

Ministry of Agriculture

2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Agriculture *2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the *2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan* created in February 2019. I am accountable for those results as reported.

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture
June 25, 2020

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Letter from the Minister

It is my pleasure to present the Ministry of Agriculture's 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report.

During these difficult times, as we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, I've been constantly reminded just how close-knit our B.C. agricultural community is and the important work they do to ensure a safe and secure local food supply. Without question, B.C. farmers and producers are resilient by nature, and the B.C. government will continue to support them. I'm confident in the B.C. industry, from farm to plate, and its ability to supply the product we need here in B.C.

We have so much to be proud of in British Columbia. In 2018, we reached a major milestone as the B.C. agriculture, seafood and food processing sectors reached revenues of \$15 billion – the highest ever! I am also really excited to report that more than 2,000 jobs were created bringing the total number of people working in B.C.'s agriculture industry to its highest in ten years, more than 63,000.

Our government is working hard to build on this momentum with new ideas including the launch of a food innovation hub network through our Feed BC initiative. Our goal is to support B.C.'s growing food processing sector and when the hubs open their doors, they will provide access to shared processing space so entrepreneurs can begin to grow their businesses, strengthen food security, create good jobs and help local economies thrive.

Our coastal communities continue to be hard at work in the B.C. seafood sector. We partnered with the federal government and announced \$143 million (\$100 million federally-funded) for the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund to restore the habitat of wild fish stocks and protect vulnerable wild Pacific salmon. We also celebrated the first-ever Day of the Wild Salmon with an event at the B.C. Legislature and a \$5 million investment in the Pacific Salmon Foundation to help it continue its wild salmon conservation work. We are continuing to support the enjoyment of sustainably-produced B.C. seafood through the Buy BC program.

I am truly honoured to be the Minister of Agriculture. To our B.C. agriculture sector, thank you! I am so proud and thankful of your commitment to grow the high-quality local food that we all depend on.



Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture
June 25, 2020

Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

The Annual Service Plan Report is designed to meet the requirements of the [Budget Transparency and Accountability Act](#) (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for Government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the Ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets documented in the previous year's Service Plan.

Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Agriculture (the Ministry) is responsible for the production, marketing, processing and merchandising of agriculture and seafood products; the institution and carrying out of advisory, research, promotional, sustainability and adaptation, food safety and plant and animal health programs, projects and undertakings relating to agriculture and seafood; and the collection of information and preparation and dissemination of statistics relating to agriculture and seafood.

Agriculture is a key contributor to economic development and diversification across the province, and is a main contributor to rural economic development and province-wide job creation, particularly for small businesses. The agriculture, seafood and food and beverage sector creates economic and social benefits for Indigenous groups and other underrepresented groups, has the potential to attract provincial investment and contributes to workforce development and skills training.

The legal and regulatory environment that guides the work of the Ministry includes 24 statutes that relate wholly or primarily to the Ministry. A [complete list of legislation for which the Ministry is responsible](#) is available online.

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by Government in 2017 and expanded upon in [Minister Popham's Mandate Letter](#) shaped the [2019/20 Ministry of Agriculture's Service Plan](#) and the results reported in this Annual Report.

Operating Environment

The Ministry has experienced significant events over the 2019/2020 fiscal year. These events presented considerations to be managed regarding staff resources as well as the Ministry budget. Despite these challenging events occurring outside the Ministers' Mandate, the Ministry prioritized accordingly and responded with meaningful action.

Animal Activism

Animal welfare activists across Canada undertook extreme activities to gain media attention and publicize their views including publishing video and photos of farmers' children on social media, sabotaging farm equipment, trespassing etc. Animal welfare incidents in dairy, eggs and chicken had serious impacts to these industries and their value chains,

highlighting the importance of effectively ensuring appropriate animal welfare standards are followed and enforced.

With industry support, we turned the National Farm Animal Care Council Codes of Practice into law in B.C. B.C. commodity boards have either made the relevant National Farm Animal Care Council Codes of Practice mandatory for licensed producers or made national agency animal-care programs, that are based on the Codes of Practice mandatory for licensed producers.

