

BC Food Processors Association

Great Food  Great Living

MEMBER NEWSLETTER
August 25, 2006

Welcome to the newsletter for BC Food Processors Association members. Please send feedback and story ideas to the BCFPA office.

New Members

- Andres Wines
- Duso's Enterprises Ltd.

For a full list of current members, see: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/members.html>.

Guelph Food Technology Centre Food Safety Courses

A new schedule of Guelph Food Technology Centre food safety courses is available for fall 2006. Confirmed courses include a series of lower cost "Basics" on product development, bringing a product to market and processing food safely. For course descriptions and registration information, see: http://www.bcfpa.ca/GFTC_training.html.

Annual General Meeting - Updated Information

The BCFPA's 2006 AGM is scheduled for September 7 from 10 am – 11 am. The meeting will be held by teleconference, and all members are invited to attend. Phone in details have been set up and a draft agenda has been posted on the website. See: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/>.

Value Chain Opportunities Plan Available

As part of the Value Chain project initiated by the BC Food Processors Association in 2004, an Opportunities Plan has been prepared to outline future value chain directions in the province. Download the report from the Communications and Marketing Committee web page: http://www.bcfpa.ca/do_communications.html.

Interesting Facts About Milk

Some intriguing milk facts have been added to the web page for "Interesting Facts About Food." If you have some interesting information on a particular food product, send it to the BCFPA office for this archive of food facts. Learn more about milk at: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/facts.html>.

Tax Tips

The 2006 federal budget introduced personal tax changes that will be of benefit to members and members' employees. You may wish to communicate this information to your employees to help them reduce their 2006 income taxes.

The government has announced a new tax credit for people who regularly use public transport transit-passes. You will pay less tax if you collect your monthly or longer passes for transit, including local buses, streetcars, subways, commuter trains or buses, and local ferries. How much less tax? Your tax will be reduced by 15.5% of the value of your transit passes for the year. You can also claim credit for transit

costs of your partner or spouse and your dependent children under 19 years of age. The credit is available for travel after June 2006, even if the pass was purchased before then. Take care during the rest of this year to keep passes or receipts to claim the credit on your personal tax return for 2006.

For more information go to <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/whatsnew/items/transit-e.html>.

New Export Resources Available

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada have updated a number of export publications for 2006, on topics like international business etiquette, internet resources and the cruise line industry. Electronic copies are available at:

http://www.ats.agr.gc.ca/region/british_columbia_e.htm.

Grocery Showcase West 2007

The BCFPA has reserved 2 booths for 2007 to showcase the BCFPA and products from food processing companies under the umbrella of the Association. If you would like to participate, contact the BCFPA office today at 250-356-1660 or

Julie.labelle@bcfpa.ca.

UPCOMING

- **September 7-10, Canadian Health Food Association Expo East Conference & Trade Show.** Website: <http://www.chfa.ca/default.asp?action=article&ID=78>.
- **September 10-11, Ethnic & Specialty Food Expo, including All Things Organic pavilion.** Website: <http://www.ethnicfoodcanada.com/home.asp>.

For more industry events, see: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/industryEvents.html>

NEWS

- A new report, Guidelines for BC Food Producers and Processors on Selling to Food Service Distributors, is now available on the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands' website: http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/foodprocessing/documents/foodservice_market/index.htm.
- BCFPA Member, Canterbury Coffee, is celebrating 25 years in operation. For more information on the company, see: <http://www.canterburycoffee.com/>.
- The 2005 Canadian Grand Prix New Product Awards have been announced, including BCFPA members, Brookside Foods and Nature's Path Foods. Read more at: http://www.ccgd.ca/en/1_0.html.
- PrioNet recently announced recipients of \$3 million for research to fight prion diseases. Two Saskatchewan researchers received funding to investigate a BSE vaccine. News release: http://www.prionetcanada.ca/docs/Release_July18-2006.pdf.
- Modifications have been made to sections 4.19, 6.8.1 and 6-12 of the 2003 Guide to Food Labeling and Advertising. The Guide can be viewed online at: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/guide/toce.shtml>.