

Rules and Procedures for Election of Members to the British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board

1. Composition of the BC Chicken Marketing Board:

The British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board (BCCMB) consists of:

- The Chair appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council;
- Two members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council;
- Two members who are registered growers elected by registered growers.

2. Election Officer:

All election procedures will be implemented by the office of the British Columbia Council of Marketing Boards (COMB). COMB staff will act as the Election Officer and will oversee the election and certify the results.

The procedures include:

- Notice of election by mail to all registered growers along with timelines for:
 - commencement and close of nominations
 - deadlines for appearing on list of voters
 - notice of candidates and
 - candidate's biography (optional)
 - notice of speeches
 - notice of advance polls
 - notice of final voting poll.

- Receipt and validation of nomination forms
- Validation of a representative sample of the Voting Grower List
- Administration and collection of advance poll ballots in each region
- Administration and collection of final poll ballots in each region
- Counting all ballots (advanced and final in each region)
- Announcing the final vote result
- Destroying the ballots

3. Nominations:

Every person who is nominated as a candidate for election as a member of the Board:

- (a) must be a natural person who is a grower or who is authorized to represent a grower in accordance with section 3.03(2) of the BC Chicken Marketing Scheme, 1961 and whose name and address are recorded on the Register of Growers, and
- (b) must have his or her nomination endorsed in writing by not less than 5 growers whose names are recorded on the Register of Growers before the deadline for close of nominations. No natural person, whether an individual grower or a representative of one or more growers, may endorse the nomination of a candidate more than once, but may nominate multiple candidates.

In order to hold office or continue to hold office as an elected member of the Board, the member must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) above at all times.

If there is only one nomination, the candidate will be elected by acclamation. If there is more than one candidate, an election will be held.

Nominations must be received by the election officer no later than 4:00 p.m. on the date of close of the nominations. The nomination may be accompanied by a candidate biography which will be mailed to all growers along with the notice of candidates.

4. Eligibility to Vote:

The BCCMB will maintain a list of growers who are eligible to vote in the election of Board members (the Voting Grower List). For purposes of these Rules and Procedures, a "Voting Grower" means:

- (i) a registered grower who is a natural person (in this case the registered grower – e.g. John Smith -- is automatically added to the Voting Grower List) OR
- (ii) a natural person who has been appointed by a registered grower that is a partnership, firm or corporation to vote on its behalf in accordance with section 3(p) of the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act (in this case, Old McDonald's Farm Ltd. or Smith Farm, which is a partnership of John and Mary Smith, must appoint a natural person – e.g. James McDonald Jr. or Mary Smith – as its voting grower representative for the representative's name to be added to the Voting Grower List).

A registered grower that is a partnership, firm or corporation may appoint a natural person to vote on its behalf under section (ii) by filling out a special area on the annual licence application form or by filling out the prescribed form.

The BCCMB will update the Voting Grower List annually based on information on the Register of Growers and licence applications, and at other times as required.

In order for an individual's name to appear on the Voting Grower List for an election, a grower under (i) above must be listed on the Register of Growers, no later than 4:00 p.m. on the "Deadline to be added to the Voting Grower List", as indicated on the election timeline for that election.

In order for an individual's name to appear on the Voting Grower List for an election, an appointment to the Voting Grower List under section (ii) must be received at the offices of the BCCMB no later than 4:00 p.m. on the "Deadline to be added to the Voting Grower List", as indicated on the election timeline for that election.

In order to be added to the Voting Grower List, an individual must be at least 19 years of age.

An individual whose name does not appear on the Voting Grower List is not eligible to vote.

The Voting Grower List will be available for viewing during normal office hours at the BCCMB and will be posted on the BCCMB website at www.bcchicken.ca.

5. Elections:

In the year an election is held the election of the members of the Board shall take place in the month of February, or as soon afterwards as it may conveniently be held.

All voting will be conducted by secret ballot at designated meetings or advance polls.

For the purposes of conducting the election the Board will designate a Vancouver Island Region, a Lower Mainland Region and an Interior Region. Voting Growers will have the opportunity to attend an advance poll in the region or to vote in-person at the regional meeting.

A Voting Grower may vote at any advance poll or at any regional meeting, provided his or her name has been added to the Voting Grower List in accordance with the timelines.

Ballots cast at the meetings or advance polls will be held by the Election Officer until the final in-person voting occurs as outlined in the timeline.

