

BC Food Processors Association

Great Food  Great Living

MEMBER NEWSLETTER
February 16, 2007

New Members

- Kraft Canada

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

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 be held on Friday April 27 at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel in Burnaby. The Hon. Pat Bell Minister of Agriculture and Lands will be a keynote speaker. For more information, see the website: http://www.bcfpa.ca/AGM_2007.html.

March 1, Fish is Food Too – RSVP BEFORE FEBRUARY 19

The BCFPA and the 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. **BCFPA President** 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 35th 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.

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. 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.

Tax Tips: The Big Picture on Tax Disputes

In 2005-2006 the Government of Canada collected \$186 billion dollars in taxes. Of this 55% was from individuals (T1), and 17% from Corporations (T2).

In a report to the monthly tax practitioners' meeting (December 12, 2006), the CRA's Appeals Branch provided a record of the number of cases in dispute and the amount of disputed tax in each of four categories. Here's the table:

Appeals and Tax in Dispute			
Type of taxpayer	Number of cases (2005-6)	Amount in dispute (\$ millions)	Percentage of total amount
T1s individual	48,201	422	20.7
T2s large corporations	388	788	38.7
T2s other corporations	2,728	360	17.7
Other categories	<u>2,424</u>	<u>468</u>	<u>22.9</u>
Total	<u>53,741</u>	<u>2,038</u>	<u>100.0</u>

As the table shows, the 2005-06 cases involved just over \$2 billion of tax in dispute. Large corporations' T2s represent only about 1 percent of the cases but about 39 percent of the total tax in dispute in all cases; the 5 percent of cases involving other corporations' T2s represent about 18 percent of disputed tax. The 90 percent of cases involving T1s represent only about 21 percent of disputed tax.

Of the \$2 billion of tax in dispute, the CRA says that it "retained" about 59 percent (about \$1.2 billion) and "relinquished" about 41 percent (about \$800 million) to taxpayers.

This is interesting because from a cost-benefit point of view it makes sense for the CRA to chase the large corporations and de-prioritize auditing T1 tax payers.

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

HACCP, GMP and Internal Audit Workshop

SGS presents this 5-day interactive course covering HACCP, Generic Models, Plant Security and Quality Systems and Internal Auditing. Instructors Gerry Gerbasi and Vic Martens have years of industry experience and a hands-on approach to teaching. Space is limited to 20 participants. For more information, and to register, contact Gerry Gerbasi at 604-986-8024 or gjgassociates@shaw.ca.

Dates: March 5-9, 2007

Cost: \$850 including tax, meals and materials

Location: Arthur's Café, 201, 17665-66A Ave, Surrey, BC

BCFPA Activity Update

- On February 5, the BCFPA submitted a letter to government outlining regulatory concerns with implementation of the Meat Inspection Regulation and the Meat Transition Assistance Plan
- On February 7, Tony Toth participated in a highly successful teleconference with Deputy Minister of Health Gordon Macatee and Assistant Deputy Minister of Population Health and Wellness Andy Hazlewood regarding BCFPA's concerns with

the implementation of the BC Meat Inspection Regulation. Several procedural and resource solutions were identified and MTAP looks to be in much better shape than before this meeting.

- On February 8 Tony Toth and Rebecca Robertson held a teleconference with Investment Agriculture Foundation Director of Operations Bill Henderson to fine-tune plans for a feasibility study and business plan for a new BC Food Technology Development Center. IAF is generously providing up to \$100,000 toward the development of this important new project. Another wider stakeholder group meeting will be held on February 15th.
- On February 10, MIES Project Manager Don Davidson attended the Annual General Meeting of the Kootenay Livestock Association in Cranbrook to monitor developments in respect of a possible MTAP community solution in the area.
- BCFPA representatives will be participating in the Pacific Agriculture Show in Abbotsford on February 15-17.
- BCFPA reserved a table at the AgriFood Industry Gala on the evening of February 16 in Aldergrove. President Gay Hahn, Vice President Robin Smith, MIES Project Manager Don Davidson and Help Desk Coordinator Kathleen Gibson will attend.

UPCOMING

- **February 20, Provincial Budget Lockup**, Victoria Conference Center, Victoria. President Gay Hahn and Vice President Robin Smith will attend the confidential lockup to analyze the budget and lobby senior officials.
- **February 23-25, Certified Organic Associations of BC AGM and Conference**, Armstrong Fairgrounds. MIES Help Desk Field Worker Abra Brynne will be in attendance with meat industry resources.
Website: <http://www.parsecmkg.com/coabc/> .
- **February 23-25, Pacific Community Network Association 2007 Summit**, Vancouver Coast Plaza Hotel, Vancouver. BCFPA's Tony Toth is presenting a 45-minute session entitled "Increasing Food Processing Capacity in your Communities". Website: <http://www.2007summit.ca/>.

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

JOB POSTINGS

- Executive Director – the BC Blueberry Council is seeking a candidate to play a leading role in developing new markets for BC blueberries. For more information, see: <http://www.agcareers.com/job.cfm?task=view&id=75882>

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

INDUSTRY NEWS

- **Health Canada releases 2007 Food Guide**. View the new Guide at: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index_e.html .
- **CFIA releases Questions and Answers on the new Organic Products Regulations**.
Website: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/orgbio/queste.shtml>
- **BSE case confirmed in Alberta**. On February 7, the CFIA confirmed a new case of BSE in a mature bull. Read the news release at: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/disemala/bseesb/ab2007/9notavie.shtml> .