



## October 2017 eActivity Report

### 1) Registration for 2 DAY FORUM- November 29th and 30th- Fredericton

The NB Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (NBDAAF), NB Department of Health (NBDH), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), and Health Canada (HC) are partnering to deliver a forum to provide an overview and answers to industry partners regarding the various federal and provincial food-related regulatory and policy initiatives currently underway.

**REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION ENCLOSED-** There are no fees to register, however we ask you to pre-register as there are only 75 seats available.

### 2) Recap of Regional Meetings

Thank you to all of you that attended our meetings. We had great discussions on regional issues, submission of resolutions to be considered at our upcoming Annual General Meeting and appreciated the opportunity to provide you with an update on all the issues and initiatives we have addressed during the course of the year.

A total of ten resolutions were passed and will be presented during the **Alliance's Annual General Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018** at the Crowne Plaza in Fredericton.

### 3) Reserve the Date- Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at the Fredericton Crowne Plaza. Further information will be shared in our next eActivity report. Farm Credit Canada is sponsoring a workshop the afternoon of January 17<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with our AGM:

# Farm Management Strategies to Improve Margins and Reduce Risk

How can changing the way you manage your farm add profitability to your existing production base? Discover new ways to look at cost control and market options, farm business structures, personal relationships and farm business management techniques to find the answer.

**Wednesday, January 17**

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Crowne Plaza Fredericton, Fredericton

**Presented in partnership with:**



[Register Now](#)



#### 4) Atlantic Federations of Agriculture Meeting with the Atlantic Agriculture Deputy Ministers

Mike Bouma, Alliance President and Josée Albert, Alliance CEO, attended the meeting in Truro in October. The main purpose of the meeting was to share what our respective

provinces are doing in terms of addressing public trust and to find ways to collaborate on an Atlantic level since we share many commonalities. The group also had the opportunity to have Crystal MacKay, Executive Director of the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity make a presentation to share what the centre does in terms of public opinion research and shared data specific to Atlantic Canada. The Atlantic Deputy Ministers committed to continue the discussion and come back in early spring with a proposed plan of action to address the public trust file.

#### **5) Alliance's Executive Committee Meeting with New Agriculture, Mines and Rural Affairs Minister**

The Alliance Executive Committee members had the opportunity to meet with Hon. Andrew Harvey on October 20<sup>th</sup> to address the Alliance's most pressing issues. The Minister was very receptive to our issues and our recommendations, which touched on: agricultural land protection and enforcement capacity, the much needed changes to the Topsoil Preservation Act, the need for an in-depth review of the Farmland Identification Program (FLIP), the need to implement a Statement of Provincial Interest for Agriculture to work with the Community Planning Act, the issues surrounding farmland investment funds, our recommendations for the next suite of non-Business Risk Management programs, the lack of details being released by the Department of Environment and Local Government in regards the implementation of an carbon price mechanism for our province and our concerns with the continued fee increases of workmen's compensation.

#### **6) Official Launch of the Ag in the Classroom Program**



Caption: (Left to right) Hon. Andrew Harvey, Stéphane Sirois, Christian Michaud, Josée Albert and Courtnay Kingsbury

Caption: Chef Marie-France Thibault, Hon. Andrew Harvey, Christian Michaud and children from the école des bâtisseurs in Fredericton.

We are very pleased to inform you that the program was officially launched on October 20<sup>th</sup> at the École des bâtisseurs in Fredericton. Click [here](#) for the press release.

Stéphane Sirois is our Ag in the Classroom coordinator for the Francophone sector and he can be contacted by phone at (506) 442-2552 or by email: [coordinator@fermeNBfarm.ca](mailto:coordinator@fermeNBfarm.ca)

Courtnay Kingsbury is our Ag in the Classroom coordinator for the Anglophone sector and she can be contacted by phone at (506) 452-8101 or by email: [education@fermeNBfarm.ca](mailto:education@fermeNBfarm.ca)

We have enclosed a form if you would like to be involved to assist us in activities such as farm tours, class visits and volunteer during the AgLiteracy Month coming up in March 2018.

We are currently in discussions with the Department of Agriculture for 5 year funding under CAP. One of our first activities will be the Spuds in the Tub, kindly sponsored by Potatoes New Brunswick.

