

POLICY

INITIAL and ANNUAL RENEWAL OF WHOLESALE LICENCE

The regulated marketing of certain vegetables provides for their orderly marketing and the licensing of producers, Designated Agencies (central selling desks), wholesalers and processors engaged in the transportation, packing, storage and marketing of Regulated Products for sale within British Columbia and in interprovincial and export trade.

For the re-sale of regulated product when operating as a wholesaler the procurement of Regulated Product(s) is only to occur once the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (Commission) has issued a Wholesale licence to the legal entity operating in the capacity of a wholesaler.

Wholesale licensees are limited to completing transactions for procuring a supply of regulated products with Designated Agencies authorized and licensed by the Commission.

Wholesale licensees are prohibited from completing transactions with individual growers for the procurement of Regulated Product(s).

Eligible Persons

Persons other than a Registered and Licensed Producer and whether to operate as a proprietorship, partnership or a company may make application to the VMC for the issuance of an Initial Wholesale Licence.

Licensing Period

The licensing period for which an issued Wholesale Licence is valid is set out on the licence. The 365 consecutive day licensing period is March 2 of one year and ends March 1 of the following year. A Wholesale licence is valid from the date of issue and expires on March 1.

Annual Renewal – Wholesale Licence

Once issued, Wholesale licences are to be renewed each year prior to their March 1 expiration.

An Annual Renewal Wholesale Licence Application package is sent to Wholesale licensees in early February. This allows approximately one (1) month for licensees to compile the requisite criteria and supporting documents to be sent to the Commission prior to licence expiration on March 1.

A complete Licence Application package for Annual Renewal includes:

1. A completed and signed Wholesale Annual Renewal Licence Application form (supplied by the Commission);
2. Evidence or documents acceptable to the Commission for demonstrating that all elements of the **Annual Renewal Wholesale Licence Criteria** are satisfied, including providing evidence to the Commission's satisfaction that the licensee's premises meet health and food safety standards; and
3. Payment for the then prevailing requisite Annual Renewal Wholesale Licence fee.

Non-Refundable Wholesale Application Fee

A non-refundable Whole Licence Application fee of \$500.00 + 5% GST is to accompany the Wholesale licence application.

The Commission will not provide administration to applications not accompanied by the non-refundable application fee.

Annual Wholesale Licence Fee

If approved for issuance of an initial Wholesale licence, the applicant is then required to complete and submit to the Commission the Annual Wholesale Licence Application and fee payment.

The annual Wholesale licence fee is not the same amount as the non-refundable \$1,000.00 initial application fee. Application and licence fees established by the Commission may change from time to time. The prevailing Class 1 annual Wholesale licence fee is set out in Schedule III of the General Order.

Commission Licence Issuance Decision

The Commission decision to issue an initial Wholesale licence will rely upon the *Initial Wholesale Licence Policy* and *Criteria*. The criteria are set out in a separate document titled *Initial Wholesale Licence Criteria*.

At all times the Commission shall have the final authority in the granting of licences and may decide to not issue an Initial Wholesale Licence if it determines that doing so is not in the best interest of the industry.

Commission Decision Criteria

For each of the listed initial Wholesale licence criteria (see above referenced separate document) the applicant is to provide supporting documentation to the Commission. These documents are to accompany the initial Wholesale licence application when submitted to the Commission.

All submitted information will be treated in a confidential manner.

Submitting complete documentation will allow timely administration of initial Wholesale licence applications.

Cancellation or Suspension of a Wholesale Licence

Any Wholesale licensee found to be in violation of any of the *Initial Wholesale Licence Criteria*; *Annual Renewal Wholesale Licence Criteria*; or the General Order, may be subject to the Commission cancelling or suspending the issued licence.

October 21, 2010
Revised: Sept., 2012
Revised: February 2019

Wholesaler initials:

CRITERIA

ANNUAL RENEWAL WHOLESALER LICENCE

At all times the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) shall have the final authority in the granting of licences and may decide to not renew a licence if it determines that doing so is not in the best interest of the industry.

For a Wholesale Licence to be renewed, the licensee must demonstrate to the Commission’s satisfaction that each of the following criteria are met:

- 1) At time of renewal Wholesale licensee is in good standing with the Commission;
- 2) Whether operating as a proprietorship, partnership or limited company, the ownership structure continues to be one that is “at arm’s length” from a Licensed Producer;
- 3) Wholesale operations, including the transporting, packing, storing and marketing of regulated product(s), continue to not use facilities or equipment located in or on real property owned, leased, rented, occupied, controlled or managed by a Licensed Producer;
- 4) Demonstrate to the Commission’s satisfaction that the wholesale premises where the wholesale activities are conducted continue to have storage, cooler and ripening room capacity, commensurate with the intended regular volume of business, so that care and handling of regulated product(s) in a food safe manner is ensured;
- 5) Demonstrate to the Commission’s satisfaction that the wholesale premise in its entirety continues to meet applicable health and food safety standards, and for doing so, provide the Commission with a valid and subsisting Food Safety certification issued by an agency of the Provincial Government; a BC Regional Health Authority; the Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA); or a recognized and accredited food safety certifier acceptable to the Commission.

Approved: November 18, 2010

Amended November 2016

Amended February 27, 2019

Wholesaler initials: _____

**DECLARATION OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF CRITERIA – ANNUAL RENEWAL OF WHOLESALE
LICENCE**

I, _____, hereby declare that I fully acknowledge and understand the aforementioned Criteria in accordance with the General Order of the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (“the Commission”). I also hereby further acknowledge and understand that violation or otherwise any other effort made to circumvent the aforementioned Criteria may result in the suspension and/or revocation of a Wholesale Licence.

Signed on this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Name of Wholesale Representative (please print)

Signature

Position Title