

# Report for 2024 BCVMC Strategic Planning Industry Survey

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

### Response Statistics

	Count	Percent
Complete	20	100.00%
Partial	0	0.00%
Disqualified	0	0.00%
Totals	20	

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

	Count	Percent
Complete	14	100.00%
Partial	0	0.00%
Disqualified	0	0.00%
Totals	14	

Which survey group do you belong to? Please select the one group you most relate to.

Value	Percent	Count
Producer	85.00%	17
Agency	15.00%	3
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
Producer	64.30%	9
Agency	14.30%	2
Wholesaler	7.10%	1
Other	14.30%	2
Totals		14

Which category group do you primarily belong to?

Value	Percent	Count
Storage Crops	100.00%	20
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
Greenhouse Crops	100.00%	14
Totals		14

Where is your business located? Select all that apply.

Value	Percent	Count
Vancouver Island	15.00%	3
Lower Mainland	65.00%	13
Interior	25.00%	5

Value	Percent	Count
Vancouver Island	7.10%	1
Lower Mainland	85.70%	12
Interior	7.10%	1

## Section 1 - Trust and Integrity

### Storage Crop Results ONLY

### Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

#### 1.1 Over the past 12 to 18 months, would you say your trust in the BCVMC has:

Value	Percent	Count
A. Increased	30.00%	6
B. Decreased	10.00%	2
C. Stayed about the same	60.00%	12
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. Increased	14.30%	2
B. Decreased	35.70%	5
C. Stayed about the same	50.00%	7
Totals		14

#### 1.1 Over the past 12 to 18 months, would you say your trust in the BCVMC has: Comments

##### Response

The BCVMC looking to expand their "control" over other parts of BC was very disappointing. We should be looking to deregulate things, not make it worse.

##### Response

Changes to the composition of the Commission's board, including the addition of independent members has increased the perception of trust. Additional transparency on Commission matters would increase trust further. Time will ultimately tell how these impact matters.

Conflict with larger grower/agency managers influencing Commission decisions

Have always had reasonable confidence in the BCVMC.

Needed some information/guidance but response was slow

The BCVMC has established a team that is quick to respond to agency requests and is carefully considering new licenses

The way the BCVMC is treating the bcgga.

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 1.2 How have the BCVMC's regulatory improvements impacted your business?

Value	Percent	Count
A. These changes have positively affected my business.	10.00%	2
B. These changes have negatively affected my business.	5.00%	1
C. These changes have had no impact on my business.	50.00%	10
D. I am not aware of any regulatory improvements.	35.00%	7
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. These changes have positively affected my business.	14.30%	2
B. These changes have negatively affected my business.	7.10%	1
C. These changes have had no impact on my business.	42.90%	6
D. I am not aware of any regulatory improvements.	35.70%	5

### 1.2 How have the BCVMC's regulatory improvements impacted your business? Comments

**Response**  
 Keeping agencies in line. More thorough in decisions

**Response**  
 More on the Agency side of the industry than the producer side.  
 Last minute changes to GO's impact already confusing regulatory guidelines.  
 Each application has been carefully thought out and industry feedback has been requested prior to making a decision

### 1.3 Have the changes to the composition of the Board (i.e., change to general greenhouse and storage crop positions and the addition of Independent Members) given you more confidence in the integrity of the BCVMC?

Value	Percent	Count
A. Yes, this has been positive and has increased the integrity of the BCVMC.	40.00%	8
B. No, it still seems like the same Commission.	15.00%	3
C. Too early to tell, need more time to see results.	45.00%	9
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. Yes, this has been positive and has increased the integrity of the BCVMC.	7.10%	1
B. No, it still seems like the same Commission.	50.00%	7
C. Too early to tell, need more time to see results.	42.90%	6
Totals		14

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 1.3 Have the changes to the composition of the Board (i.e., change to general greenhouse and storage crop positions and the addition of Independent Members) given you more confidence in the integrity of the BCVMC? Comments

#### Response

Having independent members is a definite plus. There is still the integrity of the overall program that needs to be assessed. Senior Staff members need to be assessed to increase confidence

Having independents brings a different view to the group

I'm aware of storage crop members primarily deal with and vote on greenhouse matters. In some cases they are not really aware of some issues. I'm sure it's the same for greenhouse members. All members need to be consulted on all producer issues. Why have a member that knows his or her business very well but not be consulted.

