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RESOURCES

- [BCCDC checklist for abattoir plan approval – item 3](#)
- [List of provincially licensed abattoirs – item 10](#)
- [Requirements for abattoir safety management systems - item 8](#)
- [BC's Meat Inspection Regulation](#)
- [Cattle and beef info:](#)
 - [BeefInfoNet](#)
 - [CANFAX](#)
- [Livestock Waste Tissue Initiative](#)
- [Canada-BC SRM Program](#)

NEWS FLASHES

- [Premier's speech to BC Economic Summit](#)
- [FIRB Enhancing Markets Review](#)
- [2010 Winter Games business opportunities](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Pacific Agriculture Show](#), Feb 19-21, Abbotsford
- [Certified Organic Associations of BC AGM](#), Feb 20-22, Abbotsford
- [Building SustainAble Communities](#), Feb 24-26, Kelowna
- [Central Okanagan Poultry Info Day](#), Feb 28, Oyama
- [BC Rural Communities Sustainability Forum](#), Mar 24-26, Revelstoke
- [2009 Food Foundations](#), Mar 19-20, Courtenay

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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).

Powell River: remote site facility?

Representatives from the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, Agriculture and Lands and MIES visited Powell River Jan 14. We met with producers and toured farms in the area. Research and a draft feasibility study indicate that there are not enough animal units in the area to make a slaughter facility feasible to operate, let alone build new. The matter of how to have legal slaughter in this context is being followed up by a task group from the community, MIES, and the Province.

Northern Economic Summit

Kathleen Gibson and Lance Hamblin attended the Opportunities North meeting in Prince George Jan 22-23. It provided useful contacts, e.g., with the Rural BC Secretariat and Northern Development Initiative Trust. There was a strong focus on BC's capabilities for resource-based industry and business development. The need for streamlined regulatory approvals was emphasized. We talked briefly with the Premier about this for the meat processing sector and, at his invitation, prepared a one-page brief that was delivered to him by Nico Human on Feb 3.

Waiting on the BC Budget

The global economic situation has made this the most challenging budgeting exercise in decades. BCFPA representatives will be in the BC Budget "lockup" on Feb 17 to learn how the Province will address the requests that have been made for ongoing support for the MIES Team and MTAP program. We asked for three more years of funding to complete the transition and provide a greater level of capital cost support to slaughter plants. We also asked for multi-sectoral regulatory change to assist abattoir businesses. "Making it work" is also about "making it (regulations) fit."

Ag and food events this month

See sidebar.

New Minister of Agriculture and Lands.

BC has a new Minister of Agriculture and Lands, Ron Cantelon, appointed Jan 30 after the untimely death of Minister Stan Hagen. Mr. Cantelon served on the BC Agriculture Plan Committee and has been quite involved with meat processing issues in his Nanaimo riding. We look forward to working with him.

FIRB Enhancing Markets Review

The Farm Industry Review Board will soon launch a follow-up to the 2005 Specialty Review. The new review is intended to enhance the ability of BC regulated marketing sectors to create, respond to and expand marketing opportunities. Re meat, it will be relevant to chicken and turkey producers and processors.

Processors' forum next month!

All provincially licensed processors and proponents are warmly invited to meet at the **South Thompson Inn near Kamloops, March 4-6**. Come and enjoy some great BC food, an opportunity to network with your peers, and gain useful information. Our keynote speaker will be Rob Arthurs on Opportunities 2010 and a key theme will be celebration and development of the livestock and meat sector in BC.

The 1.5 day event will include info sessions on key aspects of your abattoir operation including: working with your value chain, finding the workforce you need, and developing your products. There will be strategy sessions for red meat and poultry processors, a plenary on waste issues, and a processors-only session to discuss key issues and priorities and identify a processors' advisory committee that will work with the BCFPA over the coming year. The program is structured to allow for lots of networking and for visits to plants in the area on the Friday afternoon. Some costs will be subsidized by MIES. For more info and a registration package, contact Lance Hamblin at 1.877.840.2880, on cell 1.250.845.4255 or email lance@hamblin.ca.

For further information

Visit our Web site at www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html

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