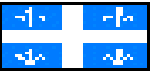




November 3, 2004



Action Update #1



Integrating Food Safety Systems in Canada: A Government/Industry Forum



As the hosts of the May 18, 2004 Government/Industry Forum, we committed to provide participants with an indication of the actions taken to follow-up on the suggestions made during the Forum. This update is the first of two and will be followed by a second in early 2005.



The purpose of the Forum was to provide opportunities for both industry and government to network and share information on food safety issues of common interest, in the domestic and international arena, to explore the challenges ahead and the expectations surrounding the integration of food safety systems in Canada and to identify opportunities for new industry/government collaboration. In particular, the participants were challenged to focus on two key themes:



- **Theme 1:** Advancing Collaboration on National Food Safety Standards, Codes and Recognition; and,



- **Theme 2:** Towards National Food Safety Training Programs for Industry

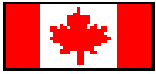


The discussions, in breakout and plenary sessions, led to a number of significant suggestions which are published in the Forum report on the Coalition's website [www.foodsafetycoalition.ca/en/Joint%20Forum%20Update.html].



These suggestions have been reviewed by the Co-chairs of the three federal/provincial/ territorial committees and the Coalition's steering committee. They will be presented along with recommendations concerning responsibility and further action at the Coalition's annual meeting in Ottawa on November 24, 2004. The three committees will also further discuss the suggestions at their bi-annual meetings in Vancouver in early December 2004 to identify priorities and discuss opportunities for collaboration with industry. Following these discussions, the priorities of both government and industry and opportunities for collaborative action will be further considered by the Co-chairs and the Coalition executive in early 2005. The second and concluding update will be circulated following those discussions.

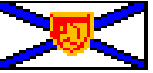




The May 18th Forum was the first government/industry event of this nature, an experiment in both dialogue and the exploration of common concerns. It clearly demonstrated a commitment on the part of governments and industry to furthering the integration of food safety systems in Canada.



Sincerely,



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