In October 2019, we brought agriculture industry leaders together with the RCMP, police, and the Ministry of Public Safety and the Solicitor General to help those who enforce the laws better understand how serious the impacts of protests can be on livestock producers. We introduced a motion to amend the Trespass Act so it is clear that it can be used on those who trespass on all livestock premises

2019 Pacific Salmon Returns

The dramatic reduction in Pacific salmon returns in 2019 had significant ecosystem impacts and led industry to seek disaster relief from both levels of government. This in concert with the conservation concerns for southern B.C. chinook and steelhead, the impacts of the Big Bar landslide, as well as concerns for Southern Resident Killer Whale (SRKW) led to significant impacts across the sector(s).

The 2019 Pacific salmon season was forecast to have generally below average returns coast-wide and to generate significant challenges for fisheries conservation and management. As forecasted, in 2019 salmon stocks suffered disastrous declines leading to equivalent declines in the ecosystems and economies that rely on them. Several contributing factors to the current situation include:

- Generally low Pacific salmon productivity and abundance due to impacts of climate change;
- Management measures to address severe concerns for wild Fraser River chinook salmon stocks;
- The Big Bar rockslide near Lillooet, B.C., restricting passage of returning Fraser salmon;
- Protection and Recovery Measures for SRKW with a focus on chinook salmon as a primary food source; and
- The Interior Fraser Steelhead Emergency Recovery Plan.

The declining salmon stocks had an array of impacts on the commercial, recreational and First Nations fisheries and the communities that depend on them. The loss of fishing access and the economic impacts being felt by the declining production are also causing tensions between user groups. The declining stocks have also prompted requests for disaster relief from both United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union (UFAWU) and First Nations in B.C.

As a result, B.C. Ministers reached out to their federal counterparts to find support for the impacted fish harvesters, processors and communities impacted by the poor salmon returns in 2019 and will remain engaged in efforts to support British Columbians for 2020.

The B.C. Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) is providing support to communities on the coast and around B.C. and support the development of sustainable fisheries initiatives and recovering wild salmon stocks.

Business Risk Management

We are supporting farmers and ranchers through B.C.'s new AgriStability Enhancement Program to help producers recover from tough times. Farmers enrolled were eligible to receive a much higher interim payment to help them through the 2019 agriculture year. We increased the compensation rate by 14% for BC farmers and rancher through the B.C. AgriStability Enhancement Program.

Climate Action

Regional adaptation strategies have been developed or are underway in eight key agricultural areas of the province to help farmers and ranchers prepare and adapt to changing climate and weather conditions. Over 80 projects have been funded, addressing climate related risks such as drought, excess moisture, flooding, pests, diseases, and wildfires

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets

Goal 1: *Grow BC*: Build sustainable production and help BC producers expand local food production

Objective 1.1: Enhance Services and Supports to the Agri-Food and Seafood Sector

The Ministry will deliver a wide variety of programs and services to help farmers and processors increase their production and enhance the sustainability of their operations while supporting government priority initiatives.

Sustainable production depends on having producers; and British Columbia's farmers are, on average, the oldest in Canada. The Ministry will address the significant barrier of access to land for those seeking to enter the industry through land matching, measures to incentivize landowners to make land available and succession planning for existing producers planning their retirement.

The Ministry has increased agriculture sector capacity to maintain competitiveness, manage risks, enhance productivity and contribute to economic growth through action on climate change and increasing environmental sustainability. The Ministry will continue to enhance nutrient management improvement activities and work with industry, local governments, research organizations and other government agencies to increase the capacity of B.C. farmers to adapt to climate change. This includes supporting the creation of regional adaptation strategies and regional adaptation projects.

