



CANADIAN MEAT COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES VIANDES DU CANADA

October 2, 2020

Mr. Robin Silvester
President & Chief Executive Officer

Ms Judy Rogers, Chair
Port Board of Directors

Board of Directors

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
100 The Pointe, 999 Canada Place
Vancouver, BC V6C 3T4

Dear Mr. Silvester, Ms Rogers and Board of Directors

Re: West Coast Reduction and the Future of Sustainable Meat Production

I am writing to you about the future of West Coast Reduction's (WCRL) operations. The Canadian Meat Council (CMC) is an Ottawa based trade association that advocates on behalf of its members – meat packers and processors operating establishments licensed under the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations and suppliers of equipment and services to the meat industry. With over 130 members, CMC is an internationally recognized voice that shapes the future of the meat industry in Canada by bringing 100 years of expertise, influence, and resources. The Canadian red meat industry represents over \$20 Billion dollars to the Canadian economy and supports 288,000 jobs across Canada.

The meat industry has been deemed an essential service in the federal government's "Guidance on Essential Services and Functions in Canada During the COVID-19 Pandemic. In Western Canada, WCRL is a key partner for our members production and represents a critical link between agriculture and a sustainable local food supply and access to international markets.

WCRL is an integral partner in food sustainability by reducing waste by turning it into a value-added commodity and at the same time reducing the cost of food production while making our footprint as small as possible. I think it is safe to say that the services provided by WCRL touch **every Canadian farmer in Western Canada**. With this in mind I am copying this letter to Ministers of the Federal Government of Canada who have an interest in the sustainability of the meat industry.

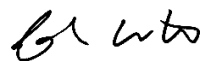
While I am sure you are aware of the value of these services to the environment it is worth mentioning that thousands of tonnes of by-products are recycled every day and turned into value-added finished products that would otherwise end up in landfills, sewers, and drains.

I am aware that WCRL recently wrote to the Port of Vancouver about its tenure and ability to operate at its current location. Uncertainty surrounding WCRL operations is a serious concern to CMC and many participants in the Canadian meat supply chain. We strongly encourage the Port of Vancouver to assess the implications of any disruption to WCRL's operations or impediments to the company's ability to invest. Specifically, we ask that the Port of Vancouver work with WCRL to secure certainty over their operating tenure and, by extension, provide certainty to the many organizations that rely on WCRL, like our members.

The Port of Vancouver governs itself according to sustainability principles and aims to be the "world's most sustainable port". This can only be achieved by balancing the Port's requirements with those of the surrounding community. There are many organizations like WCRL and our members that play a role in the prosperity and sustainability of the region that must be factored into the Port's actions and priorities.

We welcome the opportunity to speak to the Port about CMC and our relationship with WCRL. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Chris White, President & CEO
Canadian Meat Council

cc: Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy PM and Minister of Finance
Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Hon. Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport
Hon. Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (B.C.)
Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (B.C.)
Hon. Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture (B.C.)
Hon. Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources Canada
Sav Dhaliwal, Chair, Metro Vancouver Regional District