

Issued: May 13, 2024

## The Commission's Role in Northern BC Temporary Re-Introduction of "Regulated Area" Restriction

The BC Vegetable Marketing Commission is responsible for the promotion, control, and regulation of the production, transportation, packing, storage, and marketing of vegetables produced in British Columbia. The overall purpose is to provide a framework for producer economic stability, satisfy other public interests, and benefit producers, the sector's value chain, and the public.

Prior to January 1, 2024, crops regulated by the Commission were limited to certain vegetable crops grown "south of the 53<sup>rd</sup> parallel north (including Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands and excluding the Queen Charlotte Islands [Haida Gwaii])."

Effective January 1, 2024, the Commission extended the vegetable crops regulated by it to include those vegetable crops grown throughout the entire Province.

Numerous persons and organizations have since sought clarification with respect to the expanded geographical scope of regulated vegetables. Therefore, the Commission will pass an Amending Order that effectively defers the implementation of this expanded geographical scope until January 1, 2026.

This will give the Commission time to consult with vegetable producers, producer organizations, and other industry partners regarding the nature and extent of vegetable production in the north and develop a common-sense approach to the Commission's involvement.

We are currently developing the consultation process and reaching out to organizations to discuss the plan. Though the Commission will expand the geographical scope of regulated crops on January 1, 2026, consultation will focus on which vegetable crops and farm operations will be regulated by the Commission and the way they will be regulated.

In the meantime, information on the application of these regulations can be obtained from the Commission's website <a href="www.bcveg.com">www.bcveg.com</a>, or by contacting the Commission directly. Please direct your inquiries to the Commission's General Manager.

BCVMC #207 - 15252 32nd Ave Surrey BC Canada, V3Z 0R7 Tel: (604) 542-9734

Toll Free in BC: 1-800-663-1461

E-mail: info@bcveg.com