Key Highlights

- Continued to support on-farm environmental risk assessments through Environmental Farm Planning, and to improve environmental sustainability of the sector by supporting adoption of beneficial management practices for improvement of soil, water use efficiency and quality, air quality, biodiversity, nutrient and waste management;
- Continued extension services (e.g., workshops, print media) focused on nutrient, soil and water with demonstration of the BC Application Risk Management (ARM) tool, nutrient management calculator, BC Agriculture Water Calculator, and Agriculture Water Demand Model (AWDM), all of which have been developed in support of the *Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management* (AEM Code), groundwater licensing under the *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA), and climate change adaptation.
- Supported international treaty and trade negotiations related to fisheries and seafood to ensure access to fisheries resources within B.C.;
- Continued to support government-to-government discussions regarding fish farms in First Nations traditional territories;
- The ministry established the 2019-2020 British Columbia AgriStability Enhancement Program, which increases every AgriStability claim payment by 14.3%. This program accomplished this by:
 - Increasing the AgriStability compensation rate from 70 percent to 80 percent, when a farm’s income margin falls below the 30 percent payment trigger threshold; and
 - Removing the AgriStability Reference Margin Limit (RML), which limited payments to a maximum equal to the participants five-year average allowable expenses. This addressed the problem that farms impacted by the RML received compensation that was less than farms experiencing the same loss but with no RML.

Performance Measure(s)	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
1.1 Number of attendees at succession planning events	169	230	212	250	250

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture

Discussion of Results

Succession planning is a voluntary and multifaceted process which take between five and ten years to complete. The Ministry supports succession planning by partnering with industry associations to hold workshops across the province and funding business advisory services. The needs and interests of individuals are expected to change over time and are reliant on several factors including family and health circumstances, economic changes and business structures. Although the number of attendees at succession planning events did not meet the target for 2019/20, there was an increase in participation since 2018/2019. The participation rate for these events expected to vary over time based on the interests of industry associations and the needs of the individuals working on their succession plans.

Objective 1.2: Ensure the Future of the Agri-Food and Seafood Sector by Protecting the Land Base and Animal, Plant and Human Health.

Preservation of agricultural land is a provincial priority overseen by the Agricultural Land Commission. The Ministry of Agriculture is mandated with revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). An independent advisory committee engages with stakeholders and the general public to provide Government with advice and guidance to support regulatory and administrative improvements.

The Ministry, in partnership with federal, provincial and local government agencies, delivers services and initiatives to manage food safety, and plant and animal health risks. These services protect public health, contribute to maintaining public trust and support consumer confidence domestically and internationally in B.C. agriculture and seafood products.

Key Highlights

- Enhanced the Agricultural Land Use Inventory (ALUI) dataset in the South and Central Okanagan to allow farmers and other users to visualize ecosystem services spatially on agricultural land in the Okanagan, by highlighting geographic areas of conservation priority, stewardship potential, and targeted incentive program delivery.
- Revitalization of the ALR and ALC saw the final implementation of regulatory changes based on the recommendations contained in the independent committee’s report; the striking of the Deputy Minister Task Force on North East Oil and Gas, and implementing improved public, local government and other stakeholder engagement.
- Continuation of the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) to support B.C.’s fisheries and seafood sector, and to ensure the sustainability of wild Pacific salmon and other B.C. fish stocks.
- 8,264 cases were submitted to the Animal Health Centre; 832 cases were submitted to the Plant Health Lab.
- Japanese Beetle eradication efforts continued in Vancouver/False Creek area. Eight organizations are working together to survey and treat for this quarantine pest incursion in Vancouver, with the goal of removing it from BC. This includes CFIA, BCAGRI, BCLNA, ISCBC, Vancouver Parks Board, City of Vancouver, and Metro Vancouver. BCAGRI is the lead on the treatment part of the initiative.
- Surveys and outreach continue on True Armyworm, Western Yellow Striped Armyworm, Western Corn Rootworm, and wireworms. These insects have all in recent years caused crop damage to grass, corn, and other field crops.

Performance Measure(s)	2017/18 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
1.2 Cumulative Hectares (Ha) of ALUI	3.5M Ha	3.7M Ha	3.9M Ha	3.9M Ha	4.2M Ha	4.6M Ha

Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture.

Discussion of Results

ALUI provides comprehensive data about land use and land cover on agricultural land. The data informed land use planning and policy options for ALR revitalization, advised emergency response for environmental disasters and animal health events, and facilitated sector development activities.

ALUI projects were mostly concentrated in more northern regions of the province to establish baselines from which to measure change in land use patterns and practices. Baseline ALUI inventories were completed for the Cariboo Regional District, Sunshine Coast Regional District, and qathet Regional District. In addition, updates were made to existing inventories in the Pemberton Valley and Nanaimo area to determine land use changes over time. Each project utilized a unique mix of partnerships and resources, depending on the interest in the project and the identified need for the data. Several local governments, non-profit organizations, and community interest groups provided support for projects in their local areas.

Goal 2: Feed BC: Build the availability, value and variety of BC food

Objective 2.1: Increase the use of BC Grown and Processed Foods by Large BC based purchasers such as government facilities.

The Ministry works to deliver on the Government’s commitment to increase the use of B.C. grown and processed foods in large B.C. based purchasers including government facilities such as hospitals and public post-secondary institutions. To capitalize on opportunities for government facilities to increase the purchase of B.C. foods, the Ministry continues to work with government and industry partners to match the food needs of these facilities with B.C. food production.

Key Highlights

- In 2019/20, Feed BC implementation began in Fraser Health (21 healthcare facilities) and Northern Health (27 healthcare facilities), in addition to the 55 Interior Health healthcare facilities that joined in 2018/19. Facilities in these three health authorities have successfully increased their purchase of B.C.-produced and/or processed foods.
- All six health authorities are tracking purchases of B.C. food and the first annual B.C. Food Expenditures in Health Care report for 2018/2019 was released in early 2020.

Performance Measure(s)	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
2.1 Number of individual BC government facilities that have increased their purchase of BC produced and/or processed foods	55	114	103	184	195

Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Discussion of Results

Feed BC 2019/20 actuals are lower than had been anticipated due to more gradual implementation in public post-secondary institutions (PSIs). In early 2020, Feed BC was approved as one of six strategic reporting priorities for all 25 public post-secondary institutions (PSIs) in B.C. The 2019/20 target had anticipated Feed BC being implemented in 11 PSIs through common tracking and reporting measures, but a Feed BC study of all PSIs found the majority do not track B.C. food use and those that do use varied methodologies and levels of detail.

Objective 2.2: Foster Innovation and Develop a Food Hub Network to Support Food Processing

The Ministry encourages growth in the agriculture and seafood sector through programs that foster innovation, including the development of new products, processes or technologies that will ultimately be market ready. Innovation projects are designed to enhance the ability of the sector to research, develop, pilot, commercialize and/or adopt technologies to improve competitiveness; accelerate business development; and access and participate in knowledge-transfer. B.C.'s approach to developing a BC Food Hub Network, including an Endowed Professor of Food and Beverage Innovation at the University of British Columbia, is intended to leverage sector/regional diversity to build competitive linkages across the supply chain and the innovation continuum.

Key Highlights

- In 2019/20, grew the BC Food Hub Network by supporting the establishment, development and expansion of four Regional Food Processing and Innovation Hubs (Food Hubs) across the province.
- Supported the completion of feasibility studies and business plans for Food Hubs in seven regions across the province.
- Established an Endowed Professorship of Food and Beverage Innovation at the University of British Columbia to lead applied food and beverage innovation research and create experiential learning opportunities.
- Launched a provincial Food Security Task Force that provided recommendations to government for how technology and innovation can be developed to strengthen B.C.'s agriculture sector and food security. The recommendations reflected input from over 450 submissions to an online public engagement opportunity, as well as in-person, regional engagement sessions with over 100 industry stakeholders.

Performance Measure(s)	2017/18 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
2.2 Cumulative number of innovations commercialized	27	38	43	43	50	58

Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Discussion of Results

The cumulative number of agricultural innovations that become commercialized is a strong indicator of progress towards achieving the overarching objective of B.C.'s Innovation Program, which is to accelerate projects from late-stage research through to commercialization. Newly commercialized agricultural innovations include:

- Craft beer production utilizing day old bread to develop new products and repurpose food waste;
- Fractal impulse sound technology deployed to deter starlings from and reduce damage to vineyards, and to decrease usage of propane cannons;
- Pasteurization and fermentation monitoring technology, utilized by breweries, wineries, cideries, meaderies and distilleries around the world;
- Dehydration technology for commercial production of puffed cheese; and
- Mobile intelligent units that autonomously move multiple plant containers within greenhouse nurseries.

Given that agricultural innovations take several years to become commercialized, this performance measure increases steadily over time and may reflect projects funded under the previous federal/provincial agreement, *Growing Forward 2*, as well as the current agreement, the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership*.

Goal 3: Buy BC: Build consumer awareness and demand and help local producers market their products to grow their businesses

Objective 3.1: Build and leverage a strong, recognizable Buy BC brand to help producers and processors expand sales and ensure consumers can easily identify local food and beverages.

The Ministry is committed to delivering an enhanced Buy BC marketing program to build consumer awareness and demand and help local producers market their products. A key component of the program is a strong Buy BC brand identifier that helps consumers recognize and seek out B.C. products. Making the choice to buy B.C. food and beverages directly supports local farmers, producers and processors, strengthens communities and ensures that future generations of British Columbians can depend on a safe, secure supply of local food.

Key Highlights

- Developed a life-size, walk-through exhibit at the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) to showcase the farm-to-table journey of eight unique B.C. agricultural commodities and help increase the local food literacy of urban consumers in the Lower Mainland;
- Delivered the second annual Every Chef Needs a Farmer, Every Farmer Needs a Chef province-wide menu planning event, with over 400 industry participants, including local B.C. chefs, farmers, food processors, retailers, and distributors, to create more opportunities to bring B.C. food on to plates across the province;
- Enhanced consumer recognition of the Buy BC brand through the delivery of communication and promotional activities, including year two of the Buy BC: EAT

DRINK LOCAL campaign, Buy BC retail promotions with Thrifty Foods and Safeway all across Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland, and a dedicated Buy BC website to increase consumer awareness of the Buy BC brand; and,

- Supported \$2M in Buy BC cost-shared partnership activities to enhance the ability of B.C.'s agriculture and seafood sector to promote local food and beverages to consumers across the province.

Performance Measure(s)	2017 Baseline	2018 Actuals	2019 Target	2019 Actuals	2020 Target	2021 Target
3.1 Annual value of domestic purchases of agriculture and seafood products	\$7.0 billion	N/a ¹	\$7.7 billion	N/a ²	\$8.1 billion	\$8.5 billion

Data Source: BC Stats Estimates

¹ Actuals for 2018 are not yet available but will be published in the 2019 Fast Stats publication in Fall 2020.

² Actuals for 2019 will not be available until Fall 2021.

Discussion of Results

This performance measure demonstrates the impact of the Ministry's Buy BC marketing campaign on consumer purchasing habits within British Columbia. The Buy BC campaign leverages a strong, recognizable Buy BC brand and logo to ensure consumers can easily identify and purchase local agriculture and seafood products and leverages a comprehensive Buy BC advertising and social media campaign to build brand recognition and encourage consumers to purchase domestic products. In 2019/20, the Ministry also partnered with local retailers and farmers markets to increase the visibility of Buy BC branding at over 75 retailers and 140 markets across the province.

Objective 3.2: Help Producers and Processors Expand Sales in Priority Export Markets

The Ministry supports the expansion of export sales through the delivery of a suite of market development programs and services aimed at ensuring the agriculture and seafood sector has the knowledge, skills and resources to effectively capitalize on emerging market opportunities. Expanding international markets contributes to sustainable, long-term growth for B.C.'s agriculture and seafood sector and economic growth and job creation across the province.

Key Highlights

- Helped the Agriculture and seafood sector achieve a record \$4.7B in exports in 2019 by supporting the planning, organization and delivery of international tradeshows, activities, and buyers' missions in South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, China, Hong Kong and Europe, in addition to managing two dedicated market intelligence-focused B.C. Agriculture/Seafood Trade and Investment Representatives in South Korea and Hong Kong, in collaboration with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness;
- Continued to expand the print and online version of the 2019 B.C Agriculture and Seafood Export-Ready Business Catalogue to help connect international food buyers with B.C. exporters; and,

- Supported \$1.2M in cost-shared partnership activities to enhance the ability of B.C.’s agriculture and seafood sector to access and expand international markets.

	• Performance Measure(s)	2017 Baseline	2018 Actuals	2019 Target ¹	2019 Actuals	2020 Target	2021 Target
3.2	Annual value of international agriculture and seafood exports	\$3.9 billion	\$4.5 billion	\$4.2 billion	\$4.7 billion	\$4.3 billion	\$4.4 billion

Data source: Statistics Canada

¹ Performance measures in this report have been corrected from a fiscal year to calendar year basis, as export data is published on a calendar year basis.

Discussion of Results

This performance measure demonstrates the impact of the Ministry’s international market development strategy – including the delivery of an export market development funding program, government-led BC pavilions at international tradeshow and events, and promotional tools and resources – and the ability of producers and processors to export to priority markets, by measuring the overall value of BC’s agriculture and seafood exports. In 2019, B.C.’s agriculture and seafood exports increased by 7%, exceeding the forecasted value by \$0.5 billion to reach a record \$4.7 billion in sales.

Financial Report

Discussion of Results

During 2019/20, the Ministry contributed \$15.779M to the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) as part of a cost-shared five-year agreement jointly funded with the Federal Government. This fund supports the development of new technologies and research partnerships for the protection and restoration of priority wild fish stocks. This will ensure the fish and seafood sector in B.C. is positioned for long-term environmental and economic sustainability.

The Ministry established the 2019 and 2020 BC AgriStability Enhancement Program which will help producers to manage lost income by increasing the compensation rates on income losses greater than 30%, due to weather, trade challenges or natural disaster. Also, the Ministry increased the Province's share of premiums under the Production Insurance Program by \$2.2M to manage rising production and commodity prices. The Forage and Transport Initiative was also launched to support Cariboo ranchers towards the purchase of additional hay due to the 2019 floods in the Cariboo.

For the second year, the Ministry continued to support the Canadian Agricultural Partnership agreement with the Government of Canada as well as the Grow BC, Buy BC and Feed BC programs to help expand the agri-food sector.

The BCSRIF transfer was funded by accessing the Contingencies and New Programs vote. The increase to the Production Insurance Program premiums was funded through a partial reallocation of the transfer to the Agricultural Income Stability Trust.

Financial Summary

	Estimated	Other Authorizations ¹	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses (\$000)					
Agriculture Science and Policy 1	20,106	15,779	35,885	32,198	(3,687)
Business Development	51,693	-	51,693	54,174	2,481
BC Farm Industry Review Board	1,348	-	1,348	1,500	152
Executive and Support Services	6,987	-	6,987	8,041	1,054
Agricultural Land Commission	4,873	-	4,873	4,824	(49)
Production Insurance Special Account (Net)	13,200	(2,200)	11,000	11,000	-
Sub-total	98,207	13,579	111,786	111,737	(49)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual 2	-	-	-	(600)	(600)
Total	98,207	13,579	111,786	111,137	(649)
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)					
Executive and Support Services	763	-	763	744	(19)
Total	763	-	763	744	(19)

¹ "Other Authorizations" includes TB approved access to Contingencies of \$15.779 million to fund BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund.

² The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$0.600 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals

As of June 1, 2020, the Minister of Agriculture is responsible and accountable for the following:

Agricultural Land Commission

The Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is the independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming in BC. The ALC is responsible for administering the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), a provincial land use zone where agriculture is the primary land use taking place on the limited agricultural land base.

British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board

The British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board (the Board) is an independent administrative tribunal that operates at arm's-length from government. As the regulatory tribunal responsible for the general supervision of BC regulated marketing boards and commissions, the Board provides oversight, policy direction and decisions to ensure orderly marketing and to protect the public interest. In its adjudicative capacities, the Board provides a less formal system than the court for resolving disputes in a timely and cost-effective way.

The Marketing Boards and Commissions include:

[BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission](#)

[BC Chicken Marketing Board](#)

[BC Cranberry Marketing Commission](#)

[BC Egg Marketing Board](#)

[BC Farm Industry Review Board](#)

[BC Hog Marketing Commission](#)

[BC Milk Marketing Board](#)

[BC Turkey Marketing Board](#)

[BC Vegetable Marketing Commission](#)