

February 7, 2019

Random Draw for New Entrant Program (NEP) Candidates held February 7, 2019

The New Entrant Program (NEP)

On August 10, 2018, the BC Milk Marketing Board (the Board) announced its New Entrant Program.¹ The policy objective of a New Entrant Program is simply to encourage and facilitate people to enter the dairy industry as new producers. The other higher-level objectives that the Board looks to achieve through a new entrant program include:

- Renewal—promoting innovation and new ideas within the industry (a natural outcome of the diversification of the producer base);
- Sustainability—ensuring the ongoing milk supply in BC; and
- Addressing the consolidation of farms in the province

An effective NEP will thereby support the sustainability of the dairy industry, by facilitating the entry of new producers to the system. For more information about the NEP Consultation and details on the NEP program (NEP User Guide), please see the BCMMB website: bcmilk.com

The Application Deadline and Random Draw

The application deadline for those interested in participating in the NEP was **February 1, 2019**. The Board received 95 completed application forms. The Board thanks everyone for expressing their interest and entering the draw.

The Council of Marketing Boards (COMB) was engaged to execute the random draw on the Board's behalf. The draw was held on Thursday February 7, 2019 to select the eight candidates who will be interviewed by the NEP Selection Committee. The eight candidates were randomly drawn by an online generator. The draw was "double-blind:" all applicants were assigned a number and the number range was input into a random number generator. The draw was carried out by the Manager of the Council of Marketing Boards (COMB) and observed by both a BCMMB staff person and a third-party observer.

Next Steps for those Selected (and Not) in the Random Draw

For those who were not selected in the draw, please be aware that there is no waitlist. However, the Board will hold **another NEP random draw in early 2020**, and you are welcome to enter the random draw again at that time. The dates/details for the 2020 process will be announced and posted to the Board's website in fall 2019. If you are not already signed up for BCMMB *Notices*, you can do so here: [Subscribe here](#)

¹ From October 2017 to April 2018, the Board undertook a public consultation process, to assist in the development of a New Entrant Program (NEP) to replace its current Graduated Entry Program (GEP), which saw its final producer start in the industry by February 1, 2019.

The Board has contacted the eight candidates, who were drawn, to advise of the next steps regarding documentation, deadlines and the Selection Committee² interview, which will be scheduled in June 2019.

The Selection Committee will ultimately recommend a minimum of three candidates to the Board for entry into the NEP, following the interview process.

The selected New Entrants will need to begin production by December 31, 2020, in order to qualify for participation in the program. For more complete details, please refer to the NEP section of the BCMMB's website: [New Entrant Program \(NEP\)](#)

The eight candidates, who will move to the next stage of the NEP selection process, are:

- Matthew and Kelsey Prinse
- Edward and Melanie Dyson
- Cody Larson
- Jonathan and Eleny Quapp
- William Romeyn
- Richard Meinen
- Leslie Neels
- Alexander and Amanda Klop

For any questions regarding this *Notice*, please contact: vcrites@bcmilk.com

² Please see the NEP User Guide: [NEP User Guide](#) for more detail on the process and the composition of the Selection Committee.