



BC MEATING NEWS

Welcome to the 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).

Local meat: new resource material

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport and the BC Food Processors Association, has published two fact sheets regarding meat products in BC. One, for consumers, is intended to increase consumer support for buying locally raised meat from licensed facilities. The other, for local governments, is intended to identify the roles of local government in supporting local livestock production and meat processing. Both will be posted on the MIES web page. Hard copies of the fact sheets can be ordered from the BCFPA office.

Fall 2009 Food Safety Systems Implementation (FSSI) workshops for processors

Another series of food safety planning workshops will be offered this fall around BC to assist food processors with development of food safety plans, which are required for all licensed facilities. The program delivers educational workshops, one-on-one consultations and funding to eligible food processors to implement GMP and/or HACCP plans. The FSSI program is operated by the Small Scale Food Processor Association. For more information contact Jane Kelly at

1.866.619.7372, email fssi.outreach@sffpa.net or visit www.sffpa.net/foodsafety. Cost for the day-long workshop is \$20. Lunch is included. Upcoming dates and locations:

- Thursday, October 29 – Creston
- Friday, November 6 – Vernon
- Friday, November 13 – 100-Mile House
- Friday, November 20 – Burnaby
- Thursday, November 26th – Victoria
- Friday, November 27 – Nanaimo; Nelson (video conference)
- Thursday, December 3 – Abbotsford
- Friday, December 11 – Kamloops

End of bar code dangle tags

The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) is reminding producers that all cattle must be tagged with approved CCIA radio frequency identification (RFID) tags. On the recommendation of CCIA, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will de-list bar code tags from the approved tag list effective January 1, 2010. Bar code tags that are already in place should remain in the animal's ear and a RFID tag must be added once bar code tags are no longer approved. Producers should cross-reference the bar code tag with the new RFID tag in the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS). For assistance with cross-referencing, call 1-877-909-BEEF (2333). CFIA will continue to enforce the prohibition on the sending, transportation or reception of a bovine animal without an approved tag. For more information, visit www.canadaid.ca

Rebates for livestock waterers

BC Hydro offers rebates for energy-saving livestock waterers. Rebate amounts of \$100-150 are available for energy-efficient waterers and of \$150-\$350 for energy-free waterers, depending on herd size and location. For more information, visit www.bchydro.com/ecatalog/eCatServlet?cmd=techincentives&catId=202, email incentives@bchydro.com or call 604.522.4713.

Listeriosis report recommendations to be implemented

The federal government plans to implement all 57 recommendations made by investigator Sheila Weatherill in her July 2009 report on the 2008 Listeriosis outbreak. These include hiring of 166 new food safety staff, with 70 of them to work in meat plants that pack ready-to-eat products. Weatherill also recommended that meat companies should be required to inform the federal government of any suspected health threats; that plants which routinely test positive for bacteria or represent a higher risk should be tested more frequently than others; and that Canada's chief public health officer should be given the lead role during outbreaks of food-borne illness. The cost of implementing the recommendations is estimated at \$75 million. For more information, visit www.listeriosis-listeriose.investigation-enquete.gc.ca/index_e.php or call 613.759.1000.



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AgriProcessing Initiative

The AgriProcessing Initiative (API), part of the Agricultural Flexibility Fund operated by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, is a five-year, \$50 million initiative designed to increase the competitiveness of the agri-processing sector in Canada. It is open to companies and co-operatives incorporated and operating in Canada that have reported employment expenses for at least one year immediately prior to application. API may provide repayable contributions of up to \$2 million per project, or up to 50% of eligible costs, whichever is less, towards the cost of purchasing and installing new (to the facility) machinery and equipment in Canadian processing facilities. The goal is to enable the adoption of new manufacturing technologies and processes that will increase companies' competitiveness in the marketplace. The program may also contribute towards costs for related consulting advice. Applications are welcome on an ongoing basis. While

there are no deadlines to apply, funded projects must be completed by March 31, 2014. To contact a program officer, e-mail API at API@agr.gc.ca, or call 1-877-246-4682.

MIES and Remote Sites Teams meet in Victoria

CEO Nico Human and MTAP Coordinator Deborah Powell joined the MIES and Remote Sites Consultation Teams Sep 2-3 in Victoria for discussion of strategic priorities. The teams exchanged presentations and discussed MIES key initiatives for the next year including: ongoing work with licensing, remote sites consultation, prototypes development, regional dialogues and waste management. See photo below.

Proposal writing for NDIIT grants

Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) is offering a web-based seminar focused on best practices for securing

grant funding. This session includes:

- An overview of NDIIT funding programs
- How to access and apply for economic development projects
- Tips for succeeding with other project funders
- Examples of how to structure a proposal

For more information, visit <http://northerndevelopment.bc.ca/community-funding/on-demand-proposal-writing-webinar> or call 250.561.2525.

For further information and access to more on-line resources, visit our Web site at www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html

Acknowledgement

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MIES and Remote Sites teams: From left to right (back row): Lynn Wilcott, Lorna Medd, Angie Froese, Steve Buchanan, Lance Hamblin, Shirley Hamblin, Ken Corraini, Clyde MacDonald. (Front row): Murray Coates, Art Hamade, Maria Castro, Theresa Healey, Deborah Powell, Nico Human, Paula Hesje, Kathleen Gibson, Abra