## **7) Survey on Farming and Food Rescue Organizations**

We invite you to take part in a research project called Helping Food Rescue Organizations Grow Farmer Relationships.

**Who?** This study is being conducted by the following Master's Students in the Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University: Emma McGinn, Kristen Sora, Megan Reynolds, Sarbpreet Singh, and Kimberly MacLachlan.

**Why?** The purpose of this research is to assist FOUND Forgotten Food (FOUND), a Halifax based NGO, in developing a communication plan to increase food donations to food rescue organizations. We are interested in learning about your interest in food rescue organizations, donation incentives, and preferred approaches to food collection.

**Participants?** You can take part in this study if you are age 18 or over, and a farmer or person harvesting vegetables and fruits in your field, backyard, or practicing urban agriculture.

**How Long?** It is anticipated that it will take 3-5 minutes to read the consent information and an additional 15-20 minutes to complete the survey, for a total of 20-25 minutes.

**Survey Details:** Completion of this survey is voluntary. There are no direct benefits but indirect benefits include contributing to research to help reduce food waste. Information provided will be kept confidential and there are no negative consequences for withdrawing. Skipping questions or withdrawing from the survey can be done at any time prior to survey submission. The results will be disseminated on December 5, 2017. The survey will close on November 20, 2017.

**The survey can be accessed [here](#).**

**Questions?** If you have any questions about this study please contact Kristen Sora, School of Resources and Environment Sciences, at [kristen.sora@dal.ca](mailto:kristen.sora@dal.ca) or our faculty supervisor, Dr. Stephane Mechoulan, at [stephane.mechoulan@dal.ca](mailto:stephane.mechoulan@dal.ca).

## **8) Environmental Farm Plan**

There has been discussion about using the EFP for sustainable sourcing requirements. Recently a second National EFP Summit was held, but no decisions were made. There is a strong desire to not dilute the educational and awareness purpose of the Environmental Farm Plans. There is currently a third party review of the paper or electronic document in New Brunswick, but the supply chain may require more assurance of environmental status & action. Many are concerned that if some type of on-farm verification was required then this would turn some producers away from doing an EFP. Verification may be better left to the buyers, although it would add additional layers of paperwork for

farmers. Your comments are welcome and can be sent to EFP Coordinator, John Russell, at [john@fermenbfarm.ca](mailto:john@fermenbfarm.ca) or communicated at 506-381-2887.

John will also be in the following areas updating Environmental Farm Plans.

1 (North-West) Two first weeks of November 2017
2 (North-East) Two last weeks of November 2017
6 (Centre ouest/ Wicklow) First two weeks of December 2017

If you wish to update your plan, please contact Camille Coulombe at 506-452-8101 or [efp-pfe@fermenbfarm.ca](mailto:efp-pfe@fermenbfarm.ca).

### **Notices:**

#### **LeadAtlantic**

Evolutionary Leadership Training for Agriculture and Aquaculture

- Build strategies and capacity to grow your organization and industry
- Develop dynamic and collaborative leadership teams.
- Create a culture of innovation and creative problem-solving.

Extended Learning at the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture, Executive Education at the Dalhousie Faculty of Management, and the Atlantic Agricultural Leadership Board are pleased to announce LEADAtlantic; a revitalized leadership development for the Agriculture and Aquaculture. LEADAtlantic is an evolutionary leadership program committed to creating an environment where participants can collaboratively grow and develop competencies to lead more profitable and innovative industries.

Registration is now open! For detailed program information including instructors, schedule, and fees please visit [Dalhousie University website](#).

**QUOTA OPPORTUNITY**

**Chicken Farmers of New Brunswick**

**New Entrant Program**

Chicken Farmers of New Brunswick announces the availability of chicken quota to individuals or companies who wish to enter the chicken production industry in New Brunswick.

Up to 208,000 live kilograms will be available to the new entrant starting in 2018.

To receive an application package, interested parties should send a request in writing.

