

August 1, 2006



Sound Bites

The newsletter with a vision of regional food sustainability

Volume 5, Issue 1

Nelson Barsi
The Barsi Group
Co-Chair SSFPA

Kika Joy
Organized Organics
Co-Chair SSFPA

Marsha Stanley
Damali Estates Farm
Treasurer SSFPA

Don Wilde
Wilde Enterprises
Corporate Secretary
SSFPA

Trevor Kempthorne
FNALA
Director SSFPA

Terry Ackerman
Organic Meadow Inc
Director SSFPA

Kathleen Buote
Earth Endures
Director SSFPA

Merv Sloss
Realtor
Director SSFPA

Message from the Board of Directors

The AGM has come and gone with some very concrete directives from the membership. The SSFPA was incorporated in 2002 and at that time a strategic direction and subsequent five year strategic plan had been embraced by all participants. We are encouraged to report to the membership that the five year plan has been achieved in four years. The initial strategic plan called for a cooperative approach to attain economies of scale in order to stay competitive in the market economy.

For more information contact Local Flavours Products and Services Cooperative at: info@localflavours.coop

Now it is time to reassess the needs of the members and what activities the SSFPA should undertake to best serve the identified needs. A survey of the membership will be commencing shortly.

Over the past 4 years the issues and opportunities in the agri-food sector have been consistently evolving. The citizens of Canada are taking a keen interest in the nutritional quality of the foods they ingest and the methods utilized by the industry. Opportunities for the small scale food processors and producers continue to increase as this current trend gains momentum.

The SSFPA has completed two projects over the past twelve months. 1.) The Recipe for Success program was jointly sponsored by Coast Capital Savings, The Cooperators and the British Columbia Investment Agriculture Foundation. The program provided a pathway to engage industry groups, associations and businesses around the province with the small scale food industry and the diversity of products that the small scale food sector represents. Over 200 participants took advantage of this program.

2.) The SSFPA collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands in developing a BC Specialty Food On-line Directory as an initiative under the Ministry of Health Act Now Program. Phase 1 of this project has been completed and Phase 2 of the project will commence in early August 2006. The directory has been well received by industry and is being promoted by stakeholders throughout the province of BC. The directory hosts over 600 products and represents millions of dollars to the economy of British Columbia. For More Information email: directory@ssfpa.net

We encourage you to have a voice in the advancement of the small scale food sector and invite you to participate in the Small Scale Food Processor Association.

For more information and membership application email: info@ssfpa.net

On behalf of the SSFPA we wish to express a heartfelt thanks to the past directors of the SSFPA for their Dedication and Commitment.

Thank-you past Co-chair Godfrey Ferguson, Director /Corporate Secretary Pat Reichert, Director Kim Stansfield, Director Herb Theissen and Director John Plough.