

December 23, 2013

BC Dairy Quota Policy & Governance Consultation Update

The Board initiated a Quota Policy & Governance Consultation in the spring of 2013 with the support of the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) that will be used to develop an effective long term quota allocation and governance policy.

During the period of September 26 –October 10, 2013 consultation sessions were held to discuss BC Quota Policy & Governance. The sessions were held in the following regions in British Columbia – Vancouver Island (Nanaimo), Fraser Valley (Abbotsford), Bulkley Valley (Smithers), Cariboo & Peace River (Prince George), Fraser Valley (Chilliwack), Okanagan (Salmon Arm) and Kootenays (Creston).

The participation and dialogue during these sessions was impressive with a total number of 229 in attendance to provide input on current quota policies and insight for the development of future policy.

The Board completed Stage 1 of the consultation “Identifying Issues and Ideas” at the fall producer meeting held in Vancouver on November 29, 2013. The summary provided included key themes that surfaced through the face to face sessions and any written comments within scope of the consultation.

The Board is currently in the process of Stage 2 of the consultation “Finding Solutions” from producers and the dairy industry input with respect to quota policy and will release a paper in early January outlining the quota policy considerations that surfaced from the analysis stage of the consultation.

The Board is requesting comments from the industry with respect to the quota policies that will be outlined in the January 2014 discussion paper. The deadline for submission will be January 31st, 2014.

In addition to comments from the industry, the Board will engage in discussions with the BC Dairy Association (BCDA), the regional producer associations, the Quota Exchange Committee (QEC), and the Milk Industry Advisory Committee (MIAC) to ensure all policy considerations have been discussed.

Following these discussions the Board will submit a paper to the Farm Industry Review Board (FIRB) addressing all quota policies in the BC dairy industry. This paper will be posted online following the submission and highlights will be presented at the spring producer meetings.

The Board thanks you for your participation during this consultation to date and encourages your continued participation.

Should you have any questions or concerns with respect to the next steps in this process, please consult the BC Dairy Quota Policy & Governance Consultation page at www.milk-bc.com



The following is a summary of important dates with respect to the consultation:

Date	Meeting
November 20, 2013	BC Dairy Quota Policy & Governance -Summary of Findings
November 29, 2013	Fall Producer Meeting – Stage 1 “Identifying Issues and Ideas”
December 11, 2013	COMB Meeting
December 13, 2013	Notice to Industry – Consultation Update and Next Steps
January 10 th , 2014	Summary of Quota Policies – discussion paper
January 15, 2014	BCDA Meeting
January 16, 2014	QEC Meeting
January 20, 2014	Regional Webinar/TCC
January 31 st , 2014	Industry comments submissions deadline
February 2014	MIAC Meeting
March 2014	Submission to FIRB