The Commission and FIRB must be acutely aware of the shrinking pool of producers eligible to qualify as directors and how their policies have negatively impacted the availability of qualified candidates.

#### Response

I don't follow the activities of the commission.

Response time from the commission has been faster and more informative than previous years

Same concerns of conflict as noted above

### 1.4 The BCVMC understands and is responsive to my needs as an industry stakeholder.

Value	Percent	Count
A. Always, the BCVMC understands my needs and delivers good value to my business.	35.00%	7
B. Sometimes, there are times when the BCVMC could better understand my specific needs.	55.00%	11
C. Never, the BCVMC does not understand my needs as a stakeholder.	10.00%	2
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. Always, the BCVMC understands my needs and delivers good value to my business.	21.40%	3
B. Sometimes, there are times when the BCVMC could better understand my specific needs.	50.00%	7
C. Never, the BCVMC does not understand my needs as a stakeholder.	28.60%	4
Totals		14

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

### 1.4 The BCVMC understands and is responsive to my needs as an industry stakeholder.

#### Response

No support to Organic growers

The BCVMC looking to expand their oversight over all of BC shows that they do not understand the needs of their stakeholders. Currently I am required to be a stakeholder and pay yearly, follow the BCVMC rules, and receive absolutely nothing in return.

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

#### Response

Timelines and slow decision making by the BCVMC are not aligned with sense of urgency required by growers

I sell exclusively at Farmer's Markets so don't feel I am a stakeholder.

### 1.5 Commission decision-making is transparent, with clear rationale and explanations provided.

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	10.00%	2
2 (Strongly Agree)	10.00%	2
3 (Agree)	25.00%	5
4 (Somewhat Agree)	50.00%	10
6 (Disagree)	5.00%	1
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	14.30%	2
2 (Strongly Agree)	7.10%	1
3 (Agree)	28.60%	4
4 (Somewhat Agree)	21.40%	3
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	7.10%	1
6 (Disagree)	7.10%	1
7 (Strongly Disagree)	14.30%	2
Totals		14

### 1.5 Commission decision-making is transparent, with clear rationale and explanations provided.

#### Comments

#### Response

Decisions by the board are improving, there is still bias in senior staff decisions

#### Response

Although the BCVMC claim to use the SAFETI framework it appears to be of a feel-good vs reality with their decisions based on constant legal disputes challenging rulings.

The response may vary depending on the timeframe and issue.

There is clear communication regarding each decision with rationale provided

The response may vary depending on the timeframe and issue.

there is clear communication regarding each decision with rationale provided

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 1.6 The Commission responses well to issues as they arise and appears to be getting things done.

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	10.00%	2
3 (Agree)	25.00%	5
4 (Somewhat Agree)	40.00%	8
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	5.00%	1
6 ( Disagree)	20.00%	4
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	14.30%	2
2 (Strongly Agree)	7.10%	1
3 (Agree)	21.40%	3
4 (Somewhat Agree)	28.60%	4
6 ( Disagree)	7.10%	1
7 (Strongly Disagree)	21.40%	3
Totals		14

### 1.6 The Commission responses well to issues as they arise and appears to be getting things done.

#### Comments

#### Response

It is taking far too long to render decisions and get things done in a timely matter. Important issues are falling between the cracks because of non-stop litigation, turmoil and qualified staff.

Responds to all concerns but sometimes its somewhat lengthy

#### Response

Very fast response time compared to previous years

The response may vary depending on the timeframe and issue.

### 1.7 I have trust in the Commission and believe it is working in the best interests of the industry.

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	5.00%	1
2 (Strongly Agree)	20.00%	4
3 (Agree)	35.00%	7
4 (Somewhat Agree)	30.00%	6
6 ( Disagree)	5.00%	1
7 (Strongly Disagree)	5.00%	1
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	14.30%	2
2 (Strongly Agree)	14.30%	2
3 (Agree)	14.30%	2
4 (Somewhat Agree)	21.40%	3
6 ( Disagree)	14.30%	2
7 (Strongly Disagree)	21.40%	3
Totals		14

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 1.7 I have trust in the Commission and believe it is working in the best interests of the industry.

#### Comments

##### Response

Nothing is done for the organic industry

##### Response

I think the role of the Commission has changed significantly over the years and has impacted growth and trust. Fees are structured to cover legal vs grower interests.

It is not working on behalf of the industry, otherwise they would cooperate with the BCGGA to come to a solution.

The response may vary depending on the timeframe and issue.

## Section 2- Information and Communications

### 2.1 I receive all the information, licenses, and permits I need from the Commission in a timely manner to effectively run my business in compliance with industry regulations.

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	20.00%	4
3 (Agree)	55.00%	11
4 (Somewhat Agree)	25.00%	5
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	23.10%	3
3 (Agree)	46.20%	6
4 (Somewhat Agree)	15.40%	2
7 (Strongly Disagree)	15.40%	2
Totals		13

### 2.2 Who do you usually contact when you have an issue?

Value	Percent	Count
A. The Commission	20.00%	4
B. My Agency	70.00%	14
Other - Please specify.	10.00%	2
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. The Commission	42.90%	6
B. My Agency	35.70%	5
Other - Please specify.	21.40%	3
Totals		14

#### Other - Please specify. Count

It depends on the issue. Going through the Commission often slows resolution of issues.	1
Other growers	1
Totals	2

#### Other - Please specify. Count

BCGGA	1
GM and Admin Coord	1
colleagues	1
Totals	3

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

**2.3 Have you had a need reason or need to access the Commission's policies, requirements and/or documents in the past 12 to 18 months?**

Value	Percent	Count
A. Yes	30.00%	6
B. No	70.00%	14
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. Yes	50.00%	7
B. No	50.00%	7
Totals		14

**2.3.1. If you answered 'yes' to question 2.3 above, were the Commission's policies, requirements and documents readily accessible?**

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	30.00%	3
3 (Agree)	50.00%	5
4 (Somewhat Agree)	20.00%	2
Totals		10

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	12.50%	1
2 (Strongly Agree)	12.50%	1
3 (Agree)	50.00%	4
4 (Somewhat Agree)	12.50%	1
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	12.50%	1
Totals		8

**2.3.2. If you answered 'yes' to question 2.3 above, were the Commission's policies, requirements and documents easy to understand?**

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	18.20%	2
3 (Agree)	36.40%	4
4 (Somewhat Agree)	45.50%	5
Totals		11

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	12.50%	1
3 (Agree)	12.50%	1
4 (Somewhat Agree)	50.00%	4
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	25.00%	2
Totals		8



## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 2.4 Have you had a need to access commission staff for any reason in the past 12 to 18 months?

Value	Percent	Count
A. Yes	40.00%	8
B. No	60.00%	12
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
A. Yes	64.30%	9
B. No	35.70%	5
Totals		14

### 2.4.1 If you answered 'yes' to question 2.4 above, was the staff member was able to satisfactorily resolve your issue or request?

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	9.10%	1
2 (Strongly Agree)	27.30%	3
3 (Agree)	27.30%	3
4 (Somewhat Agree)	36.40%	4
Totals		11

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	20.00%	2
4 (Somewhat Agree)	20.00%	2
6 (Disagree)	10.00%	1
7 (Strongly Disagree)	20.00%	2
Totals		10

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	20.00%	2
2 (Strongly Agree)	20.00%	2
3 (Agree)	40.00%	4
4 (Somewhat Agree)	10.00%	1
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	10.00%	1
Totals		10

