

# Commission de révision agricole du Canada

Citation: Harika v. Canada (Canada Border Services Agency), 2018 CART 17

Date: 20181219

Docket: CART/CRAC- CART | CRAC 1960

**BETWEEN:** 

Amal Harika,

**APPLICANT** 

- and -

Canada Border Services Agency,

RESPONDENT

**BEFORE:** Marthanne Robson

**Part-time Member** 

WITH: Ms. Amal Harika, for the Applicant; and

Mr. Pierre Dastous, for the respondent

In the matter of an application made by the Applicant to the Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal, pursuant to paragraph 9(2)(*c*) of the <u>Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative</u> <u>Monetary Penalties Act</u> (AAAMP Act), for a review of the facts of a violation of pertaining to an alleged violation of section 29 of the <u>Plant Protection Regulations</u>.

#### **DECISION**

The Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal, by ORDER, confirms the settlement agreement reached by the parties.

By written submissions only.

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## **REASONS FOR DECISION**

#### I. BACKGROUND

- [1] On May 29, 2017, it is alleged that the Applicant, Ms. Amal Harika, imported to Canada a thing, namely unknown plants with root systems with soil, without a permit number or without a foreign Phytosanitary Certificate for Re-export, thereby contravening section 29 of the *Plant Protection Regulations*. Consequently, the Canada Border Services Agency (Agency) issued her a Notice of Violation (NOV) 4312-17-0118 with penalty of \$800 for a "serious" violation of the regulations.
- [2] Ms. Harika applied to the Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal (Tribunal) for a review of the facts of the violation pursuant to paragraph 9(2)(c) of the <u>AAAMP Act</u>.

#### II. OFFER TO SETTLE

- [3] On March 21, 2018, the Agency presented an offer to settle the case to Ms. Harika.
- [4] Ms. Harika accepted this proposal by way of an email received by the Tribunal on March 27, 2018.
- [5] On April 26, 2018, the Agency formally requested that the Tribunal vary the issued NOV 4312-17-0118 with penalty of \$800 to a NOV with warning.

## III. THE SETTLEMENT

[6] As established in <u>Atkinson v. Canada (Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness)</u>, 2018 CART 3 (Atkinson), although the <u>AAAMP Act</u> does not explicitly empower the Tribunal to vary a NOV with penalty to a NOV with warning, the Tribunal established its authority to do so using its powers by necessary implication and practical necessity in conjunction with the authority given to it through the <u>Canada Agricultural Products Act (CAP Act)</u> and the <u>AAAMP Act</u>.

- [7] This agreement constitutes a settlement between the parties. This is not an order of the Tribunal which can be the subject of a judicial review application pursuant to subsection 12(2) of the *CAP Act*.
- [8] This settlement agreement constitutes a final settlement of the rights of both parties in relation to docket CART | CRAC-1960 and the events which occurred on May 29, 2017.
- [9] As described in the Agency's offer to settle, a violation in the name of Ms. Harika will remain in the Agency's records for the next five years.
- [10] This settlement should not be cited as a precedent or otherwise relied on except in relation to the current Notice of Violation.

### IV. ORDER

- [11] As requested by the parties and pursuant to the powers attributed to it by section 8 of the *CAP Act*, the Tribunal, by ORDER, confirms the settlement agreement.
- [12] The Tribunal wishes to inform Ms. Harika that this violation is not a criminal offence. After five years, she is entitled to apply to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food to have the violation removed from the records, in accordance with section 23 of the <u>AAAMP Act</u>.

Dated at Ottawa, Ontario, on this 19th day of December, 2018.

Marthanne Robson Part-time Member Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal