

FOOD & BEVERAGE INSIDER

Alliance of Ontario Food Processors

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AOFP AWARDED FBIIF FUNDING

The Alliance of Ontario Food Processors' project submission, "Innovations in Minimizing Waste and Wastewater Effluent from Food and Beverage Processing Operations" was awarded funding from first round of the Food and Beverage Industry Innovation Fund (FBIIF). The project objective is to examine the current technologies in place related to pollution and waste/wastewater minimization in food and beverage processing operations and look at new related technologies, opportunities and barriers for their implementation. The scope of the project also includes reviewing alternatives to land application of processing waste and related regulatory compliance. The project will provide information to industry about the new technologies and identify opportunities for smarter production and cost reduction through pollution prevention (and waste/wastewater) minimization.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY INNOVATION FUND (FBIIF) – ROUND 2 - CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Driven by AOFP in cooperation with the Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) and with equal funding from provincial and federal governments, the Fund's purpose is to encourage investment into new, innovative processes, products or skills development in the food and beverage processing industry. The AAC recently announced that a total of \$1.6M has been allocated to 26 projects in the first round of funding.

Round 2 of the FBIIF includes \$1.4M. Funding criteria and parameters are similar to the initial call for proposals. Proposals are invited for submission until the deadline, February 23, 2009. Applications and additional information are available at www.aofp.ca or on the AAC website, www.adaptcouncil.org

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CHARGES FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL WATER USERS REGULATION IN EFFECT JANUARY 1, 2009

On January 1st, 2009 the new regulation under the Ontario Water Resources Act, managed by the Ministry of the Environment came into force. The new regulation specifies the charge rate, to whom the charge applies, when payments are to be made, and what information on the amounts of water used by “highly consumptive commercial and industrial users” must be submitted to the Ministry.

The charges will be phased in starting with what the regulation defines as “highly consumptive” users where water is incorporated. You are a ‘phase one industrial or commercial water user’ if your facility falls into one of the following categories which are considered to be highly consumptive users:

- Facilities that manufacture or produce bottled water or water in other containers, whether or not for use as a beverage;
- Beverage manufacturing facilities where water is incorporated into a product;
- Fruit and vegetable canning or pickling facilities, where water is incorporated into a product;
- Pesticide, fertilizer and other agricultural chemical manufacturing facilities where water is incorporated into a product.

During this first phase, the charge of \$3.71 per million

litres of water applies to commercial and industrial water users who withdraw more than 50,000 litres per day (on any given day) from groundwater and surface water sources or a municipal system. The charge is volume-based so that commercial and industrial users will be charged the actual volume of water withdrawn in a 12-month period. The charge is applied to all water used within the facility even if only a small portion of the water goes into a product. For those companies falling into any of the defined “highly consumptive” users who use no water in any of their products, the charge does not apply.

Phase 2 will apply to medium and low consumptive users. Consultations are currently underway with draft regulations expected by the spring of 2009. The earliest implementation of Phase 2 would be January 1, 2011. In the Phase 2 consultations, further consideration is also being given to making adjustments to the Phase 1 application of the rate against all water used versus only that being used as part of a product.

AOFP is participating in the consultation process, ensuring the voice of the food and beverage processing industry continues to be heard. For further information, contact the AOFP office by email at info@aofp.ca or at 519-767-5599.

BLUE BOX FUNDING CHANGES PROPOSED

Waste Diversion Ontario held a meeting in December with industry stakeholders to discuss proposed changes to the Blue Box Program Fee Structure as suggested by the Minister. Of most concern is the suggestion that funding for the Blue Box Program be paid 100% by industry (currently shared 50/50 industry/municipalities). **This means that if you are currently paying fees to Stewardship Ontario they will double.** There has been no discussion of this issue previously, there has been no analysis of the last 5 years of the Blue Box Program funding to see if it is working and there have been no other alternatives put on the table for discussion. There are many instances where companies are paying significant fees for the Blue Box Program and their packaging still ends up in land fill – it is not being recycled. Other changes being proposed address:

- A new waste diversion target
- Material specific diversion targets

- Consistency of collection materials across municipalities
- Dealing with problematic wastes (large containers such as 15 litre water)
- Collecting from the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors
- Collection options beyond municipal curbside
- Additional blue box wastes not already collected
- Managing waste in an environmentally responsible manner (especially that which is exported)
- Adjust fees to increase waste diversion rates for certain blue box wastes

If you would like additional information on any of the proposed changes, please contact the AOFP at 519-767-5599. The AOFP will be providing comments to the Ministry of the Environment and Waste Diversion Ontario regarding the proposed changes.

ONE LOCATION, TWO DAYS, OVER 100 EXHIBITS

FEBRUARY 20-21, 2009

Providing Innovations. Connections. Solutions.



