



CANADIAN SUPPLY CHAIN FOOD SAFETY COALITION
COALITION CANADIENNE DE LA FILIÈRE ALIMENTAIRE POUR LA
SALUBRITÉ DES ALIMENTS

Annual Report

2004/2005

Presented at the Annual Business Meeting

14 November 2005
Ottawa, Ontario



2005 Annual General Meeting
14 November 2005
Richelieu Room
Crowne Plaza Hotel
101 Lyon Street
Ottawa, Ontario

- 2:30 pm Registration
- 3:00 pm Call to Order
- 3:05 pm Chairman's Welcome & Remarks
- 3:10 p.m Presentation on the Proposed National Food Safety Strategy
- Anne-Marie St.-Laurent, Associate Director, Interagency Program, Health Canada
Greg Orriss, Director, Bureau of Food Safety & Consumer Protection, CFIA
- 3:40 pm Presentation on the Security and Prosperity Partnership
- Greg Goatbe, Director of Operations, Borders Task Force, Privy Council Office
Paul Haddow, Executive Director, International Affairs, CFIA
- 4:10 pm Approval of the Minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting
- 4:20 pm Presentation of Annual Report for 2004/2005
- 4:30 pm Financial Report for 2004/5 & 2005/6 Budget
- 4:45 pm Nominations for Executive and Steering Committee in 2005/6
- 5:00 pm Wrap-up & Adjournment
- 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm Reception in Chaudiere Room (cash bar)



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Our Vision: Canada's agriculture, fisheries and food industry will have a world-class reputation for producing and selling safe food.

Our Mission: The Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition will facilitate, through dialogue within the food industry and with all levels of government, the development and implementation of a national, co-ordinated approach to food safety to ensure credibility in the domestic and international marketplaces.

Notre vision: Le secteur canadien de l'agriculture, de l'aquiculture et de l'alimentation sera réputé dans le monde entier pour produire et vendre des aliments sains.

Notre mission: La Coalition canadienne de la filière alimentaire pour la salubrité des aliments facilitera, par le dialogue au sein de l'industrie alimentaire et avec tous les ordres de gouvernement, l'élaboration et la mise en oeuvre d'une approche nationale concertée pour la salubrité des aliments afin d'établir sa crédibilité sur les marchés nationaux et internationaux.

Chairman's Message

As we close the books on our fifth year of operations, we can be proud of the progress that the Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition has made. At the 2004 annual meeting, the members looked ahead and provided clear direction for their organization. Your executive and steering committees have worked diligently to realize these goals and to assure that the Coalition provides value to its members.

Our organization moves into coming year with the clear knowledge that its recognition by governments as industry's primary organization on broad food safety-related policies and issues continues to increase. Contact with governments are growing and the Coalition is realizing your goal of being the single strong voice on industry-wide food safety issues along the food chain, with the public and with governments.

The Coalition is also mandated to serve as a mechanism for dialogue and consultation with government; to provide opportunities to network, share information and build linkages within industry; and to act as a focal point for broad, collaborative initiatives. Work in these areas continued during the past year. The Coalition has sponsored events for industry and jointly with government building on the collaboration established by our first two symposia and the 2004 Government/Industry Forum.

When the Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition was formed in December 2000, we started a unique organization, open to all national, provincial and local industry associations with an interest in food safety. The organization, representing all segments of the food chain from input suppliers through primary production, processing, manufacturing, transportation, distribution to final marketing at retail or in food service, has made significant progress in being accepted as a true entity that can play an important role in food safety policy development in Canada. As we enter into our sixth year, I believe progress is being made and that we still have important work ahead of us.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege to have been asked to serve as the Coalition's interim chair. My predecessor, Marie-Claude Thibault did an enormous amount of work for the Coalition and its members during her nearly two years in the post and we all owe her a great deal.

In closing I wish to thank my colleagues on the Executive and Steering Committees and our Secretariat for all their work and assistance.

Heather Holland, Interim Chair

Introduction

The Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition's priorities for 2004/2005 were established through a four stage process. At the annual business meeting on 24 November 2004, the members held a general discussion and requested the Executive Committee to conduct further consultations with the members. In December 2004, a survey was circulated. Many members responded. These results were then reviewed by the Executive Committee. Finally, a members conference call was held on 27 January 2005 to finalize the priorities for the year.

The priorities were as follows:

Priority #1 - Membership and Members Services:

Website: That it be maintained in its current format and that usage be monitored during 2005 to determine its value to members and as a public portal.

Member Conference Calls: That considering the limited participation of members on these calls, the quarterly calls would be cancelled but that conference calls would be used on an ad hoc basis to deal with specific items of interest.

