



CANADIAN SUPPLY CHAIN FOOD SAFETY COALITION

COALITION CANADIENNE DE LA FILIÈRE ALIMENTAIRE POUR LA SALUBRITÉ DES ALIMENTS

Minutes – Annual General Meeting (DRAFT) 17 March 2011

Location: CFA Boardroom, 21 Florence Street, Ottawa & by Teleconference – Webinar

Attendees:

In Person: Jackie Crichton (RCC), Co-Chair, Heather Gale (CHC), Treasurer, Viki Sikur (CHEP), Sally Blackburn (CPMA), Frank Schreur (GFTC), Brigid Rivoire (CFA), Sally Rutherford (DPAC), Susan Abel (FCPC), Patrick McGuinness (FCC), Rejean Bouchard (DFC), Robin Horel (CPEPC), Don Jarvis (DPAC), Bryan Walton (NCFA), Albert Chambers (Secretariat)

On the Call: Graham Bennett (TFC)

Guests: John Lynch (CFIA), Samuel Godefroy (Health Canada)

Call to Order at 13:30 p.m.

Welcome: The chair, Jackie Crichton, welcomed members to the annual general meeting and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend. She noted that there were problems with the webinar link and apologized to those on the phone for any inconvenience.

Agenda Approval

Blackman moved
Jarvis seconded
Carried

Minutes from the 2010 general meeting

Rivoire moved approval
McGuinness seconded
Carried as circulated

Annual Report

Jackie Crichton, co- chair made the annual report using the attached presentation. The report highlighted the Coalitions priorities and activities for 2010.

Financial Report for the year ending 31 December 2010

Heather Gale, the treasurer reported on the Coalition's unaudited financial report. The report noted that the Coalition had concluded the year with a very modest surplus. Memberships had increased but so had expenses. Questions were raised about the drop off in provincial members. It was noted that several had indicated that their national association belonged.

Rivoire moved receipt
Schreurs seconded
Carried

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Draft Budget – 2011

Heather Gale presented the draft budget. It was based on an increase in expected revenue. There would be a slight increase in expenses for the Secretariat. Other items had been held constant. It was agreed that the board would review the financials in mid-year.

Rutherford moved receipt
Gale seconded
Carried

Appointment of Auditors

Blackman moved that the question of appointment of auditors be referred to the Board
Crichton seconded
Carried

Priorities – 2011

Albert Chambers, Executive Director presented proposals concerning 2011. The main priorities proposed were:

- Member Relations
- Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Follow to National Strategy Project
- Government Relations
- Issue Management

Following the presentation, members raised several issues including legislative modernization, follow-through on the National Strategy, food defence, food tampering penalties. There were comments from members about the value of the Coalition's updates on Canadian, US and international issues.

McGuinness move approval of the priorities
Walton seconded
Carried

Guest Presentations

Presentation by Samuel Godefroy, Director General, Food Directorate, Health Canada

The presentation focuses on three areas: pre-market activities, post-market standard development and vulnerable populations. He indicated that Health Canada will work to improve its own service levels, assist other agencies with their requirements and deal with matters concerning vulnerable populations. He noted that HC would be establishing a new policy concerning pre-market assessments which would facilitate its "triaging" the applications. It would also look to establishing a new system where for approvals that do not require regulatory changes it would look to an interim approval based on existing approvals from the USFDA/USDA and FSANZ (Australia/New Zealand). In response to a question, he indicated that consideration might be given to EU approvals but these presented a more "complex" situation. Further discussions on this would be welcomed, he said, when the new approach was released. In the post-market field, Godefroy detailed four current examples - Mycotoxins in food, Pathogens in produce, E.coli O157 in Meat, Key Nutritional Risks

(sodium and trans fat) - and went into further detail on each (slides 9 to 14). Here again he noted that HC will be working with USFDA and USDA on some of these. And, he said the results could be standards or new maximum levels. Stakeholders would be involved and some issues were very much at the investigative stage (e.g. toxins - T-2, HT-2) as opposed to the action stage (e.g. sodium). On Vulnerable populations, HC will be focusing on information and education via labels and other vehicles (networks, websites, media campaigns, etc). Godefroy also noted that HC's plans include more engagement in Canada and elsewhere. In Canada it would be with provinces through the FPT Food Safety Committee and with industry stakeholders. The semi-annual Food Directorate consultations will be continued. The Directorate would also utilize its FRAC (Food Regulatory Advisory Committee), the ASFS (Agri-food Subcommittee on Food Safety) and work with the industry & the Coalition. Internationally, there would be three key partners: USDA/USFDA, FSANZ and in respect to risk assessments the EU Food Safety Agency (EFSA)

