



## A STAPLE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA'S ECONOMY SUPPLY-MANAGED AGRICULTURE ACCOUNTS FOR \$5.3 BILLION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND 27,000 JOBS



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Abbotsford, BC – British Columbia's dairy, egg and poultry industries continue to help drive the province's economy, generating nearly 27,000 jobs, \$950 million in salaries and wages, and contributing close to \$5.3 billion in direct and indirect economic activity, according to the latest economic impact study conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC).



This is the second such study of the sector prepared for British Columbia's Dairy, Egg and Poultry Industries (BCDEPI). It shows what the industry contributes to the BC economy through direct expenditures on goods and services, employment and the generation of tax revenues for local, provincial and federal governments.



"Operating throughout British Columbia, supply-managed agriculture makes a significant contribution to the province's economy. From farmers and suppliers to processors and retailers, those involved in the supply-managed agriculture chain depend on the continued strength of the industry for their economic livelihood," said James Byrne of BCDEPI and Chair of the British Columbia Milk Marketing Board.



The PWC report examined the economic impacts of British Columbia's supply-managed agricultural industry and its associated value chain. The supply-managed chain includes the flow of production for milk, poultry and egg products from the farm gate to processors that result in food products ready for consumption at the wholesale or retail level.



"Supply-managed agriculture ensures stability in terms of prices, products as well as jobs, which is especially important for the provincial economy as it continues to recover from a challenging period," said Dick Klein Geltink, Chair of the BC Milk Producers.



"In addition to bolstering the provincial economy, supply-managed agriculture operates in a way that reflects the needs of the marketplace and changing consumer demands and attitudes. Our farmers know that the food they produce is found in the homes of each and every British Columbian. This is why we as an industry are committed to providing consumer choices by producing high quality local food that is

reasonably priced, while following the highest standards for animal care,” said Richard King of BCDEPI and Chair of the British Columbia Egg Marketing Board.

“Supply management ensures there is fairness for farmers and benefits to processors, consumers, governments and taxpayers. Farmers work together to produce what consumers need and want, without relying on subsidies from the taxpayer. This process ensures that supply matches demand, allowing for a stable supply of food, which is in everyone’s long-term benefit,” said Rick Thiessen, of BCDEPI and director with the British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board.

BCDEPI is a partnership formed on behalf of the province’s five supply-managed agriculture industries: BC Milk Producers Association; BC Milk Marketing Board; BC Egg Marketing Board; BC Chicken Marketing Board; BC Turkey Marketing Board; and BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission.

PWC is one of Canada’s leading management consulting firms, helping organizations large and small by providing industry-focused assurance, tax and advisory services to build trust and create value.

Copies of the report are available at:

[www.bcdepi.ca](http://www.bcdepi.ca)

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