

3. Certification bodies may be members of an accreditation board, as may the representatives of producers, processors, professional orders, consumers and traders, as well as any group specifically concerned by a given designation.

An accreditation board shall be administered by a board of directors composed of no less than six and no more than eight members. The members shall be distributed as follows:

- one representative per certification body, to a maximum of three;
- one representative for producers;
- one representative for traders;
- one representative for processors;
- one representative for consumers; and
- one representative for the groups concerned by a given designation.

The Minister shall appoint an observer to the accreditation board and to the board of directors of an accreditation board.

4. The criteria and requirements contained in the reference manual of an accreditation board and with which the assessment procedures of certification bodies applying for accreditation must comply are those set forth in

— ISO/IEC Guide 65: General Requirements for Bodies Operating Product Certification Systems;

— ISO/IEC Guide 61: General Requirements for Assessment and Accreditation of Certification/Registration Bodies; and

— ISO/IEC Guide 39: General Requirements for the Acceptance of Inspection Bodies.

(ISO/IEC guides are available from the International Organization for Standardization, Postal Box 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.)

5. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1 of the first paragraph of section 1, pending adoption of the Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods, to obtain recognition of a designation attributed as an attestation of an organic method of production, a product must comply with a specification manual whose standards are at least as stringent as those set forth in the Basic Standards of Organic Agriculture and Food Processing of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM).

(Those standards are available from IFOAM General Secretariat, Okozentrum Imsbach D-6695, Tholey-Theley, Germany.)

6. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

1390

Draft Regulation

An Act respecting the Société de financement agricole (R.S.Q., c. S-11.0101)

Duties and charges exigible

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation respecting the duties and charges exigible by the Société de financement agricole, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Government at the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The purpose of the Draft Regulation is to increase the duties to be paid by every person who obtains a loan under a program administered by the Société de financement agricole or who takes over such a loan. This amendment is the result of the Government's user fee policy.

Any interested person having comments to make is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to Mr. Michel R. Saint-Pierre, Chairman of the Société de financement agricole, 1020, route de l'Église, Sainte-Foy (Québec), G1V 4P2.

GUY JULIEN
*Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food*

Regulation respecting the duties and charges exigible by the Société de financement agricole

An Act respecting the Société de financement agricole (R.S.Q., c. S-11.0101, s. 34, 1st par., subpar. 5)

1. The following are the duties exigible by the Société de financement agricole from every borrower who obtains a loan or a line of credit under the Program for farm financing made by Order in Council 699-95 dated 24 May 1995 or under the Forest management funding program made by Order in Council 384-97 dated 26 March 1997:

(1) \$200, where the amount obtained is \$50 000 or less;

(2) 0.4 % of the amount obtained, where the amount obtained is greater than \$50 000 but less than \$250 000; or

(3) \$1 000, where the amount obtained is greater than \$250 000.

This section also applies, *mutatis mutandis*, where a borrower takes over a loan obtained under the Program for farm financing, under the Farm financing program made by Order in Council 697-93 dated 19 May 1993, under the Act respecting Farm Financing (R.S.Q., c. F-1.2), under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions (R.S.Q., c. C-75.1), under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., c. C-75), under the Forest management funding program, under the Act to promote forest credit by private institutions (R.S.Q., c. C-78.1) or under the Forestry Credit Act (R.S.Q., c. C-78).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, those duties shall not exceed \$1 000 where a loan, a line of credit or the taking over of a loan results from a single application for financing.

They are payable at the time the loan or the line of credit is granted or the loan is taken over.

Notwithstanding the second paragraph, no duty is exigible from a borrower in respect of a loan or a part of a loan that is used to repay the outstanding principal balance on a loan that he obtained under a program or statute referred to in that paragraph.

2. This Regulation replaces the Regulation respecting duties and charges exigible by the Société de financement agricole made by Order in Council 1075-93 dated 11 August 1993 and amended by Order in Council 701-95 dated 24 May 1995 and 386-97 dated 26 March 1997.

3. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

Draft Regulation

An Act respecting transportation by taxi
(R.S.Q., c. T-11.1, s. 60)

Transportation by Taxi — Amendments

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Transportation by Taxi Regulation, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Government upon the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The purpose of the Draft Regulation is to reduce to 1 month the period during which a candidate may not, after a failure, sit for the taxi driver's permit examination. It is also intended to allow the issuance of new permits for the territory of the municipalities of Mistissini, Forestville and Lebel-sur-Quévillon. It also extends the territory of the Terrebonne and Saint-Eustache urban areas and, consequently to a municipal amalgamation, the territory of the Joliette urban area. It amends certain urban areas in order to update the designation of the municipalities by taking into account the amendments made to the Répertoire des municipalités du Québec.

Those regulatory amendments will have a positive impact on citizens, who will be able to obtain a taxi driver's permit within a shorter time. The impact on taxi businesses will be negligible since the increase in the number of taxi driver's permits is limited to a few municipalities and the number of new permits is restricted.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Michel Trudel, 35, rue Port-Royal, Montréal (Québec), H3L 3T1, tel.: (514) 864-1637, fax: (514) 873-0435.

Any interested person having comments to make on the matter is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the above-mentioned address.

JACQUES BRASSARD,
Minister of Transport