

## The British Columbia Vegetable Marketing Commission Expands Regulated Area North of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Parallel Latitude

All vegetables grown in the province are subject to the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission's (Commission) authority. Prior to December 31, 2023, the Commission's General Orders applied only to regulated storage, processing, and greenhouse vegetables grown below the 53<sup>rd</sup> parallel north latitude (53<sup>rd</sup> parallel), in the southern half of British Columbia. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, this restriction was removed from the General Orders and the regulated area was expanded to encompass the entire province. As a result, all areas of the province north of Quesnel (a city in the Cariboo Regional District of British Columbia that lies astride the 53<sup>rd</sup> parallel) are now included. This decision was made in consideration of climate change and changes in agricultural practices that utilize controlled environment structures.

The Regulated Product components are:

### Storage Crops

(Regulated for fresh and processing use)

- Beets (tops off)
- Green Cabbage
- Red Cabbage
- Carrots (tops off)
- Parsnips
- Potatoes (all types & varieties)
- Rutabaga
- White (purple top) turnips
- Yellow Onions

### Greenhouse Crops

(Regulated for fresh and processing use)

- Cucumbers (all types)
- Tomatoes (all types)
- Peppers (all types)
- Lettuce (as defined)

### Processing Crops

(Regulated for processing use)

- Beans
- Broccoli
- Brussels Sprouts
- Cauliflower
- Corn
- Peas
- Strawberries

A Greenhouse is defined by the General Orders and means an enclosed structure where Regulated Product is grown.

All producers of Regulated Product north of the 53<sup>rd</sup> parallel, including producers applying innovative agricultural technologies such as vertical farming within an enclosed structure, are subject to the Commission's authority and required to be licensed by the Commission to grow, process, or market Regulated Product.



BC VEGETABLE MARKETING COMMISSION

The BC regulated vegetable industry is organized under the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act* and the British Columbia Vegetable Scheme (Scheme). The Scheme prescribes the rules and procedures, and their application. The Commission is the first instance regulator and acts by the authority delegated through the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act* and its Regulations. It is responsible for administering the Scheme, including coordinating producer activities, to ensure Orderly Marketing. Orderly Marketing is achieved through the promotion, control, and regulation of production, transportation, packing, storage, and marketing of vegetables. The Commission's General Orders set out the rules on how it manages the industry.

Information concerning the application of these regulations can be obtained from the Commission's website [www.bcveg.com](http://www.bcveg.com), or by contacting the Commission directly. Please direct your inquiries to the Commission's Compliance Manager.

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