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	22.20%	2
3 (Agree)	11.10%	1
4 (Somewhat Agree)	22.20%	2
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	22.20%	2
7 (Strongly Disagree)	22.20%	2
Totals		9

### 2.5 I find the Commission's publications and newsletters timely and informative.

Value	Percent	Count
2 (Strongly Agree)	15.00%	3
3 (Agree)	55.00%	11
4 (Somewhat Agree)	20.00%	4
6 (Disagree)	10.00%	2
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	7.10%	1
2 (Strongly Agree)	14.30%	2
3 (Agree)	28.60%	4
4 (Somewhat Agree)	21.40%	3
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	14.30%	2
Totals		14

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

### 2.6 How can the Commission improve communications?

#### Response

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Half the problem is me not getting involved One should not complain if they don't get involved. You can not complain about the government if you don't vote!!

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no information included on the organic industry

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Speed up the process for gathering information and making decisions.

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We have worked very closely with our marketing agency who has handled most of the BCVMC correspondence. All matters have been handled in a satisfactory way. Thank you

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Delivery allocation numbers should be sent out 2 weeks after every period is over now we never see anything until the following year which is unacceptable

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I believe that there should be monthly bulletins

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Don't think need to. If there is an issue the commission can be contacted

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## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

#### Response

unknown

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To start maybe they can respond to a stakeholders request to join a general meeting! This year I sent an email to join the commissions annual general meeting and did not get an answer to

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Timely responses and updated information on the website

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Reply on time to issues and grower needs.

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No comment here. This is our first year being "exposed" to the commission and needing to work with them. Everything seemed to go quite alright.

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No comment

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looked for information on website, did not see a search engine for the information needed

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Increase transparency through publishing minutes and agendas from Commission meetings for industry stakeholders to review. Redactions could be made for issues that require discussion of sensitive or proprietary information. Establish sub-committees among industry stakeholders, including agencies and growers, that include Commission representatives to foster communications.

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In addition to the AGM, have another in person session throughout the year

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For us, communication is fine.

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All the legal stuff is not easy to read. Most growers don't take the time to do that. Why not a one pager to explain what and why an agency was approved or disapproved.

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## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 2.7 The AGM and the Townhall sessions provided a good opportunity to receive information and discuss important issues.

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	20.00%	4
2 (Strongly Agree)	20.00%	4
3 (Agree)	20.00%	4
4 (Somewhat Agree)	25.00%	5
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	5.00%	1
6 (Disagree)	10.00%	2
Totals		20

Value	Percent	Count
1 (Not Able to Assess)	28.60%	4
2 (Strongly Agree)	7.10%	1
3 (Agree)	14.30%	2
4 (Somewhat Agree)	28.60%	4
5 (Somewhat Disagree)	7.10%	1
6 (Disagree)	14.30%	2
Totals		14

### 2.8 How can the Commission improve the meetings, the AGM, and Townhall sessions?

#### Response

Everyone can attend the AGM and Townhall and bring suggestions forward

If I was notified of meetings I missed them. I don't think you have my email address

Meet with sectors separately to keep issues focused.

Not worried. There is clear notice and the commission stays until all questions are answered

I stopped attending sessions because they were confrontational and have no bearing on the organic sector. The commission takes our money but does not invest that money in any useful way for the organic sector. Research projects for the organic sector should be eligible to access funding they pay into with fees and levies.

Was a good event We attended last one More presentations on markets and future analysis would be appreciated Perhaps a guest speaker. Thank you

#### Response

N/A

Can't give an opinion here since was not present at this year's AGM

Format overall is fine.

Gain the trust of its growers so there is a better turnout.

I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

There is a reluctance to ask questions by many in front of the group and suggest having questions to the Commission being forwarded ahead of the AGM or Townhalls.

the commission sector is to large and a lot of the info is not relevant for our industry

The most recent meetings were poorly attended. Encouraging participation by growers would improve the meetings.

## Section 3- Going Forward Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 3.1 What do you perceive to be the Commission/Industry's strengths?

