 778-698-3129

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Appendix 1- List of FOPO report recommendations.

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of their deliberations committees may make recommendations which they include in their reports for the consideration of the House of Commons or the Government. Recommendations related to this study are listed below.

Recommendation 1

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada maintain the limited transferability for non-directed catch, which is a widely supported system for ensuring that non-targeted groundfish that is caught can be sold and tracked for conservation purposes. 22

Recommendation 2

That based on the principle that fish in Canadian waters are a resource for Canadians (i.e. common property), no future sales of fishing quota and/or licences be to non-Canadian beneficial owners based on the consideration of issues of legal authority, and international agreement/trade impacts 24

Recommendation 3

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada permit the separation of stacked (or “married”) licences for sale by the licence owner to divest some or all of their licences in the sole intent of facilitating existing harvesters and new entrants to become owner-operators..... 27

Recommendation 4

That, to increase the transparency of quota licence ownership and transactions, Fisheries and Oceans Canada determine and publish, in an easily accessible and readable format, a public online database that includes the following:

- **The beneficial holder of all fishing quota and licences in British Columbia, including penalties for failing to accurately disclose the holder of fishing quota and/or licences, and that Fisheries and Oceans Canada work with Finance Canada to achieve this goal.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All sales or leasing of quota and licence holdings be reported and made public by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, including buyer, seller and sale/leasing price. 	32
 Recommendation 5	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada prioritize the collection of socio-economic data for past and future regulatory changes and make this information publicly available	33
 Recommendation 6	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a comparative analysis of the East Coast and West Coast fisheries in regard to regulations with a view to devising policy that would level the playing field for independent British Columbian fishers	33
 Recommendation 7	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada undertake discussions with the Province of British Columbia to explore the establishment of a model for a loan board to support harvesters' intent on purchasing licences and/or quota, to maintain or modernize existing vessels or to purchase new ones.	36
 Recommendation 8	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, provide financial incentives to independent ownership of licences and quota vs. corporate, overseas or absentee ownership. This could include: tax incentives; a shared risks and benefits program; and/or the creation of community licence and quota banks.	37
 Recommendation 9	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada create a loan and mentorship program to help independent harvesters enter the industry	3

Recommendation 10

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada work with the Government of British Columbia to develop strategies to expand value-added fish processing in British Columbia and the recapture of benefits from processing in adjacent communities. 37

Recommendation 11

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, establish an open public auction process to allow fishers to lease licence and quota 40

Recommendation 12

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, establish a licence exchange board to allow the trading of licences between owners. 40

Recommendation 13

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada reconstitute the membership of advisory boards to ensure equitable representation by fishers, processors and quota owners. 41

Recommendation 14

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a new policy framework through a process of authentic and transparent engagement with all key stakeholders:

- Active fish harvesters (or where they exist, organizations that represent them) in all fisheries and fleets including owner-operators, non-owner-operators, and crew;**
- First Nations commercial fish harvesters (or where they exist, organizations that represent them);**
- Organizations representing licence and quota holders that are not active fish harvesters, including fish processing companies;**

- Organizations representing First Nations that hold licences and quotas for commercial fisheries;
- The Minister responsible for fisheries in the British Columbia government;
- Fisheries policy experts from academic institutions and non-governmental organizations; and
- Representatives of municipal governments and socio-economic development, health and cultural agencies in coastal communities..... 41

Recommendation 15

That, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans establish an independent commission to:

- Develop a concept for a ‘fair-share’ system to equitably allocate the proceeds from the fishery of individual species between the quota/licence holder, the processor and the harvester, based on the average wholesale price earned by the processor over a three-month period.
- Work with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to explore the feasibility of set limits on the amount of quota or number of licences for an individual species that can be owned by an individual or entity and ensure that comprehensive consultations are undertaken.
- Devise a policy of current market buy back from fishers looking to exit the industry and to prioritize that quota and licence sale to emerging young or independent fishers through a student/mentorship/apprenticeship program as has been done successfully in other regions for the country and other jurisdictions (Maine, Alaska, Norway) who have testified before this committee.
- Prepare a concept through comprehensive consultations that could transition the West Coast fishery to a “made-in-BC” owner-operator model 43

Recommendation 16

That the development of Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s new policy framework should be undertaken by a working group chaired by a senior National Headquarters official and comprised of appropriate officials from National Headquarters and Pacific Region.....44

Recommendation 17

That the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans direct the Department to develop an implementation framework for transition with time limits and phased approaches similar to the *Policy for Preserving the Independence of the Inshore Fleet in Canada’s Atlantic Fisheries* (PIIFCAF), but appropriate to particular fleets and/or fisheries.....44

Recommendation 18

That transition strategies should take account of the recommendations, needs, rights and capacities of First Nations and the framework for reconciliation44

Recommendation 19

That the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans initiate immediate steps to regulate quota licence leasing costs to allow for a fair return for vessel owners and adequate incomes for fish harvesters during the transition to owner-operator. Such measures should continue after transition to guarantee crews fair wages under the new regime.....45

Recommendation 20

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a plan to achieve its five-objective fisheries management regime, which includes conservation outcomes: compliance with legal obligations; promoting the stability and economic viability of fishing operations; encouraging the equitable distribution of benefits; and facilitating data collection for administration, enforcement and planning purposes.....45

Appendix 2 – Letter from Don Wright to Wild Salmon Advisory Council members.



March 8, 2019

Via Email

Dear MLA Routley, Chief Marilyn Slett and members of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council;

I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the commitment, passion and dedication you have shown in the important work of paving the way for a made-in-B.C. Wild Salmon Strategy. Your exemplary work reflects the importance the people of British Columbia place on this important species and resource. I also wish to acknowledge the work of Coastal First Nations in serving as the coordinating secretariat for the Wild Salmon Advisory Council (WSAC).

Your report makes clear that supporting the restoration of healthy and abundant wild salmon stocks in B.C., is both complex and labour intensive. Different regions, communities and groups have articulated different priorities, and I commend you for your efforts to both articulate and balance these many interests.

I also appreciate the extra time and effort that members of the WSAC dedicated to the public engagement phase of this work. I thank you all for taking the time to listen to and consider these contributions in producing your recommendations.

I am pleased that you have provided the Province with recommendations for tangible, near-term actions that will provide us with a path forward. Government is looking forward to taking action on many of these goals and will be accepting almost all of your near-term recommendations, including those listed under the following strategies:

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If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Allison Witter, Director of the Wild Salmon Secretariat at 250-387-0863 or by email at wildsalmonsecretariat@gov.bc.ca .

Thank you once again for your dedication to this important work. With your guidance we look forward to engaging in the complex, difficult but necessary work of restoring and supporting wild salmon in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Wright', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Don Wright
Deputy Minister to the Premier,
Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Public Service

Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR DECISION

Ref: 190100

Date: April 30, 2019

Title: Bee BC Program

Issue: Next Steps for the Bee BC Program

Background: The Bee BC Program was launched in May 2018 to support projects that research, explore, field-test and share information about best-management practices associated with bee health. The program focused on assisting small-scale, community-based projects undertaken by local/regional organizations, beekeeping associations and/or beekeepers to contribute to the overall health of bees in the Province. Up to \$5,000 per project was available through the program to assist with project costs. Additionally, the program includes funds to support an information-sharing event in fall 2019 where program participants will be able to gather together to discuss their respective projects and share insights, experiences, results and best practices.

The total budget for the two-year term of the program was \$150,000. In 2018/19, the Province contributed \$50,000 to the program and Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF), the delivery agent for Bee BC, also contributed \$50,000. The Province has invested an additional \$50,000 in the program in 2019/20.

Three application intakes completed in July 2018, Dec 2018, and March 2019 resulted in full commitment of the available funding for projects. A total of 29 projects have been funded to date. With the project funds fully committed, the current contribution agreement with IAF for delivery of the program does not include another application intake.

Discussion: The Ministry intends to make the Bee BC Program an ongoing \$100,000/year program offering for the next three years in support of bee health and the small-scale beekeeping and honey production sector. This requires a program delivery plan that maintains the aspects of the program that worked well, and incorporates the lessons learned from the past year.

The program would continue to support the same eligible participants, including:

- regional/community associations or groups who can facilitate community-based bee health projects;
- beekeepers with permitted hives;
- groups of beekeepers with permitted hives who choose to apply and work together on a bee health project; and,
- First Nations with permitted hives.

Also, eligible activities under the program would remain the same. Funding will support research, exploration, and field testing of both conventional and new/innovative bee health-related best-management practices. This allows for a high degree of flexibility for regional/community organizations and beekeepers to design project activities that will best address the unique and varied issues they face (e.g. in remote or isolated locations, or due to their smaller scale operations).

IAF has expressed interest in continuing to partner with the Ministry to deliver the Bee BC Program. In addition to their administrative ability and experience, IAF will contribute \$50,000/year to the program for up to three years.

With respect to changes to the delivery plan, the following lessons were learned over the past year:

- Administration burden and cost for IAF and the funding recipients is unnecessarily high because of the requirement for contribution agreements which demand detailed financial reporting.

- By moving to a “conditional grant” approach, the program could support a greater number of projects while maintaining an appropriate emphasis on accountability.
- An in-person information-sharing event is expensive, as well as difficult to plan and administer.
 - Amending the information-sharing component from an in-person event to a virtual, internet-based method will allow more funds to go to project costs. Also, the information will be accessible by more people, on an as-needed basis, and for a longer period.
 - IAF would explore the opportunity to hire a student to interview recipients to collect data and project information and/or create project information-sharing videos.
- Application adjudication was difficult in each of the first 3 intakes because of the variety of proposed projects related to bee health (i.e. it was difficult to draw comparisons related to “value” and “impact” between applications when the proposed projects were focused on very different aspects of bee health).
 - Analysis of the applications received in the first year determined that proposed projects generally fell into one of three categories:
 - Education;
 - Bee/hive health; and,
 - Forage.
 - IAF will amend the application process to allow proponents to submit their proposed projects under one of these three program “streams”. This will streamline the application adjudication process and result in more responsive program delivery.

The proposed model is to implement an enhanced Bee BC program with IAF as the delivery agent at \$100,000/year for 3 years starting in 2019/20. IAF would continue to be the delivery agent and would contribute \$50,000/year with the ministry contributing \$50,000. The same recipients and activities would be eligible with the enhancement for the implementation of lessons learned using a “conditional grant” funding agreement, three “stream” application process, and a virtual, internet-based information-sharing component to ensure findings are shared with others. This increases funding available for projects to potential recipients increasing the potential reach and impact of this program to enhance bee health in the province. This enhanced model also reduces the administration burden and costs for IAF and ensure those dollars are available for more grants.

Next Steps:

- Ministry staff communicate with IAF on the shift to the new enhanced model of the Bee B.C. Program.
- Ministry will commit \$50K annually over the next three years for this program with the request to IAF to commit the same funding allocation.
- Develop a new Shared Cost Arrangement agreement with IAF for the delivery of the program.
- Revise application process to reflect three “streams” of projects.
- Prepare Bee BC Program announcement for Day of the Honeybee (May 29, 2019), including:
 - Profile of recent funding decisions for new projects launched in April 2019; and,
 - New funding commitment for next three years of Bee BC.

Contact: Mike Renaud, Senior Manager – Corporate Information & Reporting, (778) 974-3834

ED	LH	ADM	JM	DM	WS
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Strictly Confidential

BC Food Hub Network Implementation Strategy

From Information Gathering to Implementation

**Submitted by Derek Sturko, CEO
Inner Harbour Consulting Inc.**

Final – March 25, 2019



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document was prepared for the BC Ministry of Agriculture. It provides an implementation strategy, including a series of recommended actions or approaches, to support the development and implementation of the proposed BC Food Hub Network.

This document summarizes the purpose of the Network, progress made to date and the major outstanding challenges to achieving the vision for the Network.

It proposes long-term (five-year) and short-term (one-year) objectives for the Network and a series of recommended strategies and activities to address the current challenges and achieve the objectives.

