



President's Message - Marilyn Boehm

AFPA had the pleasure of hosting the Honourable Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, in Calgary on September 25. The Minister toured three food processing plants and had lunch with Calgary area processors at the AFPA office. This was an opportunity to profile Alberta's food and beverage processing industry, including the diversity of products produced and the impact the industry has on Alberta's economy.



As I mentioned in the August newsletter, the Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Agriculture Ministers reached an agreement on the key elements of a five-year, \$3B agriculture policy framework that will replace Growing Forward 2, beginning in April, 2018.

The new agreement will be called the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP).

CAP will focus on 6 priority areas:

- * Science, Research and Innovation
- * Markets and Trade
- * Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change
- * Value-added Agriculture and Agri-food Processing
- * Public Trust
- * Risk Management

The focus will now shift to finalizing a bilateral agreement with the federal government, to outline specific programs that will be offered in Alberta to meet the needs of the agri-food sector over the next five years. AFPA is providing input into future program design as often as possible. Any comments from members is welcome. Please feel free to call or email me. 780.499.0127 or marilyn@afpa.com

Food Safety Courses, The last of the 2017 schedule:



- BRC Internal Auditor - Nov. 2-3 Edm.
- Verification & Validation of your Food Safety System - Nov. 20 Calgary
- Principles of Internal Auditing - Nov. 21 Calgary
- Procedure Writing & Document Control for HACCP - Nov. 22 Calgary
- SQF Implementing - Nov 23-24 Edm.

To register
or melody@afpa.com

The 2018 schedule will be posted soon!

Let AFPA Help Grow Your Business in China

Serious about exporting to China? We are too. AFPA has partnered with Express Trading Canada to provide support to AFPA members wanting break into or expand their exports to China.



Working with AFPA is, Express Trading Canada, they provide expert advice and direction to quickly get your products from your door to your customer's door in China. "This service is a game-changer for AFPA members as it further strengthens existing food processing jobs," says AFPA Board Chair Eric Haak. "It allows Alberta companies to expand into this huge and growing market, resulting in even more jobs."

For more information, visit Express Trading Canada or to get trading now, contact:

Robin Li, CPA, CMA

Business Development Manager

780.860.3011

Robin.Li@expresstradingcanada.com

Yan Zhou

General Manager

780.222.7688

Yan.Zhou@expresstradingcanada.com

Want AFPA to kickstart your business development opportunities in China? Send us your company profile!! AFPA and marketing partner **Fresh Canada** are helping raising the profile of Alberta-made food products in Shanghai by sharing company bios of AFPA members. Send AFPA a bio detailing your company, your products and commitments to workplace health and safety, food safety, sustainability, employee engagement or other important company information. Bios should 800 words or less. Send your completed bio to tedf@afpa.com.

Let AFPA make your bio-writing a little easier. [Visit our China Export page to download a template.](#)



**How To Communicate Effectively in Any Situation:
Communicate with confidence during your next media
interview, important business or staff meeting, keynote speech
and customer interaction.**

You will learn:

- the elements that make a strong message for any situation
- how to craft a powerful message using the Key Message Creation Sheet
- to select power words, avoid trigger words
- strategies for dealing with tough questions, such as guarantees, speculation
- ways to use stories, anecdotes, facts, statistics and reports to strengthen your message

October 25

Noon - 90 minutes

\$40 AFPA Members / \$50 Non-members

[Register](#)



**Reduce Carbon Levy Costs!
Lean & Green Carbon Workshop:
Nov 7 - Edmonton / Nov. 8 - Calgary / Nov
9 - Lethbridge (NEW City)**

This 1/2 day workshop will identify easy to implement cost saving opportunities to reduce costs associated with the carbon levy. Through tangible examples, participants will receive coaching, rebate/grant information, and tools to take away and apply in their own operations. [For more information or to register.](#)

How Easy is it to do?

Mid-size Alberta food processor adjusted plant lighting resulting in: 10% reduction in energy use / \$5k savings a month / <\$1k worth of investment

Workplace Health & Safety

Disability Management issues?, contact Ed for details on new AFPA member D.M.I. (Disability Mgmt. Institute) their resources and services can assist you. Alberta WCB related disability management, modified & return to work training is soon expected to become a mandatory requirement as part of your overall health & safety management and related administration systems.



Are you an AFPA auditor? Want to join a great auditing group? The Alberta Occupational Safety Auditors Association is for you...our recent workshop was held Sept.21 in Red Deer. Discussions included an update from the Province and the Partnerships team including a special address by Ian Hooper, Director of the Partnerships program. The AOSAA is an avenue for auditors to be heard, interact with Ab. OH&S and the Partnerships group, and provides professional development/networking. This is the type of professional development that would be required for the maintenance aspects of AFPA's new F&BHSO designation. If you are interested, Ed or visit www.aosaa.ca.

Internal Auditor Course - Nov.27&28 or Refresher training Nov.29 in Calgary

All 5 COR courses must have been attended by at min. one current staff and must now be verified in your 2017 COR audits...missing some?, book now as time is quickly running out on our fall course offerings.

Electives...

1. 'Understanding Office Safety' - ½ day related to best practices and general office safety - including business travel, ERP, hazard assessment, inspections, work stations, and applicable Ab. OH&S legislation, as part of your 'complete' H&S management system.
2. Joint H&S Committees' require formal structure. AFPA's JH&SC training will cover topics such as 'what is a JH&SC?', compliance from Section 31 of the Act and Part 13 of the Code, authority of the JH&SC, benefits, committee functions/roles of members, meetings, minutes, Sub-Committees, Supervisors key roles, competent worker, and a terms of reference. (1 day). This JH&S Committee requirement is expected to be part of a new Ab. OH&S initiative, and become mandatory by Jan. 2019.
3. Safety Workshops and Lunch n' Learns - will count as 'elective' of .5 towards the FBHSO designation.
4. Other electives include Fatigue Management, OH&S for Dummies paired with Performing Proper Inspections, with more elective courses coming soon.

WHMIS 2015 (GHS) Transition - this is newly 'enacted' legislation, so everyone in your organization from the least senior new hire to the CEO must attend this new training, as befits their specific roles, responsibilities, and potential for exposure...yes, even those in the office work environment, including sales. The new WHMIS symbols, labelling requirements, new SDS's and worker education must be provided and attended by all of your staff...it's legislated and will surely become the focus of Ab. OH&S Officers in 2019. Remember, all

employers remain 'legally' responsible to ensure the proper training, education, and protection of their workers in the provision of a safe workplace.

Upcoming Training:

Oct.24 - Incident Investigation course, Edmonton: BOOK NOW!

Oct.30&31 - H&S Program Building course, Calgary: BOOK NOW!

Remember our onsite training option is available for your convenience for all AFPA safety and elective courses, call Ed for details or to book.

Ed DeGroot, CRSP, CHSC, B. Mgt.

Director Workplace Health, Safety & COR Certification Programs

403.201.3657 ext. 28 ed@afpa.com