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Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 9:34 AM

To: Jack Crompton <jcrompton@whistler.ca>

Cc: Arthur De Jong <adejong@whistler.ca>; Duane Jackson <djackson@whistler.ca>; John Grills <jgrills@whistler.ca>; Cathy Jewett <cjewett@whistler.ca>; Jen Ford <jford@whistler.ca>; Ralph Forsyth <rforsyth@whistler.ca>

Subject: BC Craft Farmers Co-Op: Economic Development & Job Creation Proposal

To his Worship, Jack Crompton, and Council:

I hope your community is doing well and staying healthy.

I am contacting you on behalf of the BC Craft Farmers Co-Op (BCCFC), further to previous information sent by my colleague, [REDACTED] last summer.

As you may know, since incorporation on 04.20.20, BCCFC has been busy working on a proposal that has been submitted to the provincial and federal governments that will help with B.C.'s economic recovery post-COVID-19.

The proposal, *Creating Opportunity for BC's Craft Cannabis Sector and Supporting the Economic Recovery*, was distributed to the Prime Minister and Premier last week. In addition to responding to the economic crisis created by COVID-19, this proposal strives to achieve the original public interest goals of Canada's Cannabis Act, particularly related to the diversion of profit from the illicit market and the creation of a diverse sector where small farmers can succeed.

Unfortunately, these goals are not being achieved. Of the 1,200,000 million+ square meters of legal indoor and outdoor cannabis cultivation space approved by Health Canada across the country over the past two years, craft cannabis farmers account for less than 1%. Nowhere in Canada is this more important than in B.C. With a well-established international cannabis brand and thousands of craft farmers already established in the medical cannabis system, B.C. has the most to lose if these small enterprises continue to be excluded.

Transitioning just 30% of the 6,000+ B.C. micro-farmers already approved to produce medical cannabis into the legal market, as proposed, will create thousands of B.C. jobs this summer, divert millions from the illicit market and generate hundreds of millions of dollars in new revenue for all levels of government.

In short, the attached proposal has two parts. Part One is focused exclusively on regulatory innovation within Health Canada starting this summer. Part Two proposes a federal/provincial partnership based on existing models that will support craft farmers through the transition with a series of modest, strategic investments over the next two years. In addition to providing a significant return on investment for taxpayers, the project will help keep B.C. an international cannabis headquarters.

As part of the proposal, the Project Advisory Committee will include a representative from the Union of BC Municipalities and dedicate resources to rapidly engage local governments. A micro-credit program will also be implemented to help transition craft farmers and respond to municipal requests.

We have been meeting with B.C. MPs, MLAs and relevant Ministers over the past two weeks to review this made-in-B.C. opportunity. We have been well-received by all parties so far.

We hope you will have a moment to review the proposal [here](#).

Please share with your team as needed. We welcome your feedback and an opportunity to answer any questions you may have. We would be happy to schedule a phone call to discuss our work further with you, please let me know if you would like to meet in the coming weeks.

Learn more about BCCFC [here](#).

Best regards,

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