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RESOURCES

Updated BCCDC checklist for abattoir plan approval – see item 3

List of provincially licensed abattoirs – see item 10

Requirements for safety management systems: Meat Plant HACCP Guidelines – see item 8

BC's Meat Inspection Regulation

Cattle and beef info: Beef InfoNet, CANFAX

Livestock Waste Tissue Initiative

Canada-BC SRM Management Program

NEWS FLASHES

Terasen Gas biogas initiative

Uniting around Food to Save an Ailing Town

UPCOMING EVENTS

Agri Success Learning Tours in BC Nov 17-21

National Farmers Union AGM: Food and Community, Local to International Nov 20-22

Farm Assessment Review Panel consultations

Nov 26-27 Value Chains workshop: Chilliwack, Courtenay, Cranbrook, Kamloops, Vanderhoof

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Welcome to BCFPA's **BC Meating News**, providing information towards increasing livestock harvest and sales of high-quality, safe, BC-produced-and-processed meat products. This is a monthly publication of the Meat Industry Enhancement Strategy (MIES).

Licences awarded

Welcome to BC's most recent licencees: North Okanagan Game Meats in Enderby and Tarzwell Farms in Creston, both fixed red meat facilities.

Safety management systems soon required for provincially licensed processing plants

As of Dec 31 2008, provincially licensed meat processing plants will be expected to have safety management systems in place. Requirements are on the BC Centre for Disease Control (CDC) Web site (see sidebar). A five-day training program will be offered January 12-16, 2009 in Surrey. Costs will be covered by the Food Safety Initiative. For more info contact Gerry Gerbasi at 604.418.8714 or email gjgassociates@shaw.ca.

Meat Industry Committee to be revived

MIES is re-convening an industry advisory committee to ensure our work is grounded in practice and to strengthen meat processors' voice to government. This role is mentioned in the CDC's Abattoir Guidelines, page 2, principle 6: "There should be a process established whereby industry in particular, and the consuming public in general, is permitted a continuing review of the standards prescribed and efforts made to accommodate any valid proposals for change." Lance Hamblin will coordinate this group. After the licensing effort (MIES' current mandate) is done, it is hoped the group will be a permanent BCFPA committee.

Regional District presentations

Kathleen Gibson is talking with Regional District Boards about BC's meat processors. At the Thompson Nicola RD on Oct 9, Directors voiced their support for local ranchers. The next talk will be to North Okanagan RD on Nov 20.

Incinerator trial

Next month we will report on the Nov 7 trial of the Inciner8 unit at Big Lake with a view to destruction of SRM waste.

Biogas initiative

Terasen Gas is developing an alternative energy program and is seeking supplies of bio-methane from conversion of organic waste (e.g. slaughter waste). BCFPA and MIES will investigate the potential for submission of a formal Expression of Interest by the Feb 2, 2009 deadline.

Food puts town back on its feet

Read how food businesses revitalized Hardwick, Vermont in Marian Burros' Oct 7 New York Times article (see sidebar). Says salad grower Pete Johnson: "Twelve years ago the market for local food was lukewarm. [Today] this state is primed for anything that is local. It's a way to preserve our villages and rebuild them."

BCFPA achieves labour breakthrough

The BCFPA has made successful representation to the Province for assistance with labour access (see article on page xx).

Increasing MIES business support

As well as making the services of Murray Coates and Lance Hamblin available to plants, MIES will be contracting additional part-time help to assist with financial and market analyses.

Relevant abattoir info on line

Links to web sites describing small abattoirs in other jurisdictions will shortly be posted at www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html. Call us if you wish to receive this information non-electronically.

Farm Assessment Review consultations

The Farm Assessment Review panel is touring the province in October and November. This is relevant to meat processors whose plants are on farmland (see sidebar).

MTAP Phase 2 under way

The first applications under the program are now being processed and approved. Look under the "What We Do" tab on the BCFPA home page.

For further information

Visit our Web site at www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html Or call BC toll free 1.877.356.1660

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