



FOOD NEWS

January 2018

Events

Two Day Educational Mission to the Pacific Northwest January 29-30, 2018 – Seattle

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry along with the Consulate General of Canada in Seattle and the British Columbia (BC) Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology are developing a two-day educational mission for Alberta and BC food companies to learn more about opportunities in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest. This initiative provides an excellent opportunity for Alberta agri-food companies with little to no previous international trade experience to be introduced to exporting and to explore the potential of the Pacific Northwest market firsthand. For more info about the program and potential travel reimbursement, contact [Shelly Nguyen](#).



2018 Natural Health Product/Functional Ingredients Industry Conference – Building Our Future February 7-8, 2018 - Lacombe, AB

The conference aims to bring together producers, processors, buyers, researchers and others interested in the growth of these sectors and the agenda has an exciting line up of sessions and speakers. On February 7th the conference will kick-off with an evening networking reception and keynote presentation by **Dr. David Lafond** who will be speaking on “Natural Health from Ethnobotanicals”. On February 8th the full conference experience begins with a keynote on the North American market trends within the NHP/FI industry. Concurrent sessions include options on Regulatory and Finance (morning) with Marketing and Commercialization in the afternoon. Three other plenary sessions will focus on leadership, collaboration, and legal pitfalls.

To find out more or to register for this exciting event visit the [conference website](#).

Foodex Japan March 6-9, 2018

Agriculture and Forestry is in the proposal stages for a mission to Foodex Japan, the key exhibition for value-added food and drink in the Japan market. Contact [Katie Meredith](#) to indicate your early interest and receive full details when available.

Workshops

Getting Into Farmers’ Markets February 15, 2018 - Camrose, AB

Farmers’ markets are big business in Alberta with over \$900 million in annual sales. Entering this market channel with the right skills can shorten your learning curve and enhance your success. The cost is \$25.

Preparing Your Business for Change Workshop February 22, 2018 – Airdrie

In this full-day, hands-on workshop with Provision Coalition, influential decision makers will learn about the preparation and planning necessary to drive positive business change while mitigating risks. The cost is \$28.57 + GST; Contact [Lisa Iwanyk](#) for additional information.

To register for these workshops, call the Ag-Info Centre at: 1-800-387-6030

Webinars

Alberta Health Services Food Regulation for Farmers’ Markets February 7, 2018

Learn the ins and outs of the Food Regulation as it applies to food sold at Alberta approved farmers’ markets. A public health inspector with Alberta Health Services will share the requirements you need to meet in order to sell your food products through this important sales venue.

Empowered Employees: Strategies for Successful Onboarding February 14, 2018

Please join us as HR industry expert Denise Burrell explores approaches addressing key challenges on-boarding new employees. Learn strategies to maximize your most important resource, your people.

Image-Driven Marketing March 7, 2018

Photographer and communications professional Bri Vos will demonstrate how to create and use images to draw customers in and strengthen your online marketing.

To register for any of these webinars, please go [here](#).



Canadian Food Inspection Agency

The Proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations - Report on What We Heard

From January to April 2017 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) held public consultations on the proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations. Over 1,700 submissions were received from businesses, consumers, governments and industry associations, which are summarized in a What We Heard Report, now available on the [CFIA website](#).

Alberta's Agricultural Processing Industry Directory Yearly Update

The directory has been developed for use by the business community, government agencies, and other interested parties in Alberta, Canada, and internationally. It is posted online at www.agric.gov.ab.ca and is also available there in pdf format for printing. Inclusion in this publication is free of charge.

To ensure your company's entry is current, please go to the online directory, check your company posting, and contact [Joan Bates](#) to confirm.

Sustainable Procurement in the Food Industry

The factsheet, *Sustainable Procurement in the Food Industry: an introduction* (Agdex 821-69) is now available through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. It provides an introduction to this practice and provides insights into challenges, benefits and best practices as well as providing links to further resources.

This fact sheet follows an earlier workshop held for the agriculture and food processors on sustainable procurement.

"The importance of sustainable procurement is growing and evolving into an integral business function in the food industry", says Margurite Thiessen, Value Chain Specialist with Alberta Agriculture.

It joins Alberta Agriculture's free publications, a list of over 500 titles available instantly online through the Agdex system.

Alberta residents can order hard copies of the free publication at no charge for individual use (non-classroom) by calling 780-427-0391 or faxing 780-422-8835.

On-line you can locate and download the fact sheet at [Sustainable Procurement](#) in the Agri-business section.

Dairy Processing Investment Fund

The Dairy Processing Investment Fund was established to assist dairy processors in adapting to market changes resulting from the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The Fund will provide non-repayable contributions to support projects that improve productivity through capital investment in new equipment and infrastructure and/or access to expertise to engage private sector expertise. For more information, go [here](#).

Alberta Food Processors Association

Food Safety and Quality Training – 2018 Course schedule now available [here](#)

Introduction to Food Safety and HACCP – February 5, Calgary

HACCP I: Prerequisite Programs – February 6-7, Calgary

HACCP II: Developing Your HACCP Plan – February 8-9, Calgary

BRC Internal Auditor – February 15-16, Calgary

FSPCA Preventive Controls for Animal Food (PCQI) – February 21 (2.5 days), Edmonton

Implementing SQF Systems - March 5-6, Calgary

AFPA Workplace Health and Safety

Your one stop shop to achieving/maintaining your COR – or your general training needs

Contact [Ed at AFPA](#).

Connect with Agriculture and Forestry on Social Media:



Alberta Agriculture and Forestry 310-0000 (AB Toll-Free)

Crop Extension Section 780-643-6249

Processing Industry & Workforce Development Section 403-340-7625

Local/Domestic Market Expansion Section 780-968-3553

Livestock and Farm Business Section 780-968-6556

Safe Food Section 780-415-4570