

# BC Food Processors Association

Great Food  Great Living

MEMBER NEWSLETTER  
February 2, 2007

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## ***New Members***

- DM Cakes Etc.

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

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## ***2007 AGM Announcement***

Planning is underway for the BCFPA's first in-person Annual General Meeting and conference. In addition to elections, there will be a series of professional development seminars, a trade show and networking opportunities. The event will take place in early spring. The Hon. Pat Bell Minister of Agriculture and Lands will be a keynote speaker. Stay tuned for other details.

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## ***March 1, Fish is Food Too***

The BCFPA and National Seafood Sector Council (NSSC) will present a free joint membership appreciation night to acknowledge the mutual support of BC seafood and other food processing enterprises. The BCFPA is striving to advocate on behalf of all food processors, including BC seafood processors. The event will also launch 2 new NSSC initiatives to support food and seafood processing companies across Canada. Gay Hahn is chairing the National Food Advisory committee of the NSSC which is exploring ways to address the nation-wide human resource challenges of the whole Canadian food processing industry.

Location: Horizon Suite 35<sup>th</sup> Floor, Coast Plaza Hotel at Stanley Park, 1763 Comox Street, Vancouver, BC

Time: 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

**RSVP before February 19** to Jennefer Griffith at 613-782-2391 or Julie Labelle at 250-356-1660, or by email to [jgriffith@nssc.ca](mailto:jgriffith@nssc.ca).

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## ***BCFPA Safety Orientation Video***

The BCFPA's Safety and Human Resources Committee is developing an orientation video that introduces basic workplace health and safety issues for new employees in the food industry. The video will focus on four main industry safety issues: delegation of responsibility, emergency preparedness, safety programs, and workplace ergonomics. Information will be presented in a variety of formats, making for a unique educational product. The BCFPA plans to make DVD and VHS copies available in early spring 2007. The cost of the video has not yet been determined. If you are interested in purchasing a video, you can reserve a copy by contacting Julie Labelle at the BCFPA office at 250-356-1660 or [julie.labelle@bcfpa.ca](mailto:julie.labelle@bcfpa.ca). Please specify whether you would like the DVD or VHS format.

For more information, see the web page: [http://www.bcfpa.ca/Safety\\_Video.html](http://www.bcfpa.ca/Safety_Video.html).

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***Tax Tips: SR&ED for Loss Making Companies***

Loss making Canadian Controlled Private Corporations located in BC will receive 41.5% of their R&D expenses as a cash refund. This is a significant benefit to encourage product development in Canada.

Loss making Public Corporations receive a tax credit not a refund for R&D expenses incurred. On the face of it there appears no reason to receive a tax credit if you already have losses that offset future taxable income. However, the advantage to loss making Public Companies is the ability to pool R&D expenses and choose not to deduct them in the year incurred. This means that losses are less likely to expire. And once losses no longer offset taxable income, the pooled deductions can be used to reduce taxable income.

**Notice of Correction:** In the January 5, 2007 tip on "Universal Child Care Benefits," it was stated that the \$1200 Child Care Benefit would be included in the child's income for the year. This is incorrect. Only the income earned on the \$1200 is attributed to the child, while the \$1200 is still attributed to the parent.

Tax Tips is provided courtesy of Revenue Services Group, experts on R&D tax credits. For information, contact David Kaplan at (604) 808-2403.

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***BC Licenses First Mobile Abattoir***

On January 25, BC Centre for Disease Control issued a license to operate to the province's first mobile slaughter facility. BCFPA member, Gate to Plate Food Services Inc. in Fort St John developed a self-contained new-technology mobile trailer that will process cattle, sheep, goats and bison in the Peace Region. The facility was developed with assistance from the Meat Transition Assistance Program, a program administered by the BCFPA to assist meat plants in transitioning to new provincial Meat Inspection Regulations. The new mobile abattoir will increase local processing capacity and access to local meat products in the Peace. There are also plans underway to expand operations across BC and Canada. For information on the new mobile facility, contact Gate to Plate President Lars Jorgensen at (250)-785-4283 or [GatetoPlate@telus.net](mailto:GatetoPlate@telus.net).

View the full news release and a photo from the ribbon cutting on the website at: <http://www.bcfpa.ca/Announcements.html>

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***Energy Efficiency: With Natural Gas It's Win, Win***

Saving energy isn't just good corporate citizenry, it's good for your bottom line. At Terasen Gas, we help make it easy. To learn more, visit <http://www.terasengas.com/LargeIndustrial/EnergyEfficiency/default.htm> or call us **Now** to discuss a free on-site energy assessment. Qualified professionals will review your plant processes, equipment, and operational procedures, and provide a short report outlining remedial actions, potential savings, and payback period. You could be our next energy efficiency success story!

Terasen Gas Inc., Commercial & Industrial Energy Services  
Phone: 604-576-7135; Email: [commercial.energy@terasengas.com](mailto:commercial.energy@terasengas.com)

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### ***BCFPA Activity Update***

- On January 16 Tony Toth participated in a conference call meeting of the IAF Public Communications Working and made several specific suggestions for enhanced publicity for BC food processing industry event such as anniversaries of companies (ie, 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Purdy's), opening of mobile abattoirs (ie, Gate to Plate opening on January 25), and association events (ie, publicity for the BCFPA's 2007 AGM on April 27).
- On January 18, MIES Help Desk Field Worker Maria Castro attended the Island Farmers' Alliance AGM and Conference in Nanoose Bay.
- On January 18, MIES Help Desk Field Worker Abra Brynne attended the Kelowna workshop, Farmland Forever! Planning for Agriculture in the Okanagan.
- Tony Toth participated in a meeting of the Small Scale Food Processor Association Board of Directors by teleconference on January 22.
- On January 23, Gay Hahn, Robin Smith, Fred Knoedler and Tony Toth attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner of the Investment Agriculture Foundation in Richmond
- On January 24 Tony Toth gave an interview on the Corus Radio network about the value of mobile abattoirs, and the Meat Transition Assistance Program's focus on individual plant and community solutions.
- Gay Han, Robin Smith and Tony Toth attended a fundraiser dinner on January 24 with Minister of Economic Development Hon Colin Hansen and MLA Joan McIntyre.
- On January 25, BCFPA President Gay Hahn and MIES Project Manager Don Davidson and attended the grand opening of BC's first provincially licensed mobile abattoir, Gate to Plate Food Services, in Fort St John.
- On January 29 Gay Hahn and Tony Toth provided written comments toward the new strategic plan of the Agri-Food Partners in Healthy Eating initiative.
- On January 30 Tony Toth provided written comments to the IAF which is planning to engage a branding consultant to prepare a food branding strategy for BC.

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### ***UPCOMING***

- **February 5-11, Canadian Meat Council Annual Convention**, Vancouver  
Website: [http://www.cmc-cvc.com/english/index\\_e.asp](http://www.cmc-cvc.com/english/index_e.asp)
- **February 13, BC Food Protection Association Speakers' Evening**, Burnaby  
Website: <http://www.bcfpa.net/SubPages/Events/NextEvent.htm> .
- **February 15-17, Pacific Agriculture Show**, Tradex Exhibition Centre, Abbotsford. The AgriFood Industry Gala will take place on February 16 at the Langley Banquet Centre in Aldergrove. The BCFPA has reserved a table for the Gala. Website: <http://www.agricultureshow.net/> .

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

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### ***JOB POSTINGS***

- Food Safety Specialist – A large established retailer is seeking a Food Safety Specialist in Western Canada to oversee policies, training, learning and development, company relations and regulatory affairs related to food safety. For more information, or to apply, contact Renee Grieco at [resumes@mastel.ca](mailto:resumes@mastel.ca) . A job description is available at: <http://www.mastel.ca/Opportunities/6043%20Food%20Safety%20Specialist%20Profile.pdf> .
- Executive Director – the Western Canadian Functional Food and Natural Health Product Network is seeking a management professional to lead its organization. For more information, see: [http://www.bcf2.com/Exec\\_Director\\_WCFN\\_Ad\\_Dec\\_2006.pdf](http://www.bcf2.com/Exec_Director_WCFN_Ad_Dec_2006.pdf)

If you have a posting for the BC food industry, please send it to the BCFPA office ([info@bcfpa.ca](mailto:info@bcfpa.ca)) for inclusion in the member newsletter.

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**INDUSTRY NEWS**

- **BC Contributes Funding to Strengthen First Nations Agriculture** – On January 23, the BC Government announced a contribution of \$65,000 to the First Nations Agriculture Lending Association (FNALA) to further agriculture programs benefiting First Nations in BC. Read the news release at: [http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2005-2009/2007AL0001-000051.pdf](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2007AL0001-000051.pdf)
- **BC Invests in New Campus for University College of the Fraser Valley.** On January 16, Premier Gordon Campbell announced a contribution of \$29 million to purchase 34 hectares of land and build a trades and technology centre. See: [http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2005-2009/2007AE0001-000025.pdf](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2007AE0001-000025.pdf) .
- **New Funding for Commercialization of Agri-Based Innovation.** On January 24, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada announced \$134 million for the Agri-Opportunities program, to support projects that will increase market opportunities across the value chain and generate demand for agricultural products. See: [http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index\\_e.php?s1=n&s2=2007&page=n70123](http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index_e.php?s1=n&s2=2007&page=n70123) .
- **Canada Announces Funding for Independent Agri-Food Research.** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is contributing \$15 million to the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute, an independent organization operating at arm's length from government to provide a neutral venue for input into agricultural policy making. Read the news release at: [http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index\\_e.php?s1=n&s2=2007&page=n70123a](http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index_e.php?s1=n&s2=2007&page=n70123a) .
- **Genetically Engineered Rice Unintentionally Released into the US.** Website: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/bio/ricriz/20070119e.shtml>
- **Applications for \$1000 Apprenticeship Grant Now Being Accepted.** On January 17, Human Resources and Services Development Canada announced the opening of the Apprenticeship Incentive Grant Program to help cover costs of tuition, travel and tools associated with apprenticeship training. Read the news release at: <http://news.gc.ca/cfmx/view/en/index.jsp?articleid=268209> .
- **Improvements to Temporary Foreign Worker Program.** In November 2006, the federal government announced improvements to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program to make it easier for BC and Alberta employers to hire foreign workers when no Canadian workers are available. Website: <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/epb/lmd/fw/occunderpres.shtml> .