6. Voting:

Upon a Voting Grower providing proof of identification to the Election Officer, the auditor will confirm the person is a Voting Grower and the person will receive a written ballot.

Once all Voting Growers at a particular Advance Poll or Final Vote meeting have received their written ballots, verbal instructions will be given by the Election Officer respecting completion of the ballots.

At each Advance Poll and Final Vote meeting, the completed ballots will be deposited in a collection receptacle as provided by the office of the Election Officer. All completed ballots will remain in the custody and control of the Election Officer until they are destroyed in accordance with these Rules and Procedures.

At the conclusion of the last Final Vote meeting, the Election Officer will count all ballots (advance and in-person voting from all three regions). During the counting of ballots by the Election Officer, a candidate may appoint a scrutineer to observe the proceedings.

In the case of a tie, all ballots will be recounted. If the recount confirms a tie result, the BCCMB chair will cast the deciding vote. The Election Officer will announce the results of the final voting at the Lower Mainland grower meeting, which will be the last Final Vote meeting.

The first newsletter mailed to all growers by the BCCMB after the election will also announce the outcome.

7. Terms of Office and Re-election of Board Members:

The term of office of an elected member is three years.

A member of the Board may stand for re-election.

A person elected to the BCCMB continues to hold office until:

- He or she
 - is convicted of any offence under the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act; or
 - resigns in writing; or
 - ceases to be a grower or authorized to represent a grower in accordance with section 3.03(2) of the BC Chicken Marketing Scheme, 1961 and ceases to have his or her name and address recorded on the Register of Growers; or
 - is absent from the province for three consecutive months, or
- As a consequence of a formal remedy prescribed by the BCCMB Code of Conduct the position is declared vacant by the remaining Board members; or
- A successor is elected or appointed in accordance with these Rules and Procedures.

A vacancy that occurs on the Board other than by expiration of the term of office of an elected member, either by the death of the member or in the circumstances noted above, may be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by a quorum of the remaining members, subject to approval by the British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board.

The British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board will fill any vacancies in the membership of the Board where the members do not constitute a quorum.

8. Election Timeline:

Terms are staggered so that one grower member is elected in each election.

The Board, in consultation with the BCCGA, will set a date in February, or as soon afterwards as may be convenient, for conduct of a regular election.

The Election Officer will establish an Election Timeline based on the election date set by the Board. The Election Timeline will set specific dates for the election. The Election Timeline will be in keeping with the Election Timeline Example reviewed and approved by FIRB for the 2012 election.

9. Review Process:

These Rules and Procedures for Election of Members to the BC Chicken Marketing Board shall be reviewed every three years (the next review to occur in 2014.) The review process will include consultation with the BC Chicken Growers Association. The BCCMB will also review the procedures upon receipt of a written request from the BCCGA. There will be no triggering of the review process once the election process has commenced.

Any changes to the Rules and Procedures for Election of Members to the BC Chicken Marketing Board must be approved by FIRB prior to implementation.

10. Effective Date:

These Rules and Procedures for Election of Members to the BC Chicken Marketing Board shall come into force upon approval by FIRB and shall replace all previous rules and procedures for the election of Board members.

The rules shall be posted on the BCCMB website.

Approved by the BC Chicken Marketing Board on: October 18, 2011

Approved by BCFIRB on: December 5, 2011



Suzanne K. Wiltshire
Member, BCFIRB

Appendix 1
Election Timeline Example

elected term (of Mr. Dave Janzen) expires March 31, 2012
elected term (of Mr. Rick Thiessen) expires March 31, 2013

	January 3, 2012	Mail out Notice of Election and Election Timeline; Commencement of Nominations
	January 13, 2012	Close of Nominations
	January 16, 2012	Mail out Notice of Candidates
	January 17, 2012	Candidate Speeches -- Interior
	January 25, 2012	Candidate Speeches – Vancouver Island
	January 18, 2012	Candidate Speeches – Lower Mainland
	January 30, 2012	Deadline to be added to Voting Grower List
	February 2, 2012	Advance Poll – Interior
	February 10, 2012	Advance Poll – Vancouver Island
	February 16, 2012	Advance Poll – Lower Mainland
	February 21, 2012	Final Vote – Interior
	February 22, 2012	Final Vote – Vancouver Island
	March 9, 2012	Final Vote – Lower Mainland
	March 9, 2012	Election Date – counting of ballots and outcome announced.

Revised December 4, 2011

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