



# eNEWS

Essential Information for CHFA Members

February 11-15, 2008

## Elections to CHFA Board scheduled at AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the CHFA will be held on Saturday, April 5 at 8:00 am PST in Meeting Room 8 at the Vancouver Convention Exhibition Centre in Vancouver, BC. Elections to the Board of Directors will be held at this time.

The Nominating Committee has put forward the following names as nominees to the Board of Directors of the CHFA:

- Michel Sirgent, Bio-K+ International Inc. (Supplier)
- Ryan Benn, Alive Publishing Inc. (Supplier)
- Lawrence Titcher, Noah's Natural Foods (Retailer)

This year, John Holtmann, Lawrence Titcher and Michel Sirgent will retire from their terms on the Board. Deborah Callbreath, Lionel Pasen and Julien Lepoutre will continue their terms until 2009. Jim Maranda, Rick Monahan and Julie Daniluk will continue their terms until 2010. Three directors will be elected to the Board for the 2008 – 2011 term.

Other nominations to the Board of Directors should be made by 11:00am PST Thursday, March 6 and should be addressed to Helen Sherrard, Secretary to the Board at CHFA, 235 Yorkland Boulevard, Suite 302, Toronto, ON M2J 4Y8 or at [board@chfa.ca](mailto:board@chfa.ca) or fax to 1-888-292-2947.

Additional information can be found on the CHFA website.

## TRADE SHOW



Don't forget to book your hotel reservations for Expo West, April 3-6. While reservations will be accepted up to the event, special rates cannot be guaranteed after February 29, 2008, and availability is subject to change at any time.

If you require assistance, please feel free to contact Destination Toronto at

Telephone: 416-962-2727 or 1-800-514-9614; Fax: 416-962-3199 or 1-800-617-7587 or Email: [info@destinationtoronto.ca](mailto:info@destinationtoronto.ca).

Register online at [www.destinationtoronto.ca/1114reserv/ExpoWest/default.asp](http://www.destinationtoronto.ca/1114reserv/ExpoWest/default.asp)

## Expo West exhibitors invited to send in new product releases

Get your new product launches in front of your target audience at Expo West. The CHFA Trade Show and Communications departments are interested in receiving information about new launches for use in pre-show promotion and/or media releases. Send a copy of your new product brochure, spec sheet or media release to us and we will assist you in promoting your products to show attendees and visiting media. If you are a distributor, please talk to your companies participating in the trade show. The deadline to submit this information is **Friday, February 22**.

Send new product launches to Judy Sharpe, Director, Trade Shows and Conferences, at [jsharpe@chfa.ca](mailto:jsharpe@chfa.ca).

### Product education seminar time slot available

There is one Product Education Seminar time slot still available for Expo West 2008 at 5:15pm on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Contact Shelly Dagenais at [sdagenais@chfa.ca](mailto:sdagenais@chfa.ca) or 1-800-661-4510 Ext 232 for further details.

### MEMBERSHIP

### Nominate an industry leader by February 15

The deadline is February 15 for CHFA voting retailer and supplier members and associate members, to nominate a candidate for the CHFA People of Excellence Awards. The awards ceremony takes place April 5 at Expo West in Vancouver. Information packages and nomination forms were mailed in January but members can view the information and vote online at [www.chfa.ca](http://www.chfa.ca) under "Awards" in the members' area.

### Member's products walk the red carpet



What better exposure than to have Hollywood stars sampling your products? It's happening to Angele Miller of Global Health Brokerage Inc., a natural products broker in Edmonton, AB. Miller will be at the 80th annual Academy Awards in Los Angeles on February 24 where she'll be participate

in the Oscars gifting suite. She'll promote various health lines such as Slim Secrets (pictured here) which are described as healthy, delicious tasting bars designed for specific snacking occasions. Each bar has a "slim secret" which offers practical tips and provides consumers with solutions to their snacking dilemmas.

Congratulations Angele!

### Webinar on natural and organic personal care

There are still spaces available for the English only, live web seminar, where the NBJ Editorial Team and personal care industry experts present findings from the latest Natural and Organic Personal Care issue of the journal.

The seminar, February 21 at 1 -2:30 p.m. EST, will deal with the issues and sales channels facing Natural, Organic and Cosmeceutical personal care companies. It will also analyze and update NBJ's 10 years of data on this dynamic product category.

The cost to CHFA member companies is C\$120, including GST, per company. For more information and/or to register, contact Stephanie Lazzarini, Coordinator, Membership and Educational Services, at 416-497-6939/ 1-800- 661-4510, ext. 227 or [slazzarini@chfa.ca](mailto:slazzarini@chfa.ca).

### GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

#### **CHFA's pre-budget recommendations considered**

In the Finance Committee's 2008 pre-budget recommendation report titled, *Taxing to Prosper: Canada's System of Taxes and Other Charges*, CHFA "asks" were mentioned in seven different instances.

Being invited to participate in the pre-budget process and being subsequently mentioned in the pre-budget recommendation report is a sign of success for any Canadian organization and is an important step in affecting legislative change and in creating awareness for the industry it represents.

The 2008 Federal Budget is now expected at the end of February.

To read the complete report, go to:

[http://cmte.parl.gc.ca/Content/HOC/committee/392/fina/reports/rp3253372/392\\_FINA\\_Rpt03\\_PDF/392\\_FINA\\_Rpt03-e.pdf](http://cmte.parl.gc.ca/Content/HOC/committee/392/fina/reports/rp3253372/392_FINA_Rpt03_PDF/392_FINA_Rpt03-e.pdf)

### REGULATORY AFFAIRS

#### **CHFA Meets with Natural Health Products Directorate**

The CHFA held its first bilateral meeting of 2008 with the NHPD on January 16, 2008 in Ottawa. CHFA President Penny Marrett and Vice President Anne Wilkie, together with seven industry members met with P.Waddington and his staff to discuss ongoing concerns with the interpretation and implementation of the Natural Health Products Regulations. A record of decision reflecting the meeting's discussions and outcomes will be posted shortly on the CHFA website in the Members Only section. A meeting has been scheduled for February 20 with Meena Ballantyne, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Products & Food Branch to elevate industry's concerns with the direction the Natural Health Products Regulations are taking.

#### **NHPD Management Advisory Committee Meeting**

The NHPD Management Advisory Committee (MAC), met January 17-18 in Ottawa. The MAC is comprised of stakeholders in the natural health products industry mandated with providing advice and guidance to the NHPD on the implementation of the Natural Health Products Regulations. Anne Wilkie is the CHFA's representative on this committee. Topics of discussion included product and site licensing issues and updates, monograph development, impending compliance activities for the NHP industry, and the relationship between other program Directorates and the NHPD. Presentations from this meeting will be posted shortly in the Members' Only section of the CHFA website.

### NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS

#### **Database for natural health products nearing completion**

The Natural Health Products Directorate expects to launch its Natural Health Products Ingredients Database (NHPID) this year. In the meantime, it is asking NHP

stakeholders, particularly product licence applicants, to use and familiarize themselves with the NHPID demo and to provide any feedback.

The Natural Health Products Ingredients Database is available at:

<http://205.193.93.55/IngredientDatabase/homeRequest.do>

Username: nhpdemo

Password: nhpd1

Feedback should be in the form of a Change Request Form which can be requested by writing to [ingredient\\_support@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:ingredient_support@hc-sc.gc.ca). There is also a draft guidance document available as well. These documents are currently only available in English. However, these documents will be available in both official languages, as will the final version of the database, once the NHPID is officially launched on the Health Canada website this year.

### **Health Canada warns of imported natural health products containing lead**

Health Canada advised consumers not to use various imported products promoted as natural health products as there are concerns about possible side-effects or about containing toxic chemicals or metals.

While these products are not authorized for sale in Canada and have not been found in the Canadian marketplace, they could have been purchased over the Internet or obtained through personal importation.

A number of products were found to contain potentially levels of arsenic, lead or mercury as advised the Health Sciences Authority of Singapore.

For a complete list, go to [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/advisories-avis/fpa-ape\\_2008/index\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/advisories-avis/fpa-ape_2008/index_e.html)

### **Herbal supplement assists heart patients**

The New York Times reported the results of a review where researchers concluded the herbal supplement hawthorn extract is effective in treating symptoms of chronic heart failure. The paper was published in the Jan. 23 in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. The herb was particularly better than placebos in improving exercise endurance and the strength of heart muscle contractions. However, the lead author and deputy director of complementary medicine at the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth in England, Dr. Max H. Pittler, warned that patients should not imagine hawthorn is a substitute for regular care.

Source:

[www.nytimes.com/2008/02/05/health/research/05regi.html?\\_r=2&oref=slogin&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/05/health/research/05regi.html?_r=2&oref=slogin&oref=slogin)

### **Australian industry group calls for tougher regulations**

A natural products industry association in the Australia, Ethical Complementary Medicines (ECM), has thrown its weight behind a debate over tighter regulation of "alternative" products. The debate started over a paper published in the *Medical Journal of Australia* where La Trobe University academic Ken Harvey, analysed weight-loss products listed by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, and found claims made for the weight-loss products they identified were "often not in accord with the limited scientific evidence available."

An article in the newspaper, *The Australian*, quoted ECM Chief Executive Carl Thompