



Great Food Great Living
BC Food Processors Association

MEMBER NEWSLETTER
February 20, 2006

*Welcome to the new weekly newsletter for BC Food Processors Association members!
It is still under development, so please send any feedback to the BCFPA office.*

New Members

For 2006: GJG & Associates and Silver Hills Bakery. There are now 62 members, with 44 processor members and 18 associate members. A full list of members is available for download from the website at: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/aboutus.html>.

Membership Drive

The Association will be launching a membership drive in the next couple months. The drive will be critical to the success and development of our newly forming association. Many existing members recognize the need for an industry association in BC, and the benefits such an organization can offer. To increase membership and ensure viability and long term success, we will need assistance from all our members. We ask that you start thinking about industry colleagues you can call on to join the Association. The involvement of existing members is critical for building membership. We have 62 members out of over 1200 Food Manufacturers in BC. Watch for more details on the membership drive in coming weeks.

Industrial Efficiency Initiative: Save Energy, Maximize Profits

The BC Food Processors Association, with the Northwest Food Processors Association (NWFPA) and BC Hydro, present this international satellite teleconference on management strategies and innovative technologies and techniques to reduce energy costs, increase productivity, and maximize profits. **Register today!**

Date: March 9, 2006

Location: Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, 580 West Hastings, Vancouver, BC

Cost: \$100 CDN per participant

Web page: http://www.bcfpa.ca/Industrial_Efficiency_Initiative.html

We Want to Hear From You

Input from our members is critical to the success of the BC Food Processors Association. If you have any ideas on the kinds of services and support the Association can provide to members, or on how we can improve existing services, please send these suggestions to the BCFPA office today. Let us know what you want to get out of your Association!

Benefits of BCFPA Membership

The BC Food Processors Association offers a range of programs and services to members. Here is an overview:

- Representative of all segments of BC's food processing industry;
 - Information clearinghouse and advisor on programs and funding opportunities;
 - Means to deliver programs and strategies, including the Meat Industry Enhancement Strategy, and Food & Beverage Processing Industry Initiative;
 - Discounts on food safety programs and services. For a list of participating laboratories, see: http://www.bcfpa.ca/do_foodsafety.html;
 - Workplace health and safety initiatives: representative on WCB Employers' Forum, developing prevention program and training materials;
 - Business development seminars and workshops, including Concept to Commerce;
 - Marketing and promotion initiatives: provincial brand program, getting BC products in schools, building value chain relationships.
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Update from the Board of Directors

Directors met January 19, 2006 at Nature's Path Foods Inc. in Richmond. Highlights:

- Constitution – being finalized. All members will receive a copy when available.
 - Communications & Marketing Action Plan – Introduced by the Communications & Marketing Committee to develop information and services for members, like seminars, website development, a brochure, and this newsletter.
 - Training Video – The Safety & Human Resources Committee, with WorkSafe BC is creating a training video for use in orientation sessions.
 - Meat Industry Enhancement Strategy – Two pilot projects are underway to get mobile abattoirs licensed in BC. A project to get HACCP licensing for BC's federal meat plants is nearly complete.
 - Next Board Meeting: March 2, 2006 at Premium Brands Inc.
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Committees Need You!

The BC Food Processors Association is a member driven organization. We need your help to create the kind of food industry you want. If you have some time and/or expertise to share, please contact the BCFPA office today! A list of Committees is available on this web page: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/do.html>.

UPCOMING

February 22, Export Plan Workshop

Date: February 22

Location: Landmark Technology Centre, Kelowna

Cost: \$75

Website: <http://www.bctradeevents.com/Events/EventDetails.asp>

Hands-on workshop to give companies necessary tools to write an export plan.

Keys to Effective Brand Building

Date: Spring 2006

Locations: Vancouver and Kelowna

**Watch for more information in the near future.

For a full list of events, visit our website: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/events.html>