The outstanding challenges, and recommended strategies and activities, relate to:

- Leadership, role definition and the need for a common vision for the Network
- Long-term budget requirements to support development of the Network
- The role and operation of the Food Innovation Centre (UBC Vancouver Campus)
- Identification of food hubs to be supported by the ministry
- The notion of virtual services (tier 4) on the Network
- Identifying the technology solution

Finally, this document proposes a series of performance indicators/measures of success to assess achievement of the objectives held for the Network.

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PURPOSE

This document is the second of two commissioned by the BC Ministry of Agriculture to ensure the successful implementation of the proposed Food Hub Network. The first document provided a situational analysis regarding the Network (including objectives, progress to date, major outstanding activities and the views of key industry participants on what is required to support development and implementation of the Network).

This document provides a recommended implementation strategy for the Network and a framework for initiating and/or completing outstanding activities. It includes the vision for the Network, a summary of the analysis that was undertaken, long and short-term objectives, performance measures and a communications approach, and build on the findings and observations in the Situational Analysis.

In order to ensure success, these documents and the approach they provide must reflect the intentions the Province holds for Network, include an achievable and sustainable set of actions that will facilitate the establishment of the Network, and be supported by the industry and participants.

THE PROPOSED BC FOOD HUB NETWORK

The agrifoods and seafood sector is a major part of the Canadian and British Columbia economies and an important employer. The sector supports jobs in all parts of BC, especially rural and coastal communities.

The Province of British Columbia intends to build a Food Hub Network, an integrated network of food-oriented facilities that supports entrepreneurs and innovation in the agrifoods sector and the BC economy. It will be comprised of a Food Innovation Centre at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver Campus) and a series of regional and local food hubs (at times called centres, nodes or hubs) that will be connected virtually across the province.

Food Innovation Centre at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver Campus)

The UBC Food Innovation Centre is a facility proposed to be located on the UBC Farm which could include research and development activities, equipment acquisition and testing, data assembly and analysis, the opportunity for faculty and student involvement, etc.

The Centre may primarily serve large scale companies located in BC that are looking for new innovations, processes and equipment to enhance their production and export capacity.

While a standalone operation, the Centre would be connected to the regional and local food hubs using the same technology.

Interconnected Regional and Local Food Hubs

Several food-oriented facilities of different types or scale (referred to as tiers) will be a core component of the Network.

While not yet fully defined, three tiers are proposed. All kitchens would be commercial kitchens from a licensing perspective.

- Tier 1 full-scale regional hubs with kitchens, full production capacity, business support services appropriate to the more advanced companies that would typically be involved, and

potentially research and food testing capacity (e.g.: the model being exemplified through the pilot and demonstration site at Commissary Connect's Laurel Street facility).

- Tier 2 more traditional kitchens and commissaries providing coordination and support to local businesses and entrepreneurs of a more entry level nature (e.g.: basic equipment and production areas, potentially food testing capacity)
- Tier 3 facilities providing basic support and services (e.g.: dry and cold food storage, washing, packaging, aggregation opportunities etc.), in which a kitchen is, at least initially, optional.

Depending on the circumstances, “community” kitchens (e.g., service club or other community facility kitchens) and similar facilities should be able to participate in the Network.

Facilities in each tier will receive different levels of support from the Province, have a core set of equipment, etc. relevant to the tier, and be accountable for a set of deliverables relevant to the tier.

The Province of BC initially anticipated there would be a single form of regional food hubs and some or all those hubs would be in more rural parts of the province, rather than being in areas of major population and industry capacity. The current thinking is that a successful Network would provide for a variety of types (or tiers) of regional hubs that reflect the range of population, the nature and scale of food production, and other community-based factors or preferences.

All hubs will provide support to local businesses and entrepreneurs and the operational aspects of the Network.

Unifying Technology Infrastructure

A single technology infrastructure (hardware, software, data and support) will facilitate the operations of each of these sites, the interplay between them all, the assembly and analysis of critical data, trends, tracking capacity, etc.

Through this infrastructure, existing food-oriented facilities, new hubs and the Innovation Centre will all be able to operate on one unified platform.

The technologies being considered for the Network (modern and common hardware and software platforms, centralized shared-use facilities, etc.) pose significant opportunities for all producers and processors along the supply chain. The Network as envisioned could accommodate the needs of primary producers and a broad array of processors.

A Self-Sustaining Model

An important feature of the development of the Network is the evolving role of the ministry.

Initially, the ministry will play a leadership, facilitation and decision-making role and will fund some aspects of the Network in order to ensure its priorities are addressed.

Over time as the network matures, the Province of BC will transfer responsibility for the ongoing development and maintenance of the Network to an appropriate industry group and reduce its financial support.

Benefits

The potential benefits of the Network to BC's agrifoods sector and economy include:

- Meeting the needs of, and leveraging collaboration between, BC's regionally diverse agriculture, seafood, and processing sectors across the province

- Providing local agrifood businesses access to shared infrastructure, equipment, and technical services. Food processors and primary producers have many similar challenges, including the lack of capacity to acquire the space, equipment and opportunities required to grow, the high price of property, etc.
- Enabling the province's agrifoods, seafood and agritech entrepreneurs to foster stronger connections across the agrifoods and seafood value chain and address fragmentation in the industry
- Fostering the agrifoods and seafood sector's innovative capacity to meet the demands of the modern consumer, develop technologies that support the growing global population, and adapt to climate change
- Allowing the sector to capitalize on regional diversity, support entrepreneurs and innovation in the agrifoods sector and the BC economy
- Enhancing BC's ability to process more food for consumption by its own citizens and reduce the export of raw food which instead is processed for sale in the province and for export at a much higher value

Linkages to BC Government Objectives

The proposed Network contributes to several of the BC government's objectives for the agrifoods and seafood sector, including:

- A coordinated provincial approach to food innovation and processing
- Increased employment and economic development across the province, including expanded opportunities for young farmers to participate more easily in food production and preparation
- Improved connections across the agri-foods supply chain (growers, processors, etc.) and with post-secondary institutions
- Increased ability to innovate in the processing, packaging and marketing of B.C. food products
- Enhanced marketing ability, and increased food supply, for the Province's Buy BC program
- Enhanced processing of foods for export
- Greater ability to support specialized commodities (e.g.: fruit and nut sector, wineries)
- More consistent and reliable food production to support the Feed BC initiative (public institutions (hospitals, schools, and other government facilities) and expand market access in the rest of Canada and abroad
- The enhanced ability to use or recover surplus food for food banks etc.
- Enhanced food safety and traceability
- Better data and evidence to inform industry growth and provincial decision-making

PROGRESS TO DATE

The Ministry of Agriculture's June 2017 Concept Paper (entitled "The case for B.C. as an Ag-hub") laid out the initial rationale for BC to develop a network.

The ministry received formal proposals concerning part or all the proposed Network from the University of British Columbia, the BC Food Processors Association and Commissary Connect Innovations Inc.

The ministry has engaged the industry and communities through consultations with industry leaders through individual discussions and a Food Hub Network Steering Committee. The Steering Committee's terms of reference indicate the committee will "provide advice and recommendations about the creation and implementation of the Food Hub Network to the Ministry of Agriculture and the components of the Network".

As part of the Province of British Columbia's Budget 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture received a budget increase in support of the Network for at least three years. Portions of that budget have been allocated to support:

- Establishing an Endowed Professorship at UBC and the first year of operations of a BC Food Processors Association Project Champion (both intended to support development and implementation of the Food Innovation Centre at UBC)
- A survey of the agrifoods and food processing industry intended to understand the status, challenges and needs of the food processing sector
- An asset map to provide unified and comprehensive information on the food processing sector and the location of food production and processing facilities
- A food hub pilot and demonstration site at Commissary Connect's Laurel Street facility

UBC's Food Innovation Centre is intended to be located at the UBC Farm and "the leading food research and innovation centre for BC food & beverage processors". It is referred to as a Food & Beverage Innovation Centre by UBC.

Recent plans show an approximately 5,000 sq. ft. facility with: pre-processing, food processing and packaging areas; an analytical lab; a brewery; and office/storage space.

According to UBC, the Faculty of Land and Food Systems has raised \$14 million from donors, finalized the building plans and obtained support from all three levels of executive approvals from UBC. Support will be sought from the Board of Governors and consultations with the Musqueam Indian Band are ongoing.

An Endowed Professorship has been funded, at least initially, by the BC Ministry of Agriculture to provide overall leadership to the development, implementation and operation of the Centre and UBC's overall contributions to the agrifoods industry.

The ministry has investigated the development of regional and local food hubs through feasibility studies conducted in five locations in the province. The ministry is analyzing each of the submissions using a common template and has completed or is completing its analysis of the five submissions it has received. The summaries related to those submissions are quite different, demonstrating a range of demonstrated need, leadership and readiness.

The ministry received a "Feasibility Study for the Development of a BC Food Innovation Network" prepared by Commissary Connect Innovation Inc. in April 2018. In early 2019, the ministry established Commissary Connect's Laurel Street facility as the "Pilot and Demonstration Regional Food Hub Node of BC's Food Hub Network". Activities at the pilot and demonstration site will inform future work on regional and local food hubs, as well as a technology solution for the Network.

The ministry has also drafted, but not issued, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Food Hub Network Technology Service Provider.

The ministry and industry collectively conducted a Food Hub Network Industry Survey to understand the status, challenges and needs of the food processing sector, to inform the development of the Network.

The results of the Survey indicated a number of industry needs. The resource and service needs (including the percentage of respondents that indicated them) included:

- Training and education related to processing, technology or food/health and safety (82%)
- Business development services (80%)
- Product or production consultation services (78%)

- R&D services or facilities support (75%)
- Food handling and/or storage services (69%)
- Leased, rented or shared equipment and/or technology (64%)
- Shared retail/market space for multiple business to sell directly to consumers (64%)
- Leased, rented or shared processing facilities (60%)

While there was some variation regionally and a few minor exceptions, the most identified needs in the province were generally also the most identified needs regionally.

However, every identified need was selected by 60% or more of respondents. This suggests a hierarchy of needs, from basic training, business or product development services through shared equipment, space and technology. This is consistent with the notion of tiered services on the Network but suggests additional emphasis than was originally anticipated is required to support training, business or product development services on the Network.

The ministry has made progress on each element that will comprise the Network.

Discussions with the industry leaders that represent the industry on the steering committee indicated a common sense of optimism and support for the Network, the lack of a clear and comprehensive plan and no common understanding of the elements of the Network and how they interact. They also conveyed very different views on how to move forward, what will lead to success and, in fact, what success looks like.

OUTSTANDING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

This section articulates the major outstanding challenges to achieving the vision for the Network and some related opportunities. Recommendations to address these challenges are found in the Strategies/Activities section.

Leadership, Role Definition and Need for a Common Vision

The Ministry of Agriculture outlined a vision and rationale for the Network as early as June 2017. However, there is no collective commitment to, or a common understanding of, the vision the ministry has articulated for the Network, other than at a very high level. Further, there is no apparent clear process to ensure partners, stakeholders and participants acquire a common vision, understanding and commitment to the Network.

There is ongoing confusion regarding the role and terms of reference for the Food Hub Network Steering Committee (e.g.: authority, membership, etc.) and the role of the BCFPA's Project Champion.

The steering committee's terms of reference indicate the committee will provide advice and recommendations to the ministry about the creation and implementation of the Network. The committee is improperly named an advisory committee. Its role is not clear. Members have generally not been productive individually or collectively. The committee has not achieved any of its stated objectives to date.

The infrequency with which the ministry has engaged the steering committee has exacerbated this challenge. The ministry's role concerning the steering committee is to provide continued leadership, clarify expectations, and ensure cooperation and accountability. Other members must engage consistent with the committee's terms of reference and the ministry's leadership.

As the organization ultimately accountable for the development and implementation of the Network, the ministry's small team has accomplished a significant amount in a short period of time, but the team is not large enough to sustain an initiative of this scale over time.

Long-Term Budget Requirements to Support Development of the Network

As part of the Province of British Columbia's Budget 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture received a base budget increase for three years. As a public sector entity, the ministry is unable to commit to funding for the Network beyond the standard three-year government budgets. This makes long-term planning difficult and creates a level of uncertainty for those being asked to support and invest in the Network.

Further, funds generally cannot be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next.

In any event, the size, scope and scale of the envisioned Network suggests the available resources are insufficient, even if they are maintained after 2020/21.

As a public sector entity, the ministry must also accommodate procurement requirements that sometimes delay critical processes (e.g.: RFP to ensure an acceptable technology platform exists).

The Role and Operation of the Food Innovation Centre (UBC)

The Centre's December 21, 2018 business plan indicates the Centre has three main elements: learning opportunities for students; research on innovative technologies; and co-packing capability for food and beverage companies for limited production. More importantly, there is not a consistent description of the role of the Centre, related plans, etc.

The business plan describes the Centre as complementary to the ministry's efforts to establish regional hubs and connect them to the Centre.

There continues to be some lack of understanding regarding several aspects of the Food Innovation Centre at UBC. For example, this includes:

- The timeline for it to become operational
- Whether UBC as an institution will place any restrictions on the nature and operation of the Centre which impacts how the Centre serves BC's agrifoods industry
- The relationship between the Centre and regional food hubs
- The ability of other post-secondary institutions to be actively involved in the work of the Centre
- The implications for the Centre, if any, of the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training's mandate requirements for innovation centres
- The ongoing role of, and source of funding for, the BCFPA's Project Champion supporting the development of the Centre

Identification of Food Hubs to be Supported by the Ministry

The vision for the Network allows for a range (or tiers) of facilities connected to the Network. Facilities in each tier would receive different levels of support from the Province, have a core set of equipment, etc. relevant to the tier, and be accountable for a set of deliverables relevant to the tier.

There will probably only be capacity for three or four full capacity (Tier 1) regional hubs in BC. This would include the existing hub in the Lower Mainland (Laurel Street facility) and other likely hubs in the Fraser Valley (e.g.: Mission), Okanagan and southern Vancouver Island (e.g.: Sydney area).

A clear approach and clear roles are essential for decision-making concerning regional hubs (e.g.: the nature and criteria for each of the tiers, where the hubs should be located, core deliverables,

funding levels, etc.). While there is no current framework or decision-making model to be used for the Network, it is clear the Ministry is responsible for making the decisions. As an advisory group, the role of the steering committee is unclear.

The Laurel Street pilot and demonstration site will support the establishment and operationalization of food testing services, on-site research and development, and/or innovation services for food processors and advanced business development services related to a regional food hub.

By February 28, 2019, the pilot and demonstration site must describe the following factors related to the operation of a food hub:

- Business and innovation services (kitchen demonstration, food safety, nutritional analysis, etc.)
- Facility space configurations, equipment and/or materials required to offer the services
- Human resource requirements for hub operations and methodology for team building, costs
- Team member and in-house expertise require to deliver business services

The Concept of Virtual Services (Tier 4) on the Network

As noted, the industry survey suggested a hierarchy of needs, from basic training, business or product development services through shared equipment, space and technology and suggested the Network may require more emphasis than was originally anticipated to support the training, business or product development services that industry requires.

These needs could be addressed through the introduction and development of a new element of the Network - a Digital Resource Portal to provide resources to help processors throughout the Province, such as training and education in:

- Food Safety (operations, supply chain, reducing food waste, sanitation, etc.)
- Human resource practices
- Finance
- Sales & Marketing
- Product Development/Quality Assurance (business development services, one-on-one mentorship and support, networking, communications forums, industry referrals and resources, etc.)

These needs can be addressed without major capital expenditure, allowing other resources to be dedicated to the provision of infrastructure and equipment.

A digital portal would need to be packaged within the framework of a resource provided as part of the Network. These 'virtual' resources would be accessible to microprocessors anywhere in the province without having to worry about physical space, access, etc. and done at a lower cost.

Identifying the Technology Solution

All parties have recognized an effective technology infrastructure is essential to the Network. The technology that is selected will have to meet the needs of all potential users, including the Innovation Centre, food hubs, etc. The technology will have to be scalable to allow all users to be connected and able to undertake core functions (e.g.: data sharing).

The ministry has drafted, but not issued, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Food Hub Network Technology Service Provider. The draft RFP says the ministry "is seeking pre-existing technology and support services to implement the core common IT platform for the Food Hub Network with the potential to include more functions in the future".

Prior to the ministry running an RFP process to identify the technology solution for the Network, the Laurel Street site is being used to demonstrate the value and replicability of a technology platform, allow for the development of a data collection strategy and performance evaluation framework, etc.

Laurel Street uses technology which connects it with Commissary Connect's other facilities in a network like fashion. The interplay between those three facilities can also be viewed as a test or demonstration site for a full network. While the ministry has not committed to Commissary Connect's technology as the solution for the full Network, these activities will be the first concrete formal step to formalizing technology requirements.

No later than February 28, 2019, the Laurel Street pilot and demonstration site must:

- Provide an equipment and materials acquisition and set-up plan that identifies necessary equipment, materials, and installation costs
- Install technology, and associated hardware/software in the facility
- Describe data collection of facility, individual equipment uses, user business information, data storage, and analytics systems.

Further, by March 29, 2019, the site must:

- Create listing of analytic data for collection and technology development to support
- Report to the Ministry data collected to date.

LONG-TERM (FIVE-YEAR) STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- The BC Food Hub Network will be implemented as an integrated, province-wide network of food-oriented facilities that supports entrepreneurs and innovation in the agrifoods sector and the BC economy
- The agrifoods and seafood industry will be using the Network on a single technology platform
- The Network will be self-sustaining and supported by a fair and equitable funding model
- All regions of the province will be represented on the Network at some level
- At least ten sites will be operational on the Network, at least three of which will be Tier 1 facilities and at least three will be in rural areas
- There will be a sharing of appropriate information at the local, regional and provincial levels
- A long-term funding model will have been established, independent of the BC government
- There will be strong partnerships with, and active participation by, several BC post-secondary institutions
- The ministry will have transferred responsibility for leadership and operation of the Network to an appropriate industry body

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES (THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020)

- Roles and responsibilities related to the Network will be clear
- The steering committee's responsibilities will be clear and endorsed by its members. The committee's membership will be appropriate and committed
- There will be a compelling, commonly held vision for the Network
- The purpose and functions of the UBC Food Innovation Centre will be commonly understood
- The purpose and functions of regional food hubs will be commonly understood
- The decision-making criteria and process for additional regional hubs will be established
- At least two additional sites will be operational on the Network - at least one will be a Tier 1 facility, at least one will be in a rural area
- The Network technology solution will be established, and all connected sites will be required to use it
- Learnings from the pilot and demonstration project will inform Network development

- Self-interests will be converted to collective interests

STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES (RECOMMENDED ACTIONS)

Leadership, Role Definition and Need for a Common Vision

In order to support the ministry's accountability for development and implementation of the Network, (at least initial operations) and ensure a common vision and leadership for the Network, it is recommended the ministry:

- Clarify its long-term plans for the Network, which includes its current leadership for the Network but longer-term transfer of responsibility to an appropriate industry group
- As soon as practical, identify the entity (organization, association, non-profit, etc.) that will assume responsibility for the long-term leadership, development and maintenance of the Network and engage that entity (including establishing the entity if it does not currently exist) in a process to assume that responsibility
- Formally and publicly share a cohesive vision for the Network (based on engaging with industry) and its action plan to develop and implement the Network
- Clarify its role as the leader and decision-maker regarding most elements of the Network
- Establish a larger team dedicated to the overall management of this initiative which includes, at a minimum, a mid-level manager and team dedicated to this challenge that includes at least two incremental program developers.
- Determine the role other branches of the ministry (e.g.: extension services) can play in supporting the development and implementation of the Network

In order to create leadership and a strong mandate for the Steering Committee, it is recommended the ministry:

- Rename the committee as an "advisory committee" to better reflect the committee's purpose
- Assume sole responsibility to chair the committee.
- Confirm the committee's mandate and matters on which it will seek the committee's advice
- Refresh the committee with members which will proactively and positively participate in the work of the committee and have an impact. Members should all have a direct interest in the success of the Network but no personal or financial conflicts from being involved
- Establish a regular meeting schedule for the committee
- Establish a one-year plan for agendas that support an active role for the committee

Long-Term Budget Requirements to Support Development of the Network

In order to establish more sufficient, sustainable and predictable funding for the Network, it is recommended the ministry:

- Identify the implications of Budget 2019 for development and implementation of the Network
- Seek to continue the Province's base budget investment in the Network beyond three years
- Build a coordinated approach to alternative, realistic sources of funds that could support the Network (e.g.: Western Economic Diversification Fund, Rural Dividend Fund, Rural Economic Development Fund)

The Role and Operation of the Food Innovation Centre (UBC)

In order to reflect the need for the Centre to develop through processes that reflect the requirements of UBC and the BC Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, while also being developed consistent with the rest of the Network, it is recommended the ministry:

- Consider the Centre as a longer-term element of the Network
- Continue to support and monitor the planning and development of the Centre;
- Work with UBC and the Endowed Professor to ensure his work is consistent with the ministry's objectives for the industry, the food processing sector and the Network (e.g.: identification of projects that could be hosted at UBC prior to and after the Center is operational)
- Work with UBC and the Endowed Professor to ensure their efforts allow for partnerships with, and the involvement of, other BC post-secondary institutions (including VIU, BCIT, KPU and UFV)
- Ensure the Centre utilizes the technology solution identified by the ministry for the regional hubs to allow for the maximum benefit to both

Identification of Food Hubs to be Supported by the Ministry

In order to take advantage of learnings from the pilot and demonstration site, it is recommended the ministry:

- Use information received from the pilot and demonstration site to clarify services, facility space requirements, team member and in-house expertise, levels of support, etc. to establish criteria for hubs

In order to ensure a predictable, objective and affordable approach to the determination of the locations for regional or local food hubs supported buy the ministry and to allow for other existing or new facilities to become part of the Network, it is recommended the ministry:

- Clarify the criteria that will allow for the identification and selection of facilities at each tier level (Tier 1 full-scale regional hubs, Tier 2 more traditional kitchens and commissaries, Tier 3 facilities providing basic support and services)
- Consider requiring a selected Tier 3 facility to consider the addition of a kitchen within two years (even though a kitchen will likely be optional initially)
- For each tier, clarify the criteria for selection, levels of support (if any) from the ministry and accountabilities. For instance, the ministry should consider one-time financial support of \$0.5 M for each Tier 1 facility and financial support for the acquisition and installation of the required technology for all facilities the ministry determines should be on the Network
- For each tier, clarify minimal facility requirements, core equipment requirements and the level of technology support required for each facility
- For each tier, clarify on-site operating costs (e.g.: need for a general manager), entrepreneurial and business support, etc.
- Use the industry survey results and asset map to inform the nature and characteristics of each local hub, in order to reflect local circumstances and characteristics
- Consider the requirements and implications of local food policies
- Clarify how successful facilities will be identified and chosen, including the role of the steering committee
- Clarify the timeframe within which facilities are expected to become self-sustaining

To support a move from information gathering to implementation, it is recommended the ministry:

- Not fund any more exploratory community-based feasibility studies but continue to support those efforts in other ways. They have already shown that, outside certain core population areas, the need and interests are unique in each community.

In order to ensure the timely identification and establishment of additional facilities on the Network, it is recommended the ministry:

- Identify a location for which a second regional hub could be actioned immediately (based on the feasibility studies and other evidence the ministry has on activity in the province). Current analysis suggests Mission has the facility, community support and other conditions making it the most likely site that could succeed. The ministry could begin work immediately with the Mission site while undertaking an Expression of Interest for subsequent projects
- Utilize a quick, short Expression on Interest (EOI) to identify additional sites interested in being a hub. For each response, the EOI should consider the state of readiness, community support, access to a site and available financial resources, the existence of one or more post-secondary partners, the commitment to use the common technology platform, etc.
- Ensure there are a minimum of two more operating and active hubs (at least one at Tier 1 and at least one at Tier 2 or 3 that is regionally based) no later than December 31, 2019
- As a result of the EOI and/or other processes, identify other locations that are ready for consideration as hubs on the Network.