Presentation by John Lynch, Executive Director, Food Safety, CFIA

After expressing Mr. Bouwer's regrets (he was participating in a CBSA exercise at the Windsor border crossing on March 17th as part of his orientation as new CFIA VP), Mr. Lynch reviewed CFIA's priorities using three themes: food safety initiatives, business transformation and transparency. With respect to food safety he noted: follow-up to the Weatherill report, import regulations, improved capacity to grant export certifications, a new Bill to amend the Food and Drug Act and a proposed federal legislation on traceability. On the proposed traceability legislation he noted that this was an initiative of FPT agriculture ministers and that CFIA is preparing a draft bill to permit it to regulate not only in the livestock/poultry sector but across all commodities. Industry input has been sought through the Industry/Government Advisory Committee related to the National Agriculture and Food Traceability System (NAFTS). On business transformation, Lynch noted that this was a realignment within the Agency. It is moving progressively beyond committees to changing the way the Agency programs are planned, designed, assessed and resourced. On Transparency, he reviewed the announcement made by Minister Ritz on 16/03/11. He closed with comments about collaboration with industry and the Coalition and re-iterated the interest of Mr. Bouwer to meet with the Coalition at a later date.

In response to questions about legislative modernization, both Lynch and Godefroy indicated that the "new" Bill was likely to look very much like Bill C-51 (2008) but with additional measures carried over from the very old C-27 (2004). It sounds like Government intends to primarily add sections (as was the case with Bill C-51) to enable itself to make regulations. There was acknowledgement in the answers that Canada had, with the passage of the US Food Safety Modernization Act, fallen somewhat behind and needed to catch up.

Following discussion, Godefroy as co-chair, **Federal/Provincial/Territorial Food Safety Committee** briefly reported on that body: He noted that the committee was very interested in strengthening its collaboration with the Coalition and industry. Initially this would involve two initiatives. First, the FPTFSC will become more transparent by establishing a web presence where it will post its membership, its meeting agendas and its records of decisions. This responds to a request made by the Coalition during our presentation to the Committee last November where we noted that the FPTFSC's counterparts in the EU and elsewhere were much more transparent. Second, the FPTFSC is now willing to extend its relationship with the Coalition beyond the regular conference calls of the FPT and Coalition co-chairs to request the Coalition to make regular presentations to the FPT committee at its semi-annual face-to-face meetings. This builds on the invitation and presentation to the November 2010 meeting. The first meeting in 2011 will be May 25-26. The co-chairs are scheduled to have their next conference call in April.

Election of the Board of Directors

The Chair reported on the nominations received prior to the meeting. The Executive Director opened the nomination and posed the question as to the what the number of directors for 2011/12 should be. After discussion it was agreed that seven directors should be elected.

Crichton proposed the list of nominees for election

Jarvis seconded

Carried

The 2011/12 board of directors are:

Susan Abel, Senior Director Food Safety & Trade Regulations, Food & Consumer Products
Canada

Jackie Crichton, Vice-President, Food Safety & Labelling, Retail Council of Canada (formerly
of CCGD)

Robert de Valk, General Manager, Further Poultry Processors of Canada

Heather Gale, Food Safety Co-ordinator, Canadian Horticultural Council

Brigid Rivoire, Executive Director, Canadian Federation of Agriculture

Gary Sands, Vice President, Government Relations, Canadian Federation of Independent
Grocers

Frank Schreurs, President, Guelph Food Technology Centre (Allied Members category)

Other Business:

Members raised several issues including, the recent nuclear plant problems in Japan.

The meeting adjourned at 15:45 p.m. EST.

Prepared by Albert Chambers, Secretariat

24 March 2011

To be approved by the 2012 Annual General Meeting