



March 27, 2020

British Columbia Poultry and Egg Industry Members and Employees,

Re: COVID-19 Pandemic Update

Our province is a different place than it was a few weeks ago. COVID-19 is sweeping across the world in a way we never would have imagined. We know that the amount of information and updates seem endless, but we feel it is important to let you know how much your work is appreciated and that we are here to support you during these uncertain times.

We cannot express enough our thanks to all of you for your dedication and commitment to providing fresh poultry and egg products on a daily basis. Knowing that you continue to work every day is bringing comfort to all British Columbians. Agriculture and food production are not only life sustaining practices, they are also considered essential services under a state of provincial emergency.

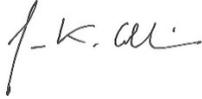
We appreciate the concerns you must have about your own personal health and the safety of your families as you continue with your daily lives. We trust that the measures being taken industry-wide are providing comfort that your safety and well-being is and will remain at the top of the priority list. The entire industry from the producer through to the retail markets are committed to the prevention measures and guidelines issued by our federal and provincial health experts. Adjustments have been made and we appreciate your cooperation and support for measures such as voluntary temperature readings prior to entering the workplace.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment. We stand with you and are here to support you. If you have any questions or concerns about COVID-19 in our industry, please do not hesitate to reach out to us through the appropriate board office. Without the full support of all participants in the poultry and egg industry supply chain, we would not be able to supply our BC neighbours with the food they need. All of us are important links in that chain.

Sincerely,



Harvey Sasaki
Chair
BC Chicken Marketing Board



Jim Collins
Chair
BC Hatching Eggs



Gunta Vitins
Chair
BC Egg Marketing Board



Kevin Klippenstein
Chair
BC Turkey Marketing Board

c.c. Lana Popham, Minister
Wes Shoemaker, Deputy Minister
Peter Donkers, BC Farm Industry Review Board
Blair Shier, Primary Poultry Processors Association of BC
Bryan Brandsma, BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers Association
Dale Krahn, BC Chicken Growers Association
Mark Siemens, BC Egg Producers Association
Steve Heppell, BC Turkey Association
Poultry Catching Crews
Kim Novak, UFCW 1518