

THE HOLM TEAM Agriculture Economics Journalism Trade Cooperation

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REPORT TO STAKEHOLDERS¹ (Producers, Hatcheries, Growers and Processors)

Just a quick update to let you know where we are in the Review process.

Over 50 stakeholders attended the Zoom-based January 28th Stakeholder Roundtable to discuss the draft final pricing models tabled by BCBHEC and BCCMB. After taking into consideration feedback submitted by Stakeholders in response to that session, the BCBHEC and the BCCMB finalized and submitted their proposed pricing models to BCFIRB on March 4th.

The BCFIRB Panel will travel to Abbotsford to meet face to face with each board on April 12^{th,} On March 21, the Panel sent questions to both BCCMB and BCBHEC intended to inform these discussions. Both letters are posted to the BCFIRB website. The Panel will also reach out to Stakeholders with specific questions in writing in the near future. It is hoped that a decision can be handed down by the Panel by the end of June, 2022.

In the meantime, the widening gap between BC and Ontario feed prices have challenged the current pricing formula to deliver fair returns to BC growers. In the beginning of A-174, the BCCMB applied to BCFIRB for prior approval for a change to the Live Weight (LW) pricing formula that would return half the over-guardrail loss (formula price less posted price) to BC growers as a "top-up" to the LW price. For reasons explained in their February 4, 2022 Decision (posted to the BCFIRB website), the Panel did not approve this request but invited CMB to reapply in A-175.

The modification to the interim pricing formula requested by the CMB was approved by the Panel for A-175 and A-176 with one modification: any increase in the COPF Ontario grower margin – which would then flow through to the BC price and serve to reduce that portion of the BC formula price lost to the upper guardrail - is first deducted from over-guardrail losses before adding half of the remaining loss back to the BC LW price. In A-175, the Ontario margin increased by 1.12 cents/kg, which was deducted from the 10.68¢/kg over guardrail loss, reducing that loss to 9.56 ¢/kg, half of which (4.78¢) was then added back to BC LW price.

I will keep you posted as we move forward in the final days of this review process.

Kind regards and keep safe and well...

RASA PAR (herid)

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¹ This is the fourteenth in a series of reports to Stakeholders to keep you informed/engaged as we move through the Review process.