In order to ensure a Network that is as large as possible but on a consistent technology platform, it is recommended the ministry:

- Determine how to encourage existing sites to join the network by clarifying benefits they would achieve (e.g.: support, financial resources, technology, etc.)
- Clarify that all facilities that participate in the Network must utilize the technology solution identified by the ministry to allow for the maximum benefit to all participants

The Concept of Virtual Services (Tier 4) on the Network

To support the needs of existing agrifoods businesses that require only enhanced entrepreneurial, training, business or product development services, it is recommended the ministry:

- Consider the concept of a “virtual” hub (a Digital Resource Portal) to provide skills training and support to entrepreneurs and businesses (e.g.: training and education, business development, etc.) without the need for a physical location such as a kitchen
- Implement a “virtual” hub (a Digital Resource Portal or alternative) if it is practical
- Require a virtual hub to utilize the technology solution identified by the ministry to allow for the maximum benefit to all participants

Identifying the Technology Solution

In order to ensure timely selection of the technology solution for the Network in the context of government procurement processes and take advantage of learnings from the pilot and demonstration site, it is recommended the ministry:

- Initiate work on the technology solution as a critical next step in this effort
- Use information received from the pilot and demonstration site to establish the nature of technology (pre-existing technology and support services with the potential to include more functions in the future)
- Consider the pilot and demonstration site as a mini version of the eventual province-wide network, as the Laurel Street and Commissary Connect’s two other facilities will be networked using a single technology platform

In order to finalize the selection of a technology solution of the Network, it is recommended the ministry:

- Determine the characteristics the technology to be selected through the RFP (sole versus open sourced) must demonstrate

- Determine how the provision of technology (e.g.: licensing to acquire; obligations of the licensor) will be managed from a financial perspective
- Determine the specific functions which a technology solution must provide (e.g.: user access to facilitates, 24/7 booking of equipment, prohibiting unregistered use of equipment, monitoring equipment use, supporting operational management, data collection, analysis and reporting, etc.)
- Complete and then initiate the RFP for a technology solution as soon as possible

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS/MEASURES OF SUCCESS

A provincial network would be successful if, within five years:

- The full network is connected on one platform
- Each regional and local hub is self-sustaining within two years of its opening
- Each regional hub includes common, core tools as well as specialized equipment relevant to the local community (e.g.: a wine industry focus in the Okanagan, a fisheries and aquaculture emphasis on the coast, etc.)
- Existing and new technologies are developed or enhanced to support hubs and industry
- Technology and innovations are tested and quickly made available to, and adopted by all members of the network
- Producers and processors realize increased production and capacity, market opportunities, higher margins, faster commercialization, market ready technologies and information sharing
- The data needed to continually improve and inform the model, the food processing industry and the Province's public policy development are available
- Quality data exist to demonstrate food products are of high quality and safe, the scale of production and profit, and to inform provincial decision-making
- There are strong partnerships with, and active participation by, several BC post-secondary institutions

NEXT STEPS

It will take a thoughtful, consistent, proactive and comprehensive approach to the current challenges for the plan and project to be successfully implemented.

Discussions with the ministry and the Advisory (Steering) Committee throughout the development of this Implementation Strategy suggest the ministry will fundamentally accept the recommended actions and move proactively to implement them.



MAY 10 2019

File: 0280-30
Ref: 190207

Her Worship Sylvia Pranger
7170 Cheam Avenue
PO Box 70
Agassiz, BC V0M 1A0

Dear Mayor Pranger:

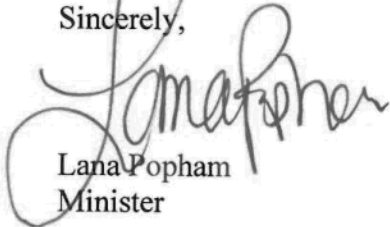
Thank you for your letter of March 6, 2019. It is good to hear that the District of Kent is working hard to support the agriculture community in a variety of ways, and I trust the community will benefit from such work for many generations to come. I appreciate the issues raised in your letter and the challenges associated with being a community where urban development is surrounded by highly productive ALR land.

As you know, I have a mandate to revitalize the ALR and a number of initiatives are underway which will support farmers in your district.

With respect to the ALC, please understand that I do not have influence over their decisions: the ALC is an independent administrative tribunal.

The priority for ALR land is farming. I encourage the District to become a leader in finding an alternative to the sprawl model of development that has been continuing to occur in the Fraser Valley and which threatens the agricultural land base of the region. I would also encourage the District to continue to work with AGRI staff to plan for agriculture in the community, and to draft bylaws supportive of agriculture.

Sincerely,



Lana Popham
Minister

Ministry of Agriculture
MEETING NOTE FOR MINISTER ON THE B.C. SALMON RESTORATION AND INNOVATION FUND

Ref: 190209

Date: April 24, 2019

Title: Briefing on the status of the B.C. Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF).

Issue: Status of BCSRIF, including purpose, timelines, investment requirements, alignment with provincial strategic objectives, and next steps.

Background: On March 15, 2019, Premier Horgan and federal Minister Andrew Wilkinson announced a \$142.85M five-year joint investment to create the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF). The federal government committed \$100M to the fund and the provincial contribution to BCSRIF is \$42.85M (70:30 contribution ratio).

During this announcement, BCSRIF was officially launched, with a public website opened for receipt of Expressions of Interest (EOIs). Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) EOI process is a non-competitive method for organizations to formally engage with DFO and B.C. about their project concept with minimal investment of time and money. By submitting an EOI, an organization gets "in the door" of BCSRIF. This leads to DFO and B.C. to jointly determine eligibility and there may be feedback provided on an organization's project concept. The EOI approach provides DFO and B.C. the opportunity to suggest improvements to project ideas, potential collaborations between stakeholders, etc. that will result in better project proposals and best investment of funding.

The outcome of an EOI process is that eligible organizations with eligible project concepts are invited to apply and submit a complete proposal package to DFO. Organizations can further engage with DFO/B.C. during the proposal development period to ask questions and get direction. Multiple proposal submissions may go back-and-forth between an organization and DFO/B.C. before a final fundable proposal is received. These final application and proposal packages will be reviewed jointly by DFO and B.C. Successful applicants will be invited to enter into a Contribution Agreement with DFO.

The Province's role under BCSRIF is primarily focused on establishing annual priorities for the fund and assessing funding requests collaboratively with DFO. The Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) is managing the BCSRIF agreement for the Province and will lead coordination with provincial agencies on establishing the priorities and collecting technical feedback on funding requests. A draft governance structure can be found in Appendix 1.

With the fund now live, the Province is coordinating internally to support BCSRIF and ensure B.C.'s priorities are communicated to DFO. A subset of Natural Resource Sector (NRS) ADM's (AGRI, Ministries of Forest Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development, Environment, and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation) meet regularly to discuss the overall B.C. approach to provide direction on BCSRIF. Additionally, NRS Directors have had meetings and made progress on a coordinated approach to B.C. input on:

- Potential provincial priority projects and third-party delivery partners;
- Draft assessment criteria;
- Development of a subset of Technical Experts (for proposal review); and,
- Review of EOIs received during the first intake.

First Nations Considerations

First Nations make up a significant proportion of commercial fishermen, as well as have economic interests in tidal sportfishing and aquaculture. Additionally, they have strong cultural and social ties to salmon and the marine environment and a Constitutional right to harvest fish.^{s.16}

s.16

Discussion: BCSRIF will provide funding support for many wild salmon initiatives in B.C. with immediate focus on high impact areas including:

- Protecting critical salmonid habitats from loss or degradation, and investing in the restoration of critical habitats that have been lost or degraded;
- Maintenance of healthy and diverse salmon populations, with focus on existing community-based hatcheries and community education; and,

- Supporting the implementation of the recommendations that were provided by First Nations governments, industry and the Province around aquaculture in the Broughton Archipelago.

The first intake deadline required EOIs was April 15, 2019. This expedited deadline is due to the impending “blackout” period that the federal government will be subject to with the pending 2019 election, during which funding of applications and agreements cannot be approved by DFO. There will be a second intake in the fall of 2019, as well as subsequent intakes over the five years. Leading up to the intake period, there were a significant number of unsolicited proposals and interests expressed from potential delivery partners in addition to targeted joint DFO/B.C. exploratory meetings with key sector representatives (e.g., Pacific Salmon Foundation, Sport Fishing Advisory Board, International Year of the Salmon, BC Seafood Alliance, etc.).

Following the first intake period, a total of 191 EOIs were received. Of these, 22 were deemed ineligible (i.e., either the applicant or the proposed activities were not eligible as per the BCSRIF eligibility criteria). These applicants will receive a notification letter from DFO that with changes, the organization(s) could potentially re-apply.

The remaining eligible submissions are currently being reviewed for technical feasibility and soundness by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) within DFO and by a cross-ministry provincial team. Following SME review, B.C. and DFO will reach consensus on:

- The applicants that will be invited to submit full proposal packages;
- The applicants that will be assisted to further develop their project; and,
- The applicants that will be encouraged to rethink their project concepts or redirected to more appropriate funding opportunities.

DFO and provincial staff will make recommendations on EOI’s by April 30th for review jointly by the ADM Management Committee and the Deputy Minister Steering Committee, who will meet jointly on May 3rd to review and approve the list of recommended EOI’s. DFO, as the implementing party of the BCSRIF, will communicate the decision results to EOI proponents, including inviting successful EOI proponents to submit complete application and proposal packages as soon as possible. **s.13**

s.13

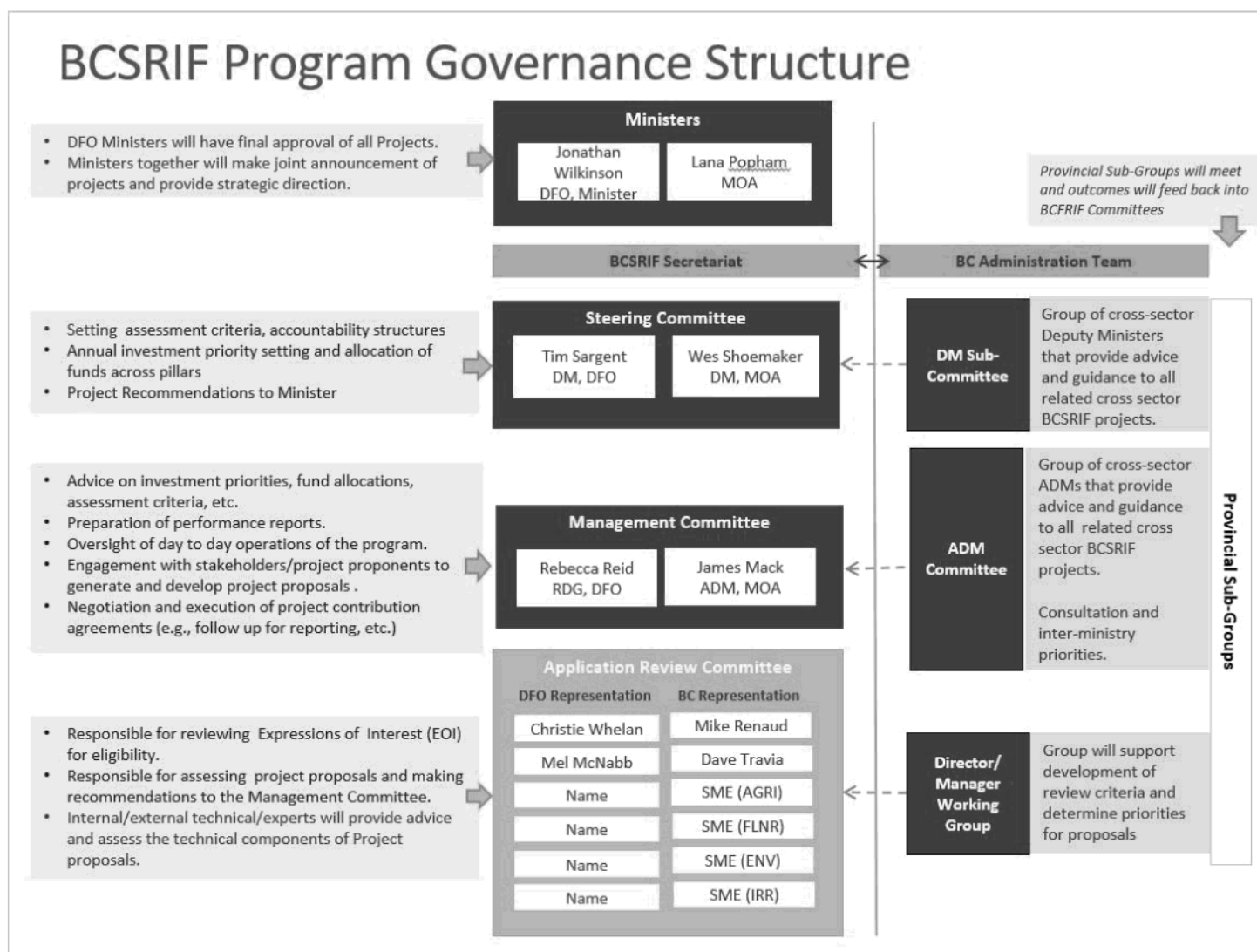
Next steps:

- **A list of recommended EOIs will be finalized by DFO and provincial staff on April 30.**
- **The BCSRIF Steering Committee and BCSRIF Management Committee will meet jointly on May 3 to review and approve the list of recommended EOIs.**
- **DFO is the lead on communicating the results of the May 3rd meeting to EOI proponents, including inviting successful EOI proponents to submit complete application and proposal packages as soon as possible.**

s.13

Contact: David Travia, Director Intergovernmental Relations, Seafood and Trade, 778-974-3764

ED LH ADM JM DM WS



Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION FOR MEETING WITH THE
TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN

Ref: 190236

Date: April 30, 2019

Title: The Township of Spallumcheen has requested a meeting with the Minister that is occurring on May 1, 2019.

Issue: Spallumcheen would like to discuss impacts to their local community from recent changes made to the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (ALCA) by Bill 52 and those proposed by Bill 15.

Background: Located in the Okanagan, the Township of Spallumcheen has 54.6% of its total land area (14,023 hectares) located in the ALR. A 2016 census of Spallumcheen and Armstrong showed a population of 10,220, farms in the number of 371 and gross farm receipts of \$69.7 million. The townships' new mayor, Her Worship Christine Fraser, has been hosting Farming Round Table discussions and has revitalized its Agricultural Advisory Committee. The Mayor sent a letter requesting a meeting regarding the amendments to the ALCA, as well as 21 questions relating to the Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), and the changes that came from the Interim report recommendations that led to Bill 52 and Bill 15. The questions and responses are attached in Appendix A.

On January 4, 2018, the Minister of Agriculture created the Independent Minister's Advisory Committee (Committee) for the Revitalization of the ALR and ALC. The Committee was tasked to provide strategic advice and policy guidance, based on the outcome of a broad engagement process with stakeholders across the B.C., on how to best achieve the minister's mandate to revitalize the ALR and the ALC. The Committee travelled to nine communities around B.C. to hear from agricultural and regional stakeholders. There were over 270 written submissions made as part of the engagement process, and over 2,300 British Columbians completed the committee's online survey.

The Committee submitted two early reports to the minister on July 31, 2018:

- "What We Heard Report" summarizing the results of engagement; and,
- An "Interim Committee Report" with 13 recommendations for immediate legislative and regulatory change.

The B.C. Government accepted nearly all the recommendations from the Interim Committee Report and took a two phased legislative approach to bring forward amendments to the ALCA. The final Committee report was received on December 4, 2018, by the Ministry of Agriculture and is expected to be released in the near term.

Discussion: The two phased legislative approach was initiated in the fall with Bill 52 - *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act*, 2018 (Bill 52). Bill 52 was introduced on November 5, 2018, passed by the legislature and received Royal Assent on November 27, 2018. On February 22, 2019, it was brought into force by regulation. Bill 52 provided three key changes, including:

- Directly addressing mega-mansions and speculation in the ALR by limiting primary residence size on ALR lands to 500 m² and empowering the ALC to approve additional residences if they are for farm use;
- Increased ALC oversight and clarity on the rules to restrict the removal of soil and increased penalties for dumping of construction debris and other harmful fill in the ALR; and,
- Reunifying the ALR as a single zone, ensuring consistent rules with strong protections for all provincial ALR land.

For fairness, landowners will be grandfathered to build a house larger than the provincial maximum who:

- had all their permits and authorizations in place on February 22, 2019 (when the Regulations became law); and,
- Have substantial construction of their foundation completed by November 5, 2019.

Prior to the changes made by Bill 52, local governments had the authority to approve a primary residence of any size on the ALR, and approve an additional residence on any ALR parcel if it was necessary for farm-use. Bill 52 changed this by placing a maximum size limit of 500 m², but maintaining the local governments' authority to set a smaller house size.

Families with properties in the ALR who need more residential space may make a non-adhering residential use application to the ALC, for its consideration, to either build a primary residence larger than 500m² or an additional residence necessary for farm use. Such an application requires the support of the local or first nation government in order to proceed to the ALC. Owners who had all their permits and authorizations in place by February 22, 2019 will be grandfathered under the old system provided they begin substantial construction by November 5, 2019.

Despite reported claims on the changes that occurred related to Bill 52 and the associated regulation, people will, in fact, still be able to have secondary homes, detached suites and mobile homes on land in the ALR. The only change is that they will now require approval from the ALC, instead of their local government.

On March 7, 2019, the B.C. Government introduced Bill 15- *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act*, 2019 (Bill 15) in the legislature. Before Bill 15 becomes law, it must still be passed by legislature and receive Royal Assent. If that occurs, the law will be brought into force by future regulation.

s.12,s.13,s.16

Contact: Arlene Anderson, Director of Legislation, (778) 698-5170

ED LH ADM JM DM WS

Appendix A - Questions from Township of Spallumcheen

1. Concerns regarding secondary dwellings for immediate family or farm help how it has changed as we have 3 residents caught in limbo due to the legislative changes.
 - There is a clear application process to those requiring secondary homes for farming on the ALR.
 - ALC has not received any applications in their portal and don't see any applications for non-adhering residential use from Spallumcheen but they are welcome to encourage the LG to ask the owners to make application to the Commission for consideration.
 - The ALC have prepared information bulletins describing the process requirements for related applications.
2. What expectation does the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) have on local governments with regards to reviewing applications prior to forwarding them on to the Commission for consideration? The \$300 application fee doesn't adequately cover staff time.
 - The \$300 fee is historic (nothing has changed).
 - Other LG's have identified concerns with the fee associated with LG review.
 - The province is willing to have a discussion with LG's on this portion of the ALC application fee.
3. When will the final report on revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the ALC be released?
 - The independent Advisory Committee's final report has been released.
 - It is posted on the Revitalization of the ALR and ALC engagement site.
4. Will there be an opportunity for the public and/or local governments to review and provide comment on the recommendations outlined in the draft report prior to it being finalized?
 - This report was developed by an Independent Committee.
 - Government has had no influence on the development of the interim report or the final report recommendations.
 - The recommendations in the report were developed based on the engagement process that occurred from February through April 2018.
 - The committee did meet with UBCM and local governments attended the nine sessions, as well there were submissions from LG's to the committee through the written submission process.
 - Ministry staff have reviewed the report on behalf of government so that government can report on what actions have been undertaken and what further analysis is required for remaining recommendations.
5. Why have the ALC Act and Regulations been changed prior to the release of the final

report?

- The independent committee provided government with early strategic advice and policy guidance for legislative, regulatory and administrative changes through their interim report released in August 2018.
 - Government supported the introduction of legislative amendments based on the interim report recommendations given the revitalization of the ALR and ALC was one of the Minister's mandate letter commitments.
6. To what degree did the Ministry's Advisory Committee consider the impact the recommendations outlined in the draft report would have on rural areas versus urban areas?
- The independent committee travelled to nine communities during the engagement process, including some in rural B.C. and heard from over 2300 British Columbians across the Province.
 - The communities include Abbotsford, Cranbrook, Fort St. John, Kelowna, Kamloops, Nanaimo, Prince George and Quesnel.
7. Did the Ministry's Advisory Committee consider the data related to the agricultural and residential use of ALR land when preparing the recommendations outlined in the draft report?
- According to the report, the independent committee engaged with numerous stakeholders and experts in land use and land economics including local governments, academic institutions and a wide range of other stakeholders and key partners.
 - The committee received over 270 written submissions, substantive reports on land use and related urban/rural pressures.
 - The final report includes a bibliography of the reports and submissions that were considered.
8. What criteria were used in choosing members of the Advisory Committee?
- The independent committee members have a background in agriculture, including ALR policy experts, academic experts, local government elected officials who are also farmers, and other agricultural stakeholders, and First Nation representation.
9. What criteria will be used by the ALC to determine if a second residence for farm help will be permitted?
- The ALC consider statutory and regulatory criteria within the ALC's legal mandate/purpose to adjudicate applications.
 - The ALC routinely develops internal process and application requirements that include criteria, which I expect would be the case for additional residences.

- The Commission's webpage on "What the Commission Considers" <https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/applications-and-decisions/what-the-commission-considers> provides some insight into what the Commission might consider.
10. How will the Ministry be assisting property owners that had invested in properties and/or building plans to construct a second dwelling unit (manufactured home for family or detached suite) but did not have a Building Permit or foundation in place prior to February 22, 2019?
- Property owners who are not grandfathered under the new housing rules can make application to the Commission for a non-adhering residential use.
11. Will there be an increase to the local government portion of ALR application fees?
- The \$300 fee is historic.
 - Other LG's have identified concerns with the fee associated with LG review.
 - The province is willing to have a discussion with LG's on this portion of the ALC application fee.
 - This requires further engagement with local governments and the ALC before these fees are changed.
12. Will the Ministry provide assistance to local governments, financial or otherwise, to help cover costs incurred by the need to amend local government bylaws to conform to the recent changes to the ALC Act and Regulations?
- Note: expense on amendments is staff time but understand that Spallumcheen contracts planning staff support from the Regional District of the North Okanagan.
 - Those local government that have existing bylaws that establishes a maximum house size in the ALR smaller than the new provincial maximum will require no amendments.
 - Ministry land use planners and regional agrologists are available to provide advice and support to local governments as they amend local bylaws to comply with the new regulations.
13. Will the Ministry answer questions of the public and/or local governments as it relates to how the new Act and Regulations are to be interpreted?
- The Ministry will be undertaking outreach to local governments and will provide policy guidelines and information on government's ALR and ALC revitalization initiative, including new legislative and regulatory changes.
 - The ALC also provides guidance through information bulletins on their interpretation of the Act and regulations.
 - The policy guidelines and ALC information will support consistency in how the changes are interpreted.
14. How many more changes to the Act and Regulations will be forthcoming?
- Bill 15 will need to pass second reading, committee debate, third reading and receive royal

assent before it becomes law.

- A regulation will bring this bill into force.
- Bill 52 introduced authority to regulate 'Homeplate' - that outlines the residential footprint on the ALR.
- Ministry staff will be engaging with LG's to discuss this prior to moving forward on any regulatory changes that would occur in Fall 2019.

15. Will the Ministry or ALC enforce infractions related to the placement of gravel on driveways and/or building areas?

- The ALC is responsible for compliance and enforcement of fill placement and soil removal that is offside the ALCA.
- The ALC has indicated that they will be taking action but would like to enforce collaboratively with local governments with the enforcement action based on complaint.

16. How does the Ministry or ALC plan to improve enforcement efforts?

- ALC has been approved to add two new additional C&E officers to the budget this year with an officer based in the Okanagan already.

17. Do exclusion applications have to be block exclusions or can they be for individual properties?

- Bill 15 will have to be passed by the legislature, receive Royal Assent, and be brought into force through regulation before it becomes law that is in force.
- The legislation does not specify what form these applications from local governments will be required so local governments and First Nation governments will have the ability to determine how to best bring exclusion applications to the ALC for consideration.
- The goal is to have exclusion applications be strategic and based on good land use planning principals.

18. Does the 90 day limit for requesting reconsideration of exclusion applications apply to local governments that submit or have already submitted applications?

- If Bill 15 becomes law and is brought into force, the 90 day request for reconsideration applies to all decisions of the Commission including ones made by local governments.
- An applicant cannot ask for reconsideration before the ALC has made a decision on the application.
- There are transition provisions that allow anyone with a decision prior to the new rules having force and effect to request a reconsideration for 90 days after the new rules take effect.

19. Due to the impending ALC regulations and legislation changes, the introduction of those changes, and with the results of the changes being realized and impacting farming communities; will the Minister consider establishing regional consultation groups to better understand and collaborate on pending plans for additional changes?

- The ministry would be interested in hearing your ideas on what the regional consultation groups looks like.
 - Ministry staff will be reaching out to engage with LG's on upcoming regulatory changes related to Homeplate.
 - There is an opportunity to hear from LG's on other areas that the ministry can collaborate better with LG's and with ALC staff.
20. How will residents be dealt with when they have existing dwellings on their property that may not have an occupancy permit, when the new legislation says secondary dwellings must be removed?
- The legislation allows for completion of the construction or alteration of an existing additional residence if, as of February 22, 2019, it had all applicable authorizations and its foundation was substantially completed.
 - There is no requirement in the new legislation that compels an additional residence to be removed if there is no occupancy permit in place.
21. How does the new legislation affect a cannabis facility that was:
- a) approved and compliant with local authorities, prior to the August 15, 2018 ALC Information Bulletin (commenced prior to July 13th 2019), and,
 - b) was and continues to be under construction prior to the ALC Information Bulletin of August 15th 2018, and
 - c) continues to be built as submitted prior to the August 15, 2018 ALC Bulletin in a phased approach that requires permitting to be issued for the next step?
- Since the July 13, 2018 regulatory amendment, local and first nations governments can prohibit cannabis production in the ALR, unless it is grown in ways that preserve the productive capacity of agricultural land.
 - This regulatory change, gave authority to local and first nations governments to prohibit cement-based, industrial-style, cannabis-production bunkers on ALR land in their communities, while clarifying that cannabis production in the ALR cannot be prohibited if grown lawfully:
 - in an open field;
 - in a structure that has a soil base;
 - in a structure that was either fully constructed or under construction, with required permits in place, prior to July 13, 2018; or
 - in an existing licensed operation.
 - The regulation grandfathers the construction of structures under construction, with all required authorizations, prior to July 13, 2018 and continues with without interruption to completion.
 - Government is unable to provide legal advice to persons outside of government. A local government should obtain independent legal advice on whether construction of a structure in a phased approach that requires permitting fits within the grandfathering provision of the regulation.

Ministry of Agriculture
MEETING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR MEETING WITH ECOTRUST CANADA
VICE-PRESIDENT, TASHA SUTCLIFFE

Ref: 190255

Date: May 8, 2019

Title: Meeting with Minister Popham and Tasha Sutcliffe of Ecotrust Canada

Issue: Tasha Sutcliffe would like to discuss Ecotrust Canada's activities involving B.C.'s fisheries files, specifically their engagement with the Federal Standing Committee on Fisheries (FOPO) and its new report on Pacific commercial fisheries licensing, and their community/industry/partner engagements.

Background:

Tasha Sutcliffe is the Vice-President of Ecotrust Canada, and was a member of B.C.'s Wild Salmon Advisory Council (WSAC). She was also one of the many people consulted by FOPO in the creation of a report titled *West Coast Fisheries: Sharing Risks and Benefits* released on May 7, 2019. The report is on Pacific fisheries licensing policies and contains sweeping recommendations to change the current socioeconomic dynamic of the industry in B.C. Tasha Sutcliffe is quoted multiple times within the report regarding her views on the problems with the current systems.

In September 2016, the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Minister tasked FOPO to review and study changes made to the *Fisheries Act* in 2012, with an aim to restore lost protections to fish and fish habitat and modernize the legislation. In 2017, DFO advised all provinces that they would be adding components to the amendments to the *Act* related to fisheries management and socioeconomic fisheries policies. More specifically, DFO would look to enshrine historic Atlantic owner-operator fisheries policies within the *Fisheries Act*. B.C. has participated fully in reviews of the amendments to the *Act* both bilaterally and through the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers (CCFAM) tables. Due to the sensitivities regarding the imposition of Atlantic fisheries policies on the west coast, B.C. relayed strong messaging to DFO on the need for full public consultation regarding any changes to the management and licensing structure in the Pacific.

While studying the proposed amendments to the *Fisheries Act*, FOPO heard many conflicting statements from B.C. fisheries stakeholders on the benefits and drawbacks of the current licensing and quota system in the Pacific. This prompted FOPO to undertake a separate process to hear from over 40 witnesses through early 2019 and develop a stand-alone report with recommendations on improving the distribution of economic benefits generated by the fishing industry in B.C.

The FOPO report contains 20 recommendations (Appendix 1) with potentially sweeping changes to the current licensing and quota regime in place, as well as other recommendations aimed at improving transparency and accessibility to fishing resources.

First Nations Considerations:

First Nations communities provide approximately 20 per cent of the workforce in the fishing sector, substantially higher than the provincial average of 5 per cent. The Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) was launched by DFO in 2007 to develop economically viable First Nations involvement in commercial fisheries through redistributing voluntarily relinquished fishing licences or quota to fishing enterprises established by First Nations. Approximately \$140M worth of commercial fishing access has been purchased by DFO and distributed to date. Some First Nations indicate that First Nations input in PICFI's decision-making is lacking and that many licences purchased by First Nations enterprises go back to the open market to the highest bidder, contributing to prohibitive prices of licences and quotas.

Recommendation 18 in the report is specific to the inclusion of First Nations, recommending that transition strategies should take account of the recommendations, needs, rights and capacities of First Nations and the framework for reconciliation.

Discussion:

In Atlantic Canada in 2007, DFO adopted the Policy for Preserving the Independence of the Inshore Fleet in Canada's Atlantic Fisheries (PIIFCAF). PIIFCAF was put in place to ensure that commercial inshore fish harvesters remain independent, and that the benefits of fishing licences flow to the fisher and coastal communities. PIIFCAF also serves to strengthen the Fleet Separation Policy which keeps the ownership of the fish harvesting sector separate from the processing sector, and the Owner-Operator Policy which requires the holders of licences for inshore vessels to be present on the boat during fishing operations.

In the Pacific, DFO introduced measures to manage fish stocks including: a limited entry licencing regime, total allowable catch (TAC) limits, and individual transferable quotas (ITQs). ITQs give their owners exclusive and transferable rights to catch a given portion of the TAC of a given fish stock. ITQs can be owned by individual active and non-active fishers, non-fisher investors, vessels or enterprises, and are transferable through selling, buying and leasing in an open market. Over time, some owners of ITQs found they can make more money leasing out their quotas than fishing it themselves.

ITQs were introduced as a solution to overfishing, safety concerns and allowed better quality products over a much longer season which has enabled higher returns to both fishermen and processors. Upon introduction of the ITQ system all fisheries showed an increase in industry product and most fisheries showed an increase in wages and person-year employment. However, ITQs shifted the balance of power where the licence/vessel owner appropriates a greater share of the increase in 'industry value' than does the processor or crew.

Studies presented within the FOPO report noted that ITQs create inflationary markets for licences and quota and are becoming increasingly concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. The studies show high market value of quota is well outside the reach of many rural working families, First Nations and younger fishermen, and that many rural communities and First Nations see few benefits accruing from adjacent fisheries resources.

The report makes many comparisons to East Coast owner-operator quota systems and compares economic performance data that suggests no growth in landed values in B.C. while both Atlantic Canadian and Alaskan fisheries have seen significant growth.

The report outlines that the federal responsibilities within fisheries management include economic, social and environmental factors and that DFO's fisheries assessment and management have focused on biological productivity with insufficient consideration of social (including cultural), economic, and institutional (governance) aspects.

With the majority of fisheries management jurisdiction residing with the federal government, most of the recommendations in the report are aimed at DFO. However, there are implications for the Province's interests in the commerce of fisheries in all the recommendations, as well as three recommendations that specifically list the Government of British Columbia, which include:

Recommendation 7: *That Fisheries and Oceans Canada undertake discussions with the Province of British Columbia to explore the establishment of a model for a loan board to support harvesters' intent on purchasing licences and/or quota, to maintain or modernize existing vessels or to purchase new ones.*

Recommendation 10: *That Fisheries and Oceans Canada work with the Government of British Columbia to develop strategies to expand value-added fish processing in British Columbia and the recapture of benefits from processing in adjacent communities.*

Recommendation 14: *That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a new policy framework through a process of authentic and transparent engagement with all key stakeholders: [...] The Minister responsible for fisheries in the British Columbia government; [...].*

s.12,s.13

DFO staff in the Pacific region also received the report when it was released publicly. They are analyzing it internally. No decision has been made on what DFO's response might be, as there are considerations around the federal election timing that may be preventative. It is likely any response will be led out of DFO headquarters in Ottawa, rather than Pacific Region.

Next Steps:

s.13

Key Messages:

s.13

Appendices:

1- List of FOPO report recommendations.

2 – Letter from Don Wright to Wild Salmon Advisory Council members.

Contact: Mike Turner, Senior Policy Analyst, 778-698-3129

ED LH ADM JM DM WS

Appendix 1- List of FOPO report recommendations.

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of their deliberations committees may make recommendations which they include in their reports for the consideration of the House of Commons or the Government. Recommendations related to this study are listed below.

Recommendation 1

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada maintain the limited transferability for non-directed catch, which is a widely supported system for ensuring that non-targeted groundfish that is caught can be sold and tracked for conservation purposes. 22

Recommendation 2

That based on the principle that fish in Canadian waters are a resource for Canadians (i.e. common property), no future sales of fishing quota and/or licences be to non-Canadian beneficial owners based on the consideration of issues of legal authority, and international agreement/trade impacts 24

Recommendation 3

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada permit the separation of stacked (or “married”) licences for sale by the licence owner to divest some or all of their licences in the sole intent of facilitating existing harvesters and new entrants to become owner-operators..... 27

Recommendation 4

That, to increase the transparency of quota licence ownership and transactions, Fisheries and Oceans Canada determine and publish, in an easily accessible and readable format, a public online database that includes the following:

- The beneficial holder of all fishing quota and licences in British Columbia, including penalties for failing to accurately disclose the holder of fishing quota and/or licences, and that Fisheries and Oceans Canada work with Finance Canada to achieve this goal.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All sales or leasing of quota and licence holdings be reported and made public by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, including buyer, seller and sale/leasing price. 	32
 Recommendation 5	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada prioritize the collection of socio-economic data for past and future regulatory changes and make this information publicly available	33
 Recommendation 6	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a comparative analysis of the East Coast and West Coast fisheries in regard to regulations with a view to devising policy that would level the playing field for independent British Columbian fishers	33
 Recommendation 7	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada undertake discussions with the Province of British Columbia to explore the establishment of a model for a loan board to support harvesters' intent on purchasing licences and/or quota, to maintain or modernize existing vessels or to purchase new ones.	36
 Recommendation 8	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, provide financial incentives to independent ownership of licences and quota vs. corporate, overseas or absentee ownership. This could include: tax incentives; a shared risks and benefits program; and/or the creation of community licence and quota banks.	37
 Recommendation 9	
That Fisheries and Oceans Canada create a loan and mentorship program to help independent harvesters enter the industry	3

Recommendation 10

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada work with the Government of British Columbia to develop strategies to expand value-added fish processing in British Columbia and the recapture of benefits from processing in adjacent communities. 37

Recommendation 11

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, establish an open public auction process to allow fishers to lease licence and quota 40

Recommendation 12

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, establish a licence exchange board to allow the trading of licences between owners. 40

Recommendation 13

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada reconstitute the membership of advisory boards to ensure equitable representation by fishers, processors and quota owners. 41

