

BY E-MAIL

May 25, 2018

BCVMC NOTICE
Amending Order 46
Part IV – LICENCING
New Packinghouse Category for 2018 Crop Year

Effective Date: **March 1st, 2018**

To all Agencies & Producers,

In an effort to provide greater transparency on components of the orderly marketing system and delineate clear lines of authority over each function, it was identified that a Packinghouse Licence category be implemented.

This category is to be managed by an agency and is part of the agency licensing process. Producers are required to ship all regulated product through an authorized Packinghouse that is licensed by their designated agency. The agency has full authority over the management of all regulated product shipped through the licensed Packinghouse.

PURPOSE

- Enhance Orderly Marketing of regulated vegetables through licensing the Packinghouse.

OBJECTIVES

- Transparency in packing operations available to producers.
- Ensure compliance to food safety standards acceptable by the Industry.
- Clarity of agency authority over regulated product handled by the licensed Packinghouse.

PACKINGHOUSE POLICY

- All regulated product put through the Packinghouse is controlled by the designated agency.
- The licensing of a Packinghouse is to be completed by the designated agency. The agency licence application / renewal application form includes a section where the agency is to list all Packinghouses in which the agency's product is processed for sale.

- As part of the agency licensing process, the agency is responsible for:
 - a) Payment of each Packinghouse license fee; (There is no fee attached to a Class 1 licence)
 - b) Providing a copy of a Packinghouse's food safety audit certificate that is recognized by the BCVMC;
 - c) The management of all regulated product handled through each Packinghouse licensed under their authority;
 - d) Ensuring that all regulated product grown by their group of producers is processed through a Packinghouse licensed by the agency;
 - e) Packinghouse compliance to the General Order and Policy.
- The Packinghouse licence is issued separate from the agency licence and states the agency under which they are authorized to operate.
- A wholesaler cannot be licensed as an agency's Packinghouse.

A copy of **Amending Order 46** will be posted to the BCVMC website at <http://www.bcveg.com/orders.asp> and can be found at the following drop box link, <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5254b8lnvfbcfxx/AAAoXpUuapJwFrcY0gPlyA2da?dl=0>. If you have any questions about the new Packinghouse licence category, please give me a call.

Under the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act (NPMA), The BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) can hear appeals from anyone who is aggrieved by or dissatisfied with an order, decision or determination of an agricultural commodity board in B.C.

You must file a written notice of appeal with BCFIRB within 30 days notification of the order, decision or determination, or you may lose the right to file your appeal.

For information about the appeal process please refer to their website or contact the BCFIRB office. The information is provided below.

Kirsten Pedersen, Executive Director
 BC Farm Industry Review Board
 PO Box 9129, Stn Prov Govt
 Victoria, British Columbia, V8W 9B5

Phone: 250-356-8945
 Fax: 250-356-5131

Website: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/boards-commissions-tribunals/bc-farm-industry-review-board/regulated-marketing/appeals>

Yours truly,



Andre Solymosi,
 General Manager