



## 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).

### Ranching Task Force Final Report

On Dec 9, 2009, the Ranching Task Force released its final report and recommendations to the Provincial government. The RTF was formed at the request of Premier Gordon Campbell to identify the regulatory barriers hindering the B.C. cattle sector and make recommendations for addressing these barriers to assist the industry to thrive, given the current economic climate.

Many of the RTF's recommendations focus on changes to regulations and policies related to topics such as water access, wildlife management, slaughter waste disposal and infrastructure. The RTF also expresses support for recently announced fencing programs and the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST).

The complete report is available online at [www.ranchingtaskforce.gov.bc.ca](http://www.ranchingtaskforce.gov.bc.ca).

### SRM Management Program Decision on Four Applications

Following consultation and a thorough review of economic, social and environmental aspects, the Province has

made a decision on four applications for funding under the Canada-British Columbia Specified Risk Material (SRM) Management Program. The program is designed to assist the province's beef processing sector in complying with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's enhanced feed ban regulation. Three funding applications were for composting of non-SRM. The fourth funding application was for Interior Agri-Solutions Inc., a collection service for SRM and non-SRM in both the south central and southern Interior regions. Only Interior Agri-Solutions' application was approved. The assessment of the three composting proposals concluded that while the environmental risks could be adequately addressed, the economic benefit for the local slaughter industry did not justify public investment of funds, particularly since none of the composting applications provided a solution for SRM slaughter waste.

### Notification of Agricultural Waste Control Regulation Review Process

The Province is requesting the input of stakeholders and the public into the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation (AWCR) Review Process. The Regulation came into force in 1992 and while some amendments were made over the years, it has not been comprehensively reviewed since. The review was initiated for a number of reasons, including

- to harmonize the standards in this regulation with other regulations,

- to consider new technologies regarding the handling and disposal of agricultural wastes, and
- for compliance and enforcement issues.

The Review is currently in the scoping phase. At this time, the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands is seeking input to assist in determining priority areas of the regulation that should be reviewed. They are also developing a key stakeholders list and if you would like to be kept informed of consultation opportunities, and/or be updated on the regulation review, please provide your contact information and your comments on the attached form, and return the information to Margaret Crowley at:

**Email:** [Margaret.Crowley@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Margaret.Crowley@gov.bc.ca)

**Mail:** PO Box 9341 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9M1

**Fax:** (250) 387-8897

**For further information** and access to more on-line resources, visit our Web site at [www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html](http://www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html)

### Acknowledgement



Funding for key programs is provided by the Province of British Columbia.