Recommendation 14

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a new policy framework through a process of authentic and transparent engagement with all key stakeholders:

- Active fish harvesters (or where they exist, organizations that represent them) in all fisheries and fleets including owner-operators, non-owner-operators, and crew;**
- First Nations commercial fish harvesters (or where they exist, organizations that represent them);**
- Organizations representing licence and quota holders that are not active fish harvesters, including fish processing companies;**

- Organizations representing First Nations that hold licences and quotas for commercial fisheries;
- The Minister responsible for fisheries in the British Columbia government;
- Fisheries policy experts from academic institutions and non-governmental organizations; and
- Representatives of municipal governments and socio-economic development, health and cultural agencies in coastal communities..... 41

Recommendation 15

That, with regard to West Coast commercial fisheries, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans establish an independent commission to:

- Develop a concept for a ‘fair-share’ system to equitably allocate the proceeds from the fishery of individual species between the quota/licence holder, the processor and the harvester, based on the average wholesale price earned by the processor over a three-month period.
- Work with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to explore the feasibility of set limits on the amount of quota or number of licences for an individual species that can be owned by an individual or entity and ensure that comprehensive consultations are undertaken.
- Devise a policy of current market buy back from fishers looking to exit the industry and to prioritize that quota and licence sale to emerging young or independent fishers through a student/mentorship/apprenticeship program as has been done successfully in other regions for the country and other jurisdictions (Maine, Alaska, Norway) who have testified before this committee.
- Prepare a concept through comprehensive consultations that could transition the West Coast fishery to a “made-in-BC” owner-operator model 43

Recommendation 16

That the development of Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s new policy framework should be undertaken by a working group chaired by a senior National Headquarters official and comprised of appropriate officials from National Headquarters and Pacific Region.....44

Recommendation 17

That the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans direct the Department to develop an implementation framework for transition with time limits and phased approaches similar to the *Policy for Preserving the Independence of the Inshore Fleet in Canada’s Atlantic Fisheries* (PIIFCAF), but appropriate to particular fleets and/or fisheries.....44

Recommendation 18

That transition strategies should take account of the recommendations, needs, rights and capacities of First Nations and the framework for reconciliation44

Recommendation 19

That the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans initiate immediate steps to regulate quota licence leasing costs to allow for a fair return for vessel owners and adequate incomes for fish harvesters during the transition to owner-operator. Such measures should continue after transition to guarantee crews fair wages under the new regime.....45

Recommendation 20

That Fisheries and Oceans Canada develop a plan to achieve its five-objective fisheries management regime, which includes conservation outcomes: compliance with legal obligations; promoting the stability and economic viability of fishing operations; encouraging the equitable distribution of benefits; and facilitating data collection for administration, enforcement and planning purposes.....45



March 8, 2019

Via Email

Dear MLA Routley, Chief Marilyn Slett and members of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council;

I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the commitment, passion and dedication you have shown in the important work of paving the way for a made-in-B.C. Wild Salmon Strategy. Your exemplary work reflects the importance the people of British Columbia place on this important species and resource. I also wish to acknowledge the work of Coastal First Nations in serving as the coordinating secretariat for the Wild Salmon Advisory Council (WSAC).

Your report makes clear that supporting the restoration of healthy and abundant wild salmon stocks in B.C., is both complex and labour intensive. Different regions, communities and groups have articulated different priorities, and I commend you for your efforts to both articulate and balance these many interests.

I also appreciate the extra time and effort that members of the WSAC dedicated to the public engagement phase of this work. I thank you all for taking the time to listen to and consider these contributions in producing your recommendations.

I am pleased that you have provided the Province with recommendations for tangible, near-term actions that will provide us with a path forward. Government is looking forward to taking action on many of these goals and will be accepting almost all of your near-term recommendations, including those listed under the following strategies:

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s.16;s.13

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Allison Witter, Director of the Wild Salmon Secretariat at 250-387-0863 or by email at wildsalmonsecretariat@gov.bc.ca .

Thank you once again for your dedication to this important work. With your guidance we look forward to engaging in the complex, difficult but necessary work of restoring and supporting wild salmon in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Don Wright', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Don Wright
Deputy Minister to the Premier,
Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Public Service

Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR DEPUTY MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 190269

Date: May 1, 2019

Title: Farmers Advocate Office (FAO) Management Committee Working Group Meeting Recap

Issue: FAO Management Committee Working Group had their first meeting April 17, 2019

Background: The FAO opened in Dawson Creek in 2010 with the goal of providing rural landowners access to relevant information to manage their land and agriculture assets in order to mitigate business risk and maximize future economic opportunity as it relates to interactions with the oil and gas industry. The FAO has been funded by the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) and the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (EMPR). A representative from those organizations in addition to a representative from the Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) and a local landowner sit on the FAO Management Committee to oversee program delivery.

The contract with FAO expired in August 2018. Before renewing the contract, it was decided that a third party review was to be conducted to evaluate services of FAO (awareness, usage and satisfaction of clients with FAO, if/how the scope of service should be adjusted/ expanded or improved) and the operations (what funding models exist to provide this service to landowners and where does the jurisdictional responsibility and capacity to offer these services live). The Evaluation Report was released February 2019. The group has committed to working together in the coming months to review the findings in the report and provide a recommendation for the future direction of FAO.

The working group held their first meeting April 17, 2019

Present: Shawn Dahlen (PRRD), Lori Vickers (AGRI), Corey Jonsson (OGC), Richard Bader (EMPR)

Absent: Judy Madden (landowner representative)

A second meeting was held April 30, 2019 with all five participants listed above in attendance.

Key Points from FAO Working Group Meeting:

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Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 190294

Date: May 7, 2019

Title: Briefing on the B.C. Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF).

Issue: Status of BCSRIF following the first intake of Expressions of Interest and next steps.

Background: On March 15, 2019, Premier Horgan and federal Minister Andrew Wilkinson announced a \$142.85M five-year joint investment to create the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF). The federal government committed \$100M to the fund and the provincial contribution to BCSRIF is \$42.85M (70:30 contribution ratio).

At the March 15th announcement, the provincial funding priorities for the first year of BCSRIF were identified as follows:

- Protecting critical salmonid habitats from loss or degradation and investing in the restoration of critical habitats that have been lost or degraded.
- Maintenance of healthy and diverse salmon populations, with focus on existing community-based hatcheries and community education.
- Supporting the implementation of the recommendations that were provided by First Nations governments, industry and the Province around aquaculture in the Broughton Archipelago.

During this announcement, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) opened BCSRIF to the first Expressions of Interest (EOI) process. The deadline for eligible applicants to submit an EOI for project funding was April 15. The short timeframe for this first intake of EOI was due to DFO's desire to have review and approvals concluded by May 3. This will allow for final negotiations of some funding agreements to be concluded in time for public announcements prior to any federal restrictions on public communications in advance of the upcoming federal election.

First Nations Considerations: All coastal First Nations and many interior First Nations have a cultural connection with salmon and are intimately involved in salmon fisheries, management and habitat restoration. About 31 percent of all commercial fishing jobs (including processing) are held by B.C.'s Indigenous people. Salmon farms are currently located in the traditional territories of 28 First Nations, with 20 economic and social partnerships in place with B.C. salmon farmers. 78% of B.C.'s farmed salmon production comes from areas covered by partnerships with First Nations. First Nations communities provide approximately 20% of the workforce in the aquaculture and fishing sector, substantially higher than the provincial average of 5%.

Discussion: The first BCSRIF EOI intake resulted in 191 submissions. Of those submitted, 23 are not advancing as they were deemed to not meet the eligibility criteria. For the others, a joint review process was undertaken involving DFO and provincial subject matter experts (includes staff from the following ministries: Agriculture; Environment; Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; and, Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development). This process resulted in a list of 23 EOI proponents who are eligible for BCSRIF funding and who have submitted an EOI that is highly-aligned with the priorities of BCSRIF. These proponents will be invited to submit complete application packages as soon as possible.

The remaining 146 EOIs will be reviewed and considered for future intakes. Over the summer, Provincial and DFO staff will work with proponents to discuss opportunities for collaboration and develop a holistic approach for addressing BCSRIF priorities. Proponents will be encouraged to develop partnerships to increase project benefits and maximize the impact of available funding. The 23 applicants deemed ineligible will be provided feedback and encouraged to reapply where appropriate.

Due to compressed timelines, the 23 priority EOI's were reviewed jointly by the ADM Management Committee and the DM Steering Committee on May 3, 2019 between DFO and Ministry of Agriculture with the goal to approve the recommendations brought forth by the work of the cross-ministry review process (see Appendix 1 for the overview presentation).

s.13

Next Steps:

s.13

Contact: David Travia, Corporate Governance, Policy & Legislation Branch, 778 974-3764

ED LH ADM JM DM WS

Ministry of Agriculture
DRAFT BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 190295

Date: May 14, 2019

Title: Regulating Dog and Cat breeder for breeders of dogs and cats in B.C.

Issue: Update on progress.

Background: Ministry staff are actively working to deliver on the four approved pillars for a new regulatory system for breeders of dogs and cats and sellers of their offspring in B.C. The system is expected to implement, through regulation, mandatory registration and standards of care that support responsible breeding and selling of dogs, cats and their offspring in the province. The work underway tracks the results of targeted, multi-year consultation with key stakeholders, and approved Ministry direction.

Discussion: The following is the progress that has been made to date on the four pillars to advance a ‘made-in-B.C.’ solution to the existing issue of irresponsible breeders and sellers.

s.13

Education and Awareness:

Ministry staff are developing materials (including guidance for industry) with input from key stakeholders to deliver education support to breeders and sellers, to ensure local governments have a clear understanding of how the regulatory system aligns with existing bylaws, and to promote a knowledgeable public that expresses a preference for purchasing puppies and kittens from registered breeders and sellers. Staff will be bringing this guidance document out for final stakeholder review in June 2019. Other education materials that will support the registration system are also under development.

Compliance and Inspection:

Based on the outcome of registration (including details gathered in the registration process), the result of complaints about non-compliance with the Standards of Care in Year 1, and available provincial funding, a schedule of mandatory inspection will be developed for Year 2 and beyond.

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The BC SPCA is expected to potentially play a key role in future inspections should it be warranted and funding be available. s.12,s.13

s.12,s.13

Ministry staff are also getting ready to engage with local governments, many of which have existing bylaws related to companion animals, to ensure there is a strong understanding of the provincial approach. These actions to develop a comprehensive approach to ensure dog and cat breeders and sellers are treating their animals and their animal's offspring with appropriate care is a part of B.C. Government's ongoing efforts to ensure an effective regulatory system and overarching animal welfare approach to protect animals in B.C.

Next Steps:

s.13

Contact: Terri Giacomazzi, Senior Policy Analyst, 604-556-3082

ED LH ADM JM DM WS

Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR DEPUTY MINISTER FOR INFORMATION FOR MEETING

Ref: 190308

Date: May 13, 2019

Title: Meeting with BC Real Estate Association (BCREA) to discuss a proposal to provincialize floodplain mapping

Issue: BCREA would like agriculture's support for a proposal to provincialize floodplain mapping

Background:

The British Columbia Real Estate Association has requested a meeting to discuss Ministry of Agriculture support for a joint Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) / Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAH) industry proposal to provincialize floodplain mapping. The expressed objective being a joint proposal championed by AGRI, MAH, and Emergency Management BC (EMBC). They indicate that the current system is piecemeal since it is largely carried out by local governments, and that such a change may provide additional benefits in the face of climate change related risks such as sea level rise, increased precipitation and flooding.

The BCREA indicates that they have spoken with staff at the BC Agriculture Council and the BC Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative regarding the proposal. They indicate that both of these organizations have expressed an interest in partnering on the initiative if it moves forward. It is unclear at this time whether or not the BCREA has discussed the proposal with MAH, who they have proposed to take forward this idea jointly with AGRI.

Discussion:

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Suggested Response:

s.13

Contact: Graham Knox, Director Emergency Management, 778-698-4949

DIR GK ADM AL DM WS

Ministry of Agriculture
MEETING NOTE FOR DEPUTY MINISTER FOR MEETING WITH WILD SALMON FOREVER

Ref: 190323

Date: May 10, 2019

Title: The Deputy Minister of Agriculture meeting with Tony Allard of Wild Salmon Forever.