#### Response

Broad spectrum of the vegetable industry

For the most part all of the growers would like to continue in a regulated world.

Fully staffed office and commissioners with industry experience and 2 independents that can view issues from a different perspective

Fully staffed. Having industry stakeholders for decision making. Independent commissioners.

Gathering supply available from agencies and setting prices on regulated product so that producers don't dump product on the market. Set prices on regulated product to produce buyers and wholesalers don't put grower against grower on dropping prices to the bottom. there needs to be more prices regulation and commission input on unregulated product.

I have been involved in root maggots research committee. The research mark offs are a good way of getting growing problems solved

Keeping the marketing scheme orderly which is the only way that will keep bc growers to stay in business

Maintaining market price on storage crops.

Monitoring delivery allocation Regulation

The commission I think is very aware of and takes a regulated system very seriously which helps all producers growing whether they grow regulated product or not

#### Response

Support of the Province and mandatory membership.

Recently the Commission has indicated a willingness to address industry issues, such as taking steps to change the Board composition.

None

Knowledge of the industry, consideration of applications

unknown

information portal

I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

guidance what agencies are to conduct themselves with producers

For the storage crop growers they play a gate keeper role but mostly what is duplicated by BC Fresh. Adherence to regulations and administering increased fees by growers

Currently we are not satisfied at all with the commission!

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The ability to lean on people and the knowledge base within the industry. Failure to do that often gets the Commission in trouble by making poor decisions.

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To keep some volume guidelines set for the province

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Without senior staffing changes the work that is currently being done will not be lasting change.

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## Storage Crop Results ONLY

### 3.2 What do you perceive to be the Commission/Industry's weaknesses?

#### Response

Timeliness of decision making

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Timelines for decisions.

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There should be board members representing each agency's in the commission.

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The loop does not get closed on far too many issues and it costs the industry money. Your authority to regulate is diminished when you do not resolve issues in a timely matter and the industry moves on without you.

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The Commission is imposing regulations that aren't needed, and regulation crops that aren't needed. Industry stakeholders (small farms, organic farms, etc) have to pay and receive nothing in return. The solution is not to try come up with ways to contribute, but rather, stop imposing costs and regulations on farms all together.

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Perhaps not enough time spent on developing growth in the industry There is far more potential to grow more crops than n BC We could lessen imports on storage crops

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People who feel that they could make more money with no regulations

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Nepotism and conflicts of interest

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All the legal stuff.

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## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

#### Response

As a stakeholder in this industry, we don't feel like the commission is helping us improve and grow our business or frankly we don't feel that this commission is protecting us in our reigion

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Funding, staff turnover

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Arrogance. Derek Sturko's influence on the board. Keeping the BCVMC intact instead of having a good communication with the BCGGA.

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Dysfunctional relationship with the BCGGA, Board composition perceived as conflicted in the eyes of some producers. Combination of greenhouse and storage crops together under one Commission is problematic (too dissimilar).

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unknown

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Slow and litigious responses, a dated model, out of touch with other producing areas across North America and no longer required to 'manage orderly marketing". The BCVMC have yet to take action on agencies that for years have not followed the

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Growers trust

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Self Interest. Lack of Industry support.

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More crops need to be regulated.

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Monitoring delivery allocation Regulation

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Lengthly decision making

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I don't think I know enough of what the commission does

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### Storage Crop Results ONLY

### 3.3 What opportunities do you see for the industry that may arise over the next 2 to 3 years?

#### Response

All industry groups working together

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All producers and agencies working together to strengthen the industry

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Anti dumping for potatoes

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Continue to strengthen the framework of our regulatory system

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Hopefully more growth We would like to increase our quota

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Knowledge, technology and varieties continue to improve and are positioning BC as a recognized and reliable leader for the supply of produce in Canada.

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More people buying BC vegetables

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To my understanding, the commission is supposed to help regulate the market but its not like they're able to keep product from coming into the market from other provinces - therewith not really being able to regulate market prices, etc...