With over 100 exhibits showcasing new advances in processing equipment and supplies, packaging, seasonings and ingredients, services, and technology, the 2009 Meat and Food Processing Expo at the International Centre in Mississauga, is a must attend show for meat and food processing companies.



Visit www.foodindustryexpo.ca or call 800.263.3797 for more information.

DIRECTORY OF ONTARIO FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROCESSORS! HAVE YOU CHECKED IT OUT?

AOFP Processor Members were emailed a notice in November announcing the launch of the on-line Directory of Ontario Food and Beverage Processors. They were provided with a login and password to access this Directory, as well as to update their information and provide a marketing message. As a Processor Member, if you have not received your email with the login and password, please contact the AOFP office at 519-767-5374. Also, we can assist you in updating your information or including your marketing message with your listing.

The Directory will increase exposure and access to Ontario food and beverage processors, be a useful resource tool and facilitate and support collaboration between Member companies. The Directory can be accessed through www.aofp.ca. Be sure that you have access to this new Members' only advantage.

AOFP Associate Members should have received their login and password the week of December 15th. If you have not received this information, please contact the AOFP office at 519-767-5374.

CAREER AWARENESS WEBSITE

Taste Your Future is the tag line and web address for the new career promotional website for the Ontario food and beverage processing industry. The website provides information about the industry and promotes this industry as a career destination. The site can be accessed at www.tasteyourfuture.ca or through the link on the AOFP home page at www.aofp.ca.

Suggestions and feedback on the site are welcomed. Members are also invited to provide a brief quote on why they chose the processing industry and what they like about their career choice. Your comments or quote can be forwarded to Michèle Poisson at AOFP, mpoisson@aofp.ca.

THE ALLIANCE CELEBRATES AN ANNIVERSARY!

November 17th marked the 5-Year Anniversary of the Alliance of Ontario Food Processors. The Alliance continues to grow and looks forward to many more years of promoting the interests and being the voice for Ontario's dynamic food and beverage processing industry.

AOFP-WEBSITE UPDATE

The AOFP website is being updated with new links and material to accommodate 2008 developments and provide improved navigation. Improvements and expansion will include access to the Members only *Directory of Ontario Food and Beverage Processors* and the career web site "Taste Your Future". www.aofp.ca provides Members, the processing industry and the public with updated information on an ongoing basis. Be sure to check the site often.

NEW AOFP PROCESSOR MEMBERS

Highline Mushrooms with facilities in Leamington and Wellington, ON and Montreal, PQ, is one of Canada's largest independent growers of mushrooms. Highline began in 1961 and has now grown to a technically advanced processing operation that employs over 800 people. Welcome to Highline Mushrooms!

With over 150 years in business, **Casco Inc.** is a recognized name in the Ontario food and beverage processing industry. Casco's principal focus is on corn-refined ingredients including sweeteners, starches, oil, and animal feed. Casco has three manufacturing facilities in Ontario: Cardinal, London, and Port Colborne. Casco is headquartered in Etobicoke, ON and has a sales office in Pointe Claire, PQ. Welcome to Casco!

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

AOFP is pleased to welcome the following new Associate Members and encourages Members to support these suppliers when seeking out related services. More information on the services and products of each company can be found on the AOFP website.

Moore Packaging, Barrie, Ontario.
Providing custom and general packaging solutions to the Ontario food and beverage processing industry.

Tetra Pak Canada, Scarborough, Ontario
A well-known name that provides packaging and processing systems for both solids and liquids to the food and beverage processing industry.

Sun Opta, Concord, Ontario.
Provides an extensive list of organic dairy ingredients, fibres, brans, starches, soy concentrate & powders,

sweeteners, soy oil and sunflower oil.

Bonnie and Don Flavours Inc. Mississauga, Ontario.

In addition to natural colours, B&D is a manufacturer of food flavourings including organic certified flavours - ISO 22000.

BCI Marketing Partners, Guelph, Ontario.
BCI is a service company providing independent consulting and marketing research to the food and beverage processing industry.

Just FoodErp, Mississauga, Ontario.
Provides unique business software and service packages designed specifically for the food and beverage industry.

INDUSTRY EVENTS

February 20-21, 2009: Meat and Food Processing Expo

International Centre (Hall 4), Mississauga, Ontario.
Over 100 exhibitors will be showcasing innovations, connections and solutions to processors and suppliers of the meat and food processing industry. Additional information is available at www.foodindustryexpo.ca.

March 8- 10, 2009: Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association (CRFA) Show

Direct Energy Centre, Toronto, Ontario
For more information visit www.crfa.ca/tradeshows/crfashow

March 10-12, 2009: The Canola Council of Canada Convention

Sheraton, Centre, Toronto
For more information visit <http://www.canola-council.org>.

May 5-7, 2009: PACex International

International Centre, Mississauga, Ontario.
This is Canada's national packaging, food processing, material handling and logistics exhibition. For more information visit www.pac.ca.