**Quota Opportunity**

**Chicken Farmers of NB**

277 Main Street, Suite # 1

Fredericton, NB E3A 1E1

Or you can request an application form by e-mail: [nbchicken@nb.aibn.com](mailto:nbchicken@nb.aibn.com)

**Only application received no later than December 1, 2017 will  
be considered**



**NEWS FLASH**



### **Stakeholder Consultation: Workplace Violence**

WorkSafeNB is consulting workers, employers, labour groups and other interested parties for feedback on a proposed regulatory framework on preventing workplace violence and harassment. We need your views so we can make recommendations to government on the regulation to be drafted. The proposed framework draws on the regulations in place in the Atlantic Provinces along with other jurisdictions across the country.

If you would like to comment on the proposed regulatory framework, please [submit your feedback](#) by December 1, 2017.

### **First Atlantic Cow-Calf Survey**

This survey is designed for cow-calf producers in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and is a series of production based questions about your 2017 calf crop. To take the survey, please click the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017-ATL-cow-calf>. If you would prefer a paper copy or a PDF version of the survey please call (902) 969-1632 or email [maritimebeefcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:maritimebeefcouncil@gmail.com).

## **News Release**

Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour

Public consultation on workers' compensation system  
26 October 2017

FREDERICTON (GNB) – The independent task force appointed to examine the workers' compensation system in New Brunswick today released a discussion paper and a schedule of public meetings to encourage participation in its upcoming consultation process.

“The task force appointed to examine WorkSafeNB's current financial situation, governing legislation and overall objectives, and the effectiveness of the workers' compensation system has been meeting and gathering information over the past few months,” said Dennis Browne, chair of the task force. “I encourage both employers and workers to read the discussion paper and attend the upcoming public sessions or submit their feedback online or by mail.”

The discussion paper [is available online](#). It details the current environment and will guide discussion on how to ensure the system appropriately addresses the needs and realities of current and future workplaces, while also striking the right balance between compensation for injured workers and the financial interests of employers.

“The task force is looking forward to hearing from stakeholders, injured workers, and the general public,” said worker representative Glenn Sullivan, who is president of the Atlantic Provinces Professional Fire Fighters Association.

“The discussion paper and public consultation will provide an opportunity to submit written comments or present directly to task force members in November,” said employer representative Sherri Deveau of Practical Human Resource Solutions Inc. Public consultations will be held in five regions. The task force will receive comments from the public and stakeholder groups until Dec. 7.

The schedule of public meetings is as follows:

- [Bathurst](#) – Tuesday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Best Western, 150 Main St.
- [Moncton](#) – Wednesday, Nov. 22, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Delta Beausejour, 750 Main St.
- [Saint John](#) – Thursday, Nov. 23, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Delta Brunswick, 39 King St.

## **Events:**

**Atlantic Food and Beverage Processors Association Inc. - 2017-2018 Food Safety Training Workshops** – For dates and locations please see the attached document.

**Farming For Our Future: Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> – Ottawa, Ontario – November 21-23, 2017**

The Agricultural Excellence Conference is a one-of-a-kind event in Canada that brings diverse industry experts and stakeholders together from across disciplines, regions and production sectors to share and explore beneficial farm management practices and insights with leading farm business thinkers.

For more information, visit [www.fmc-gac.com](http://www.fmc-gac.com) or follow #AgExConf17 on Twitter.

**2017 ACORN Conference & Trade Show – Best Western Glengarry, Truro, Nova Scotia November 27-29, 2017** – To view the conference program and to register please click [here](#).

**Event on Service Animals in New Brunswick – Delta Hotel, Fredericton – December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

To celebrate the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the Premier's Council on Disabilities is hosting an event on service animals in New Brunswick.

Please RSVP to attend:

Email: [pcd-cpmph@gnb.ca](mailto:pcd-cpmph@gnb.ca)

Phone: 506-444-3000 / 1-800-442-4412

Fax: 506-444-3001

**AGM of the Maritime Branch of the CSGA and of the Atlantic Grain Council – Casino Moncton – December 5 & 6, 2017** – please see attached a copy of the preliminary agenda.

**ACORN Mission Trip to NEVFG Conference – Manchester, New Hampshire – December 11-15, 2017**

ACORN and NBDAAF are partnering to coordinate a 5 day mission trip to the New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA.

Registration cost to participate is \$40.00 for NB producers and \$60.00 for non-farmer stakeholders and must be received by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. For more details, contact Tara Scott at [transition@acornorganic.org](mailto:transition@acornorganic.org).