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The commission doesn't follow up on agency contracts that they are in line with the commissions guidelines

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Transparency around decision making could be improved. Industry stakeholders could receive additional updates on regular Commission meetings in addition to that provided during the AGM / Townhall sessions.

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### Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 3.3 What opportunities do you see for the industry that may arise over the next 2 to 3 years?

#### Response

Be more involved in national and international issues that affect growers

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I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

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Increased growth amongst greenhouse vegetable producers and agencies.

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Local primary food production is likely going to become more important to government.

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One opportunity that we could target, is to become North American players rather than just being a BC growers! We have to start thinking bigger than just BC! For example if we want to protect our market by reducing growth in our industry, we are promoting growth in other provinces, US, and Mexico!

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Separate the Greenhouse sector from Storage crop sector.

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Steady demand for our products

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Parsnips market can still be expanded. Need better varieties that stay white longer. Work on control atmosphere packaging

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Will there be a need with the decline in the industry.

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## Storage Crop Results ONLY

### 3.4 What threats do you see for the industry that may arise over the next 2 to 3 years?

#### Response

Grower retirements, continued infighting in agencies.

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Growers going more acreage then the market needs which will drop price.

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Need for new younger growers. I am mid seventies and don't have as much energy to grow the business

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Not enough quota given to bc growers More cheap imports

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Over regulation. Both by marketing commissions and more likely food safety certifications.

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People trying to break up the commission

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Producer's choosing to leave regulation Over production in greenhouse industry There is too much greenhouse production in BC Resulting in low prices and returns

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Some key Agency management personnel in the storage sector are retiring and the knowledge and corporate history will be difficult to replace.

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The threat of splitting the storage crop and greenhouse growers. I believe this would have a negative effect on both industries.

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Stop viewing that BC has a wall around the production and customers as other producing areas continue to grow and service BC, western Canadian and US customers.

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There is a separate commission for the potato grower and the greenhouse grower.

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unknown

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## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

#### Response

Too much government regulations. Local, provincial and federal. Slow acting from governments, when grhs owners having suggestions like cogeneration. Natural gas pipe line capacity shortages. Migrant workers issues. All issues the BCVMC is not involved in but the BCGGA is doing all that.

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more competition

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unknown

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If the commission is not separated from the potato grower

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I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

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Food security, surety of supply, impacts of weather and financial stability with private equity continuing to make short-term investments in Ag.

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Failure to grow.

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Entrance into the market of external private equity funds controlling BC Growers

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Decisions made by self interested individuals

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Threat of de-regulation which i believe could be disastrous for the province

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Threats of deregulation

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## Storage Crop Results ONLY

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### 3.5 In your view, the two or three most important things the Commission could do to strengthen the industry over the next year are...

#### Response

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1. reduce the power of agencies 2. increase the power of growers to sell what they grow and not be dictated to by the agency marketing departments

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Accountability for your actions listen to grower concerns more than the agency as not all growers get there views expressed as the agency seems to be able to manipulate certain actions that are not fair to all growers

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Build the confidence of the industry. Stay focused on important issues and deal with them in a timely manner.

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I think timely decision making is key for the commission to strengthen our industry.

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Look to expand new growers as many older growers are exiting the business

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More communication. Advocate for more government-private partnerships for research

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Start getting things done. Repeated requests to take charge of issues are left unaddressed.

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support the industry as fair as possible. hold true to its regulations

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Survey all growers

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BC is becoming uncompetitive with other jurisdictions. ie. Carbon Tax, minimum wage rates, municipal/Provincial regulations.

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The size of gas pipeline! Increased cost prices to produce because of higher energy costs, labour costs, etc

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## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

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#### Response

Address the weaknesses/threats previously mentioned.

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Careful consideration of new applicants to the market. Be more involved in national and international issues that affect our industry

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Foster producer growth and opportunities to expand.

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I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here  
listen to the Growers

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rebuild lost trust with stakeholders. A split of the storage and greenhouse Commissions should be viewed as a positive for members

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Separate the commission from the two commodity groups The commission needs to do a better job of representing the growers

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Stop interfering with choices of growers to grow certain crops! Stop interfering with how businesses grow and market their crops in order to survive these challenging times! Try to help every unknown

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Work with the BCGGA and come to a compromise.