Newsletters: That the quarterly newsletters be eliminated as a cost saving measure.

Information Bulletins: That the circulation of information bulletins on government or other initiatives be continued and that criteria for their preparation be developed by the Executive and the Steering Committee.

Membership and Financial Stability: That an effort would be made by the Executive and the Steering Committee in early 2005 to deepen the membership by targeting key organizations.

Priority #2 - Government Relations:

That consistent with the Coalition's mission and its primary objectives, that government relations should be the top priority for 2005.

That this should be achieved both by greater engagement by the members acting on behalf of the Coalition and through the allocation of the limited resources of the Secretariat.

Priority #3 - Issues Management & Priority #4 - Forum Follow-up:

That considering the extensive list, the limited resources and the wide range of particular interests of the members, that a new approach to advancing the identified items be tried. This would involve:

- requesting Members to identify the key priorities for their organizations
- the formation of self-directed task groups (volunteers would be required to lead and participate in these groups and members could indicate an interest in limited participation/accessing information);
- the development and realization of action plans; and,
- regular reports to the Executive and the Steering Committee and to the membership.

Priority #5 - Government/Industry Forum & other Events:

That further discussion and any decisions related to the future of the Government/Industry Forum be postponed until the views of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Committees are known.

2004/5 Activities

Priority #1 - Membership and Members Services:

The annual membership campaign was initiated in early 2005 subsequent to the transfer of the Coalition's financial administration to the Animal Nutrition Association of Canada. The Executive Committee wishes to thank the Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council and its staff for generously providing this service to the Coalition on an in-kind basis for the two previous years and to thank ANAC for its agreement to undertake this task on behalf of the members.

In 2004/5 there was a slight reduction of members, particularly amongst provincial and/or local associations. As of year end (31 October 2005), the Coalition had 18 national members, 5 provincial members and 5 allied members for a total of 28. A number of other organizations have indicated an interest in joining the Coalition in 2005/6. The challenge remains for the Coalition to demonstrate value to its members and to prospective members.

Priority #2 - Government Relations:

This area was the Executive Committee's top priority for 2004/5. The Coalition's limited resources were directed at continuing to build a strong relationship with governments, particularly the four federal/provincial/territorial (FPT) committees that are involved with food safety regulations and policy.

Regular calls were held with the co-chairs of these committees. In the early part of the year, these focused on the follow-up to the 2004 Forum. However, other issues were discussed. The co-chairs agreed to provide agendas in advance of their biannual meetings (spring and fall) and that there would be a call subsequent to each set of meetings to ensure that the Coalition and its members are informed about progress, new initiatives, etc.

The Coalition also participated in a number of government consultations. In January it was represented in a Health Canada consultation on the General Safety Requirement

and at a session on Bill C-27 and other matters with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. In February, it was present at Food Directorate's stakeholder forum. On April 15th, the Coalition hosted a workshop for members on the proposed Canada Health Protection Act. This provided the only food safety specific industry consultation opportunity for the officials drafting this new Act and an excellent opportunity for members to dialogue with their peers and with officials.

Priority #3 - Issues Management

In addition to the consultation opportunities, the Coalition provided input at three other important venues during the past year.

In March, the Coalition was asked to present industry's views to the National Food Safety Strategy Workshop co-sponsored by the Canadian Research Institute for Food Safety, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Health Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and others.

Later in the year, the Canadian Food Inspection System Implementation Group (CFISIG), one of the four major FPT committees dealing with food safety, requested industry's views on future priorities. The members were surveyed in September and a set of priorities were reviewed and agreed to by the Executive Committee. The priorities identified by the members were:

- the development and implementation of a national, co-ordinated approach to food safety;
- greater harmonization of food safety policies and regulations across jurisdictions in Canada;
- establishment of a new and effective food safety decision-making mechanism with industry involvement by 31 March 2007;
- development of the infrastructure required to support industry-based programs and increased implementation assistance for micro, small and medium-sized businesses;
- a significant increase in government funding for consumer food safety education;
- equitable treatment of domestic and imported products vis-a-vis food safety; and,
- harmonization of food safety related requirements with its international trading partners and expedited approvals of food safety related technologies, products, etc.

These priorities will be considered along with those identified by the federal, provincial and territorial governments during the CFISIG meetings in November 2005. The Coalition will be following up with the committee in the coming months and continuing to urge all levels of government to move forward.

Finally in October, the Coalition's interim chair also had the opportunity to meet with the Agriculture Policy Framework (APF) Review Committee. This industry/government group has been appointed by the federal/provincial/territorial ministers to provide a mid-way review of the APF and advice on future activities. The Coalition's presentation was the only industry presentation on the food safety components of the APF agreement. It

was based on the priorities identified for the CFISIG consultation and emphasized APF themes including:

- harmonization of policies, legislation and regulation across jurisdictions;
- improved co-ordination of decision-making;
- support for industry-led food safety programs and other related initiatives;
- government recognition of these programs;
- traceability; and,
- research.

