

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES – FOLLOW-UP REPORT

Background

On December 19, 2025, the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission (the Commission) circulated a comprehensive consultation package of policy updates relating to its quota management and New Producer Program and a Regional Diversification Incentive program, the result of work completed under the 2025 Strategic Plan.

This work was shared as a single package. Each component hinges on the others, and one implication informs the other's outcomes. Without all considerations before them, stakeholders may have struggled to understand possible outcomes of policy objectives. The Commission decided to allocate more time and to widen the scope of consultation to address these potential changes to the Consolidated Order.

The Commission provided verbal updates to producers, hatcheries, and the Commission's Pricing and Production Advisory Committee (PPAC) through regularly scheduled meetings in 2025 as the work progressed. The Commission valued those stakeholder touchpoints. Resulting from these touchpoints the Commission needed a comprehensive review of the policy drafts to ensure all stakeholders could review the proposed changes and offer their formal feedback through the Commission's consultation framework.

This follow-up report updates stakeholders on roundtable discussions held; identifies feedback the Commission will consider, outlines proposed changes in response to concerns, and aims to answer outstanding questions. The Commission encourages stakeholders to submit additional feedback from the roundtables and this report to support informed consideration of their decision until **April 17, 2026**.

Consultation Framework

The Commission invited the first round of stakeholder feedback on December 19, 2025, and closed it on February 6, 2026, to review the feedback and ensure questions were addressed at the February roundtables.

Roundtables were scheduled and included:

- February 5, 2026 – PPAC Meeting and Roundtable
- February 13, 2026 – BC Egg Hatchery Association Roundtable
- February 13, 2026 – BC Chicken Growers' Association Roundtable
- February 17, 2026 – BC Hatching Egg Producers' Association Meeting and Roundtable
- February 17, 2026 – Producer Meeting and Roundtable
- February 18, 2026 – BC Chicken Marketing Board Meeting and Roundtable
- February 18, 2026 – Prospective Producers Meeting Roundtable
- February 19, 2026 – Regional Diversification Meeting Roundtable
- March 30, 2026 – PPAC Meeting and Roundtable

Invited stakeholders attended their respective roundtables. The Commission presented the December 19, 2025 package and shared a FAQ list addressing questions raised in the initial stakeholder feedback round.

Quota Assessment Tools Review

Quota Transfer Assessment

The Commission updated the stakeholder groups on the proposed changes to the transfer assessments in comparison to the Commission’s current mechanisms and referenced the February 2, 2018, BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) Quota Assessment Tools Supervisory Review decision. The following table was shared to demonstrate the proposed changes:

Quota Pool Funding Attribute	Transfer Assessments	% of Growth
Timing	More variable	More certain
Amount	More variable	More certain
Participation	Exemptions – not all participate	All participate
Shareholder or partnership changes	Approval required for all shareholder or partnership changes*	Not required for assessment purposes
Administration time & effort (Producer & office)	Higher*	Lower
Fees	Per transfer	None

The table includes an asterisk indicating that an explanation was provided at the roundtables regarding the increasing complexities within breeder farming business structures. These complexities have raised concerns about self-reporting, and about changes to shareholders (individuals, corporations and trusts), and partnerships within those structures. Producers may not be aware of what corporate changes are subject to assessment, and the staff team is not aware of those internal changes until producers’ self-report. The proposed assessment mechanism, funding policy objectives with a portion of growth in allocation, is simpler.

Additionally, the utilization review, completed annually, would house this information for PPAC’s review and advice, maintaining transparency of assessments, also by way of Public Accountability Reporting Project (PARP), on what was added to the Quota Pool under the proposed mechanism. Stakeholders appreciated the proposed changes, and no concerning feedback was provided at the time of this report.

Quota Tools

Stakeholders appreciated the removal of LIFO. No objections to the one-year freeze on selling quota to be eligible for, and prior to, growth allotments were heard. The majority also supported the proposed restriction on placement quota sales and leases for two years after growth allotments. The Commission’s proposal to remove the 10/10/10 requirement on growth allotments was also welcomed; this was the preferred option for stakeholders, as administering these become less cumbersome. Two years of sale and lease restrictions would give producers motivation to build barns and begin projects.

One stakeholder group suggested restricting sales while continuing to permit leases in the two years after any growth allotment. The Commission considered this request. However, BCFIRB’s 2018 decision messages that the growth quota should go to those with space, and leasing may not meet that eligibility

requirement and does not motivate barn builds. The Commission will continue with quota portfolios to ensure all quota types are tracked. While integral for ensuring appropriate assessments of quota issued under any program or growth allotment, quota portfolios continue to provide the necessary data for the PARP Report required by BCFIRB annually. The Commission is also committed to timelines that give producers time and space to adjust to the new rules, if accepted by BCFIRB.

At each roundtable, the Commission noted that the proposed changes, coupled with its consultation framework, meet SAFETI criteria. The changes require an additional letter to BCFIRB outlining potential modifications and supporting rationales as they are subject to BCFIRB approval which will be sent under separate cover.

New Producer Program

The proposed changes to the Commission's existing New Producer Program (NPP) are significant and can be captured in three main points. The first is the change in launch location: The Commission proposes inviting producers who can set up production units in the interior. This aligns with the Commission's strategic objective of Regional Diversification. The second is the change in farm size: the Commission proposes increasing the current allotment of 5,000 placement (hen) quota to 12,000. The third is the change in the application process: the Commission has also updated the application process to help applicants manage expectations and understand the commitment required for breeder farming.

Stakeholders agreed that, overall, the proposed farm-size changes made sense, given the regional requirements. The Commission's December 19, 2025, proposal addressed hatchery pickup and volume efficiency through the increase in farm size, as well as producers' cash flow concerns through changing the quota allotment. Paired with the restriction on the movement of quota back into the Fraser Valley, stakeholders accepted the increase in allotment as necessary.

Concerns remained over the definition of "interior." Stakeholders were also concerned about proximity to current poultry production and the travel distances for services.

One stakeholder had concerns about a new producers' commitment to the sector and their position regarding the windfall aspect of cashing out after the 10/10/10 was completed. Additionally, they asked whether the Commission had considered a non-transferable quota

Several stakeholder groups noted that launching new producers into a region without existing cornerstone producers would be challenging. Industry knowledge is crucial for breeder farming. Stakeholders appreciated the extra resources proposed for new producers, but concerns remained especially with the steep curve in learning animal husbandry practices for those coming from a non-farming background. The launch timing was highlighted as a key consideration for the Commission.

One group expressed concerns about the move to the interior, especially for those remaining on the Commission's Prospective Producer List (with launches currently paused) who may be planning to use their existing property located in the Fraser Valley.

Two stakeholder participants expressed concerns about requiring a business plan at the start of the application process. They suggested this requirement may be burdensome and that alternative filtering methods could better identify prospective producers at this stage, moving that aspect to a later stage.

Overall, the program updates made sense to stakeholder groups and were accepted. Timing and the application process are the main outstanding concerns flagged by stakeholders for the Commission's decision making.

Of note, Regularized (specialty) producers were included in NPP updates as a launch option, but the Commission is not currently considering a stand-alone Regularized NPP. Their inclusion, as proposed, ensures the sector is considered for future NPP needs.

Regional Diversification Incentive Program

Each stakeholder group flagged their concerns on the Regional Diversification Incentive Program's silence on the definition of the "interior". The Commission did not provide such a definition, as there were outstanding factors to address within the context of an additional region to be populated with broiler hatching egg production, and stakeholder feedback on the definition would be important before its formal development.

Proximity to, or distance from, other poultry production premises and hatcheries' reasonable ability to pick up broiler hatching eggs were key concerns for stakeholders. The local hatchery would need to invest in equipment, and producers flagged that broiler hatching eggs can be impacted in specific ways by commutes, due to how they are packed in BC versus imported product. It was made clear to the Commission that there needed to be a travel limit for the hatchery and other suppliers in the area to make a broiler breeder farm viable in the interior.

The volume of hatching eggs produced was also a concern for stakeholders, and the investment in equipment and trucks discussed above applies to this concern as well. A small number of hatching eggs available for pickup would make this investment even less appealing to hatcheries in the area.

All stakeholders understood the Incentive Program, particularly during the discussion of establishing a committed long-term producer. A firm investment of a larger cornerstone farm would address stakeholders' concerns on a committed farm in the interior to meet the policy objectives of sustainable regional development and the orderly marketing of hatching eggs there. Additionally, much-needed barn space to increase overall capacity in BC was noted as an additional, beneficial outcome.

One stakeholder proposed that, considering the region's development, the Commission could consider creating a business model tool to support NPP and Incentive Program applicants.

Stakeholders were informed that the decision on quota policies may impact the Incentive Program outcomes, as it has framework implications for the proposed move away from LIFO and 10/10/10. The Commission will provide an update when that decision has been finalized and how it would apply it to the Incentive Program. As it stands today, the incentive quota is subject to the 10/10/10 policy. Like the decision on the NPP, the Commission is within its prerogative to maintain that requirement despite BCFIRB's decision on the potential growth allotment quota.

Proposed Changes to Address Stakeholder Feedback

Quota Assessment Tools Review

The Commission notes there was a requested change that could address a stakeholder's concern and have captured and summarized them here:

- Review the request on restricting sales while continuing to permit leases in the two years after any growth allotment.
- Submit a letter to BCFIRB requesting their approval on the proposal.

New Producer Program

The Commission notes there were several changes that could address stakeholder concerns and have captured and summarized them here:

- Define the interior region to reflect the reasonable pick up of broiler hatching eggs by the licensed hatchery in operation in Armstrong, BC.
- Update the first-round application process to reduce the administrative burden on applicants.
- Potentially adjust the timelines in the launch of the next NPP into the interior until a “cornerstone” producer is established.
- Populate a new Prospective Producer List first with those on the current list that acknowledge the revised rules and wish to be moved over, respecting the original order. Thereafter, launch new producers under the revised rules.

Regional Diversification Incentive Program

The Commission is also considering changes to address stakeholder concerns regarding the Regional Diversification Program. The potential updates are captured and summarized here.

- Define the interior region to reflect the reasonable pick up of broiler hatching eggs by the licensed hatchery in operation in Armstrong, BC.
- Prioritize current hatching egg producer applicants to ensure the establishment of consistent egg flow and to ensure the local hatchery is confident in their supplier(s).
- Provide a business plan template as part of the application process.
- Establish the quota policy around the incentive quota.

Reference Material

- February 2, 2018, Quota Assessment Tools Supervisory Review
- December 19, 2025, Consultation Package
- Meetings and Roundtables
- Formal stakeholder feedback letters