Issue: Meeting is to discuss developments on the wild salmon file.

Background: Wild Pacific salmon are of great social and economic importance to B.C., sustaining communities coast-wide and generating a wholesale value of \$207 million in 2016. New data indicates they generated \$4.8 billion to the economy of Canada and the U.S. over the 2012 to 2015 period (over \$1B to B.C.). Many Pacific salmon stocks have suffered significant declines leading to equivalent declines in the ecosystems and economies that rely on them. The Ministry of Agriculture and other provincial agencies work on a variety of initiatives that support the restoration and conservation of wild Pacific salmon.

Tony Allard is the President of Wild Salmon Forever (WSF) and the owner and proprietor of Good Hope Cannery lodge, a private sport-fishing lodge in Rivers Inlet. Mr. Allard also supports the Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) and the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project (SSMSP). He has made multiple large donations to fund initiatives and research into declining wild salmon populations. In October 2014, Mr. Allard pledged \$250,000 to the SSMSP, a five-year research effort to determine the causes of major declines in Coho and Chinook salmon in the Strait of Georgia during the last 20 years.

The funding was directed to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) scientist Dr. Kristi Miller-Saunders' Strategic Salmon Health Initiative (a partnership of PSF, Genome BC, and DFO) to inventory pathogens suspected of causing mortality in Pacific salmon. This work uses genetic research tools to study wild, hatchery, and aquaculture salmon in B.C. and the possible transfer of harmful microbes between salmon in B.C. waters. Mr. Allard has been personally supporting research to address this issue for many years. Mr. Allard joined the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and other dignitaries on May 22, 2015 in a major funding announcement of \$57 million for science facilities, marine protection and Pacific salmon research.

Mr. Allard has also been an outspoken critic of salmon aquaculture in B.C. and brought that position to his appointment as a member of the Ministry of Agriculture's Advisory Council on Finfish Aquaculture (MAACFA) through 2017-2018. Mr. Allard co-wrote an article in the Vancouver Sun on June 11th, 2018 urging the Provincial Government not to renew the open-net pen salmon farm tenures on June 20th, 2018. In the article, he places focus on land-based aquaculture and notes that Washington State's commitment to phase out open-net pens leaves B.C. as the only place left in the world trying to manage commercial Pacific salmon fisheries and an open-net pen Atlantic salmon industry in the same water.

First Nations Considerations: One third of fish harvesting jobs are in First Nation communities. Pacific salmon are of critical cultural, social and economic importance for coastal and interior First Nations. In B.C.'s four largest salmon farming companies, 240 employees or 30% of the total direct jobs are staffed by First Nations employees.

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B.C. agencies are currently working towards goals that align with the province's commitments aquaculture. These include implementation of the MAACFA recommendations, initiating the work outlined in Broughton Implementation Plan negotiated with those local First Nations, and working with DFO on improving the environmental and social sustainability of the aquaculture industry. B.C. is also cofounding a study on the economic feasibility of closed-containment aquaculture that will be available this summer.

B.C.'s Wild Salmon Advisory Council (WSAC), a multi-stakeholder advisory council that developed recommendations to support restoring healthy and abundant wild salmon stocks in B.C. has concluded their work. The focus of the recommendations were aimed at the restoration and enhancement of wild salmon populations, sustainable fisheries management and stewardship opportunities and new economic development opportunities to assist viable and sustainable community-based fisheries.

A key piece of implementing both the Broughton Implementation Plan and the WSAC recommendations is the B.C. Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund. This \$142M fund is cost-shared with DFO to fund projects that will restore and protect salmon and sustain B.C.'s seafood economy. The first intake has now closed and over 192 applications were received totaling more than \$320M. Staff from B.C. and DFO are currently reviewing proposals for final announcement by June. The priorities to fund from the provincial perspective include funding the Broughton Implementation Plan, rebuilding stocks through enhancement, and habitat restoration. Funding is critical for B.C. and Canada to achieve shared goals around Pacific salmon and fisheries more broadly

B.C. staff have also been engaged collaboratively with the federal government on other high priority salmon issues including recent chinook fishing restrictions, Southern Resident Killer Whale protection measures, and conservation measures for interior Fraser steelhead, which are under review for listing as a species at risk.

Suggested Response:

s.13

Contact: David Travia, Corporate Governance, Policy and Legislation, 778 974-3764

ED LH ADM JM DM WS

Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR MEETING WITH DFO MINISTER JONATHAN WILKINSON

Ref: 190367

Date: May 21, 2019

Title: Minister Popham meeting with Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Jonathan Wilkinson.

Issue: The meeting will focus on a discussion of three issues: chinook salmon, steelhead, and the B.C. Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF).

First Nations Considerations: All coastal First Nations and many interior First Nations have a cultural connection with salmon and are intimately involved in salmon fisheries, management and habitat restoration. About 31 percent of all commercial fishing jobs (including processing) are held by B.C.'s Indigenous people. Salmon farms are currently located in the traditional territories of 28 First Nations, with 20 economic and social partnerships in place with B.C. salmon farmers. 78% of B.C.'s farmed salmon production comes from areas covered by partnerships with First Nations. First Nations communities provide approximately 20% of the workforce in the aquaculture and fishing sector, substantially higher than the provincial average of 5%.

1. BCSRIF

Background: On March 15, 2019, Premier Horgan and federal Minister Andrew Wilkinson announced a \$142.85M five-year joint investment to create the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF). The federal government committed \$100M to the fund and the provincial contribution to BCSRIF is \$42.85M (70:30 contribution ratio).

At the March 15th announcement, the provincial funding priorities for the first year of BCSRIF were identified as follows:

- Protecting critical salmonid habitats from loss or degradation and investing in the restoration of critical habitats that have been lost or degraded.
- Maintenance of healthy and diverse salmon populations, with focus on existing community-based hatcheries and community education.
- Supporting the implementation of the recommendations that were provided by First Nations governments, industry and the Province around aquaculture in the Broughton Archipelago.

During this announcement, BCSRIF was opened to the first Expressions of Interest (EOI) process. The deadline for eligible applicants to submit an EOI for project funding was April 15. The short timeframe for this first intake of EOI was due to the desire to have review and approvals concluded by May 3. This will allow for final negotiations of some funding agreements to be concluded in time for public announcements prior to any federal restrictions on public communications in advance of the upcoming federal election.

Discussion: The first BCSRIF EOI intake resulted in 191 submissions. Of those submitted, 23 are not advancing as they were deemed to not meet the eligibility criteria. For the others, a joint review process was undertaken involving DFO and provincial subject matter experts (includes staff from the following ministries: Agriculture; Environment; Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; and, Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development). This process resulted in a list of 23 EOI proponents who are eligible for BCSRIF funding and who have submitted an EOI that is highly-aligned with the priorities of BCSRIF. These proponents have been invited to submit complete application packages as soon as possible.

The remaining 146 EOIs will be reviewed and considered for future intakes. Over the summer, Provincial and DFO staff will work with proponents to discuss opportunities for collaboration and develop a holistic approach for addressing BCSRIF priorities. Proponents will be encouraged to develop partnerships to increase

project benefits and maximize the impact of available funding. The 23 applicants deemed ineligible will be provided feedback and encouraged to reapply where appropriate.

Due to compressed timelines, the 23 priority EOI's were reviewed jointly by the ADM Management Committee and the DM Steering Committee on May 3, 2019 between DFO and Ministry of Agriculture with the goal to approve the recommendations brought forth by the work of the cross-ministry review process.

s.13

Key Messages:

s.13

2. Chinook Salmon Closures

Background: On February 5, 2019, DFO sent a letter to First Nations and stakeholders regarding 2019 Fraser River Chinook conservation measures. The letter communicated DFO's proposed approach for developing fisheries management actions to address conservation concerns for Fraser River Chinook in 2019. This action follows from 2018 finfishing closures in Juan de Fuca Strait, Pender Island, and Fraser River areas for SRKW by assisting with improving prey availability of their preferred prey, Chinook salmon. In July 2018, Premier Horgan sent a letter to former DFO Minister LeBlanc outlining the need for careful consideration of socioeconomic implications of those closures, and the need to work closely with the Minister of Agriculture on this issue.

In November 2018, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) released the results for an assessment of southern B.C. Chinook designatable units (DUs). Of these units, 13 DUs originate in the Fraser River and only one is not "at risk". DFO undertook significant consultations across B.C. on proposed measures (Scenarios) to protect Fraser chinook, and received a great deal of feedback.

Discussion: Based on Ministerial decisions, on April 16, DFO announced a number of extended chinook fishing closures for both commercial and recreational fisheries to protect dwindling Chinook salmon populations. The measures taken by DFO will have a significant impact on recreational, Indigenous and commercial fishers, and the communities that depend on them, particularly on the south coast of B.C. The Area F salmon troll fishery on the north coast, also was subject to unprecedented cuts, which were to allow a 'pass-through' of chinook through that fishery in order to provide more opportunity for First Nations' harvest on the Fraser River.

Many stakeholders, particularly the recreational fishing sector, have been publicly vocal in their opposition to these measures. The Premier also released a statement expressing his disappointment in the years of federal decisions that had led to the status of chinook stocks today.

Additionally, on May 10, 2019, DFO with other federal agencies, announced a suite of further actions and fishing restrictions to protect Southern Resident Killer Whales for 2019, which will compound the effects of restrictions related specifically to chinook conservation. Because chinook salmon are the primary diet of these whales, the fisheries closures are aimed specifically at fisheries that intercept chinook, including the recreational sector. These measures complement the recent Washington (WA) State's SRKW Task Force's report and recommendations. Work is already underway to develop further plans for longer term actions to assist with SRKW protection and recovery.

Key Messages:

- **B.C. notes that there are significant conservation concerns regarding southern chinook salmon stocks and that restrictions on these fish are the result of difficult decisions.**
- **However, full socio-economic impact analysis of the effects of the proposed Scenarios should be considered, especially in light of the thousands of jobs and businesses that rely on commercial and recreational fishing in this region.**
- **B.C. is investing in salmon recovery and ready to step up as a government in supporting wild salmon stocks and communities that depend on them.**
- **B.C. is hopeful that the current level of collaboration and investment between DFO and the Province aids in restoring these important stocks and minimizing the need for these significant closures in the future.**

3. Steelhead

Background: Steelhead populations across the south coast of B.C. and the Pacific North West have been declining in productivity and abundance for the past few decades. Impacts of warming oceans and streams, freshwater and marine habitat degradation, bycatch in commercial fisheries, marine mammal predation and competition with salmon populations (wild and enhanced) in offshore environments are the factors in the decline.

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) is the lead provincial agency for the management of all freshwater fish, including steelhead, and freshwater habitat. Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is responsible for the conservation and management of marine fisheries including all Pacific salmon (except steelhead).

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In January and again in February 2019, Minister Donaldson and Minister Popham met with Federal Minister Jonathan Wilkinson. There was agreement that IFS requires urgent action. Minister Wilkinson agreed to direct his staff to look at all options including the commercial fishery, and that Ministers require a follow up discussion. Transition to selective harvest methods was of particular interest, as was establishing a joint task-team with senior-level staff reporting back to Ministers.

B.C., through FLNRORD, is leading the development of a 2019 Emergency Action Plan. DFO is collaborating with B.C. on this, with integration into its fisheries management plans. The plan includes actions on habitat and production, and fisheries by-catch reduction, as well as support for fisheries in B.C.

Key Messages:

- **B.C. recognizes the values of wild Pacific salmon stocks, including steelhead and the commercial, recreational and First Nations fisheries and communities that depend on them.**
- **We are working with First Nations, DFO, sport fishers, the B.C. Wildlife Federation, and other steelhead organizations on how to recover this species.**
- **B.C. has been active in working with the federal government on the potential Species at Risk Listing of Steelhead. The significance and potential fallout of such a listing is not being taken lightly.**
- **B.C. continues to work closely with DFO, with FLNRORD as lead, on the development of a 2019 Emergency Action Plan for IFS.**

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