Priority #4 - Forum Follow-up:

Follow-up to the May 2004 Government/Industry Forum was a major item on the Coalition's agenda in the early months of 2005. The process involved a joint discussion with the FPT co-chairs, review by both the Coalition's members and the FPT committees and the issuance of two updates. The final update issued in March 2005 identified areas for action by both governments and industry respecting the two major themes.

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

Governments: The intergovernmental committees indicated that they would take actions in the following areas and seek increased industry input or involvement in these and others:

- code development;
- code amendment;
- recognition of HACCP and HACCP-based Programs;
- international acceptance of Canadian Food Safety Programs; and,
- a National Food Policy.

Industry: The Coalition's members identified a number of areas where industry action is required, including:

- new governance mechanisms and processes for food safety policy and regulatory decision making;
- improvements to national code process; e
- expansion of recognition program for industry-led food safety programs to include non-farm programs; and,
- development of certification capacity for industry-led food safety programs.

To advance these initiatives, the members indicated that they would be establishing task groups of interested stakeholders and supporting the nomination of industry participants to FPT committees, working groups, etc (e.g. Code amendment committees). The members formed a task group on post-farm program recognition. A proposal to invite task group members to join an FPT subcommittee on this matter is to be submitted to the November 2005 CFISIG meeting.

Theme 2: Towards National Food Safety Training Programs for Industry

Governments: The FPTCFSP Sub-committee on Food Retail/Food Service Food Safety Education, which includes Coalition members planned to continue the development of national criteria for education programs.

Industry: Coalition members indicated strong support for the completion of the food retail/food service project and a review at that time as to how its lessons could be adapted to other segments of the food chain. They also identified the importance of developing at an early date Canadian programs for food safety auditor training and certification. A Coalition task group was planned to advance this initiative but this group has not yet been formed.

Priority #5 - Government/Industry Forum & other Events:

At the conclusion of the discussions in March 2005 on the 2004 Forum, it was agreed by both the FPT co-chairs and the Coalition's Executive Committee that this first event had been very successful and that it had clearly demonstrated a commitment on the part of governments and industry to furthering the integration of food safety systems in Canada. However, it was also agreed that planning for a second forum would not be initiated, that both the intergovernmental committees and the Coalition were of the view that an event could be held again in the future.

During the summer of 2005, the Coalition Executive Committee endorsed the suggestion of a number of its members that it co-sponsor with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada a workshop on emergency preparedness. This event to occur on 15 November 2005 is expected to provide Coalition members, other industry participants and governments with an introduction to the value of planning along the supply chain for a food safety related emergency.

**Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition
Executive and Steering Committee
2004/2005**

Marie-Claude Thibault - Chair (til September)
Canadian Produce Marketing Association

Heather Holland - Interim Chair (September/October)
Canadian Federation of Agriculture

Bryan Walton - Past Chair
Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors

Joyce Reynolds - Vice Chair
Canadian Restaurant & Food Service Association

Kathleen Sullivan - Treasurer
Animal Nutrition Association of Canada

Danny Dempster (September/October)
Canadian Produce Marketing Association

Anne Fowlie
Canadian Horticultural Council

Heather Holland (November/September)
Canadian Federation of Agriculture

Jim McCullagh
Canadian Seeds Institute

Elaine Smith (November/June)
Food and Consumer Products Canada

Dennis Stephens
Canada Grains Council

Paul Valder
Steritech Inc

**Canadian Supply Chain Food Safety Coalition
Contact Information**

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Membership List - October 2005

National Organizations:

Animal Nutrition Association of Canada
Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters
Canada Grains Council
Canadian Association of Regulated Importers
Canadian Cattlemens Association
Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors
Canadian Egg Marketing Agency
Canadian Federation of Agriculture
Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers
Canadian Horticultural Council
Canadian Mushroom Growers' Association
Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council
Canadian Produce Marketing Association
Canadian Restaurant & Foodservice Association
Canadian Turkey Marketing Agency
Chicken Farmers of Canada
Food & Consumer Products of Canada
Further Poultry Processors of Canada

Provincial & Local Associations:

Alberta Egg Producers Board
Alberta Food Processors Association
Ontario Dairy Council
Ontario Produce Marketing Council
Ontario Veal Association

Allied Members

Canadian Animal Health Institute
CropLife Canada
Elanco
Guelph Food Technology Centre
The Steritech Group, Corp.