

May 23, 2024

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Linda Deli Santi
Executive Director
BC Greenhouse Growers Association

CC: Armand Vander Meulen, BCGGA President/Chair
Derek Sturko, BCVMC Chair

Dear Ms. Deli Santi:

RE: Levies and Request to Present at BCGGA AGM

I have been trying to reach you over the past few weeks through emails on April 22nd and May 3rd and by phone, leaving a voicemail the week of April 8th, May 3rd, and on the morning of May 14th.

Today I became aware that a notice was emailed on May 14th, 2024 to all greenhouse owners informing that your AGM has been set for Tuesday June 25th, with the business meeting scheduled to start at 3:00pm. In prior years the BCVMC Chair and General Manager received an invitation to attend the meeting. I assume that this invitation will be forthcoming. As expressed in my May 3rd, 2024 email we would also like the opportunity for the BCVMC Chair, Derek Sturko, to speak to your membership at the AGM.

As expressed in my April 22nd email, I also wanted to follow up on your Association's desire to establish a separate Commission for regulated BC greenhouse vegetables and how the BCGGA's work to advance this desire is intended to be funded. Levies established by the Commission to fund the program of the BCGGA are subject to approval of the Commission. It is apparent that the BCGGA is advancing a position that is adverse in interest to the Commission. Certainly, any proceeds of levies collected by the Commission cannot be used to fund such initiatives, and it is no longer clear whether any of these levy proceeds are being used by the BCGGA to further the interests of the Commission, in accordance with the Commission's directions, as set out in the R&D Levy agreement that was forwarded to you in March.

I am respectfully awaiting your response on the following requests:

1. The opportunity for our Chair to speak to your membership at the BCGGA AGM scheduled for June 25th.
2. Your availability to schedule a call to discuss the Research and Development Agreement between the BCGGA and BCVMC, and specifically the sections: Scope of Work, Program Funds, and Reports.
3. A copy of the agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture and the terms of reference (TOR) for the "Marketing Study" that is being undertaken by MNP.

Yours truly,



Andre Solymosi, General Manager