



## British Columbia Food Protection Association

*"To provide a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply"*

www.bcfpa.net

September 18, 2009

### ***Invitation to all University and College Environmental Health and Food Science Faculty and Students***

The **BC Food Protection Association** invites you and your students to our food safety conference at the Delta Vancouver Airport Conference Centre in Richmond, BC on October 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. Our theme "*Embracing a Changing World*" aims to present you with information and tools that you will need to meet new challenges in the agriculture and food industry.

### ***Great Opportunities for Students***

Student rates are below cost, only \$105 inclusive, or, \$20 to \$35 for ½day depending on the session. This is a unique educational experience for students to network with government and industry professionals. **POSTER SESSION:** We are also hosting a poster session for graduate and undergraduate students. This is a great opportunity to showcase projects to the food industry and others, and show everyone the research students are conducting. Students wishing to bring a poster can submit their request on the "Poster Submission Form" attached with this letter along with their registration.

### ***Great Opportunities for Faculty***

The Wednesday afternoon session (see description below) is targeted to research scientists and industry, and aims to create partnerships to foster commercialization. Food scientists will also have the opportunity to network with industry, and may find joint projects of interest to engage students.

### ***Conference Description***

**WEDNESDAY OCT 21<sup>ST</sup>** Two technical sessions will be offered, ***Risk Communication*** and ***New Technologies for Early Detection of Food Pathogens***. In the morning session sponsored by NCC Environmental Health, Dr. Ray Copes (Ontario Agency of Health Protection and Promotion), Ms. Della Smith (industry consultant with QUAY Strategies Inc.), and Dr. Ben Chapman (North Carolina State University, author of [www.barfblog.com](http://www.barfblog.com)) will help us understand risk communication issues for industry and government. BC Innovation Council chairs the afternoon session on ***New Technologies for Early Detection of Food Pathogens***, designed to increase awareness of advanced detection technologies for food protection and to stimulate technology commercialization in the BC Agriculture and Food industry. Speakers include Dr. Gary Maki (University of Idaho) with the Centre for Advanced Microelectronics and Biomolecular Research (CAMBR), and Dr. Andre Marziali from Boreal Genomics. A partnering session (complete with wine and cheese) will provide an opportunity for technology and knowledge transfer between research and industry.



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**THURSDAY OCT 22<sup>ND</sup>** Mr. Bruce Clark will deliver a Key-Note address for the main conference on Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Bruce is a principal in Marler Clark in Seattle and is involved in foodborne and waterborne illness litigation.

The main conference features presentations around 4 themes:

***"Changing values affecting our food supply"*** will highlight emerging issues for the food industry, ranging from agricultural sustainability to changing social culture of food safety and the expected impact on the public (Brent Warner, Farmers' Markets Canada);

***"The costs of processing safe foods"*** will revisit the old essentials, such as sanitation, and new methods for processing (Dr. Michael Gänzle, University of Alberta & Ian Crook, Ecolab);

***"Water: the treasure we still take for granted"*** explores dealing with our changing water supply and conservation issues with Eddie Elsector, Dean Scovill, Doug Neden, (GVWD), & Shawn Sanders (MTS Maintenance)

***"Decloaking pathogens: the battle rages on"*** with Marsha Taylor (Epidemiologist, BCCDC), Dr. Paul Kitching (Provincial Veterinarian, BCMAL), Dr. Donald Kramer (University of Alaska – retired), & Jovana Kovacevic.

We sincerely hope that you will take this opportunity to attend the BCFPA conference this year. We are celebrating our first 10 years, and wish to create many more educational opportunities in future years to provide all food safety professionals with a forum to discuss food safety. A registration brochure and poster submission form are attached with this letter, and for more information visit our web-site at [www.bcfpa.net](http://www.bcfpa.net) or contact Terry Peters at 604.274.7658 or, e-mail [president@bcfpa.net](mailto:president@bcfpa.net)

Yours sincerely,

Terry Peters  
President, BC Food Protection Association