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The board members must be from different agencies and a certain term which one member can run.

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### Storage Crop Results ONLY

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### 3.6 Are there other specific regulatory or policy issues you believe the Commission needs to change or consider in next 12 - 18 months?

#### Response

Would like to see commission members have more input on dealings pertaining to their industry.

No don't break something that has worked for many many years as it will collapse this industry

no

No

I think decision timelines and deadlines are something the commission needs to consider.

I am tired of changes

Expansion of the root crop industry

De-regulate.

Agency business plans should be requested for some agencies that are going through structural and capacity changes.

1. Fair marketing needs to be defined and enforced. Growers should not be plowing in crops because an agency doesn't like the grower for whatever reason. Marketing is not based on personal relationships but the quality of crop that is being grown.

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### Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

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#### Response

From a primary producer perspective, No.

They need to help the Greenhouse grower by spending more time on their issues.

Several of the General Orders are dated and may be in the best interests of Agencies but not necessarily of the growers. Timelines for the review process and actions as a result take years vs

months

No

More communication and education with regards to regulation and policy

Less is better

unknown

I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

Continued work on development of processes and regulatory structure that continues to provide efficiency, transparency and a Commission that is responsive to the needs of industry stakeholders.

As stated, separate the two distinct sectors

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## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

### 3.7 Are there other services and/or information that the Commission should consider providing that would support your business?

#### Response

1.The commission needs to represent all sectors that they oversee. There has never been any support given to the organic sector. 2.Annual Food Safety training sessions need to be held each year.

Be transparent in decision making. That will gain trust in the industry

Compiling statistics from reports the Agency submits with payments Can be used for CITT information occurring every 5 years

Delivery allocation numbers in a timely fashion after each period

Food safety information small unregistered growers

More transparent monthly marketing analysis

No, it cannot deal with the responsibilities it currently has. Why add more onto their plate?

No, my business operated just fine without the commission.

Research committee for other crops than potatoes

#### Response

Education sessions and perhaps one more annual information session

I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

No

No

no

No further comments at this time.

No leave that to the BCGGA. They have all the contacts with the government and industry. Commission is just for the legal stuff. Keep the cost low don't hire more staff!

Providing industry stats on production, sales, category management that align with production/quota decisions. Too much of what the BCVMC produce for data focuses only on BC and also misses retail trends.

Reassure producers that the Commission is prepared for a possible US trade action (Harris or Trump) or a phytosanitary issue at the Border

To have a separate commission for the greenhouse sector

## Storage Crop Results ONLY

## Greenhouse Crops Results ONLY

**46.Final Comments and thoughts. Is there anything you would like to share that you haven't done so already?**

### Response

No

5 or so years ago I was forced to become a payee of the commission. Since then I have paid my yearly dues, and have some added costs due to food safety licenses that I did not have before. As a small farm, the crops I grow are not significant and I receive absolutely nothing in return from the commission, only paperwork and fees.

I believe the commission is steering in the right direction and making progress over the last couple years.

I think overall the commission is doing well. A lot of new people though at once I think takes a lot of time to get up to speed. I hope not to much time is wasted

It is unfortunate that the current change had to come by legislated enforcement. Growers need to bury their personal agendas and work towards common goals for the produce industry as a whole. If this is not achieved in the next few years the industry on our province will be in an avalanche of decline.

My email address is. wisbeyveggies@gmail.com. Please add me to your communication list. Bruce

No

No Thank you

There is a lot of frustration at the Agency level within our sector.

### Response

No

Would be interested to see how this poll is presented back out to industry stakeholders and if no improvements were made since the strat plan was introduced what are the plans to make administrative changes.

I don't know enough about the Commissions involvements to share any useful insights here

Someone should proof read the survey questions before sending them out. Questions 1.6 and 3.6 are 2 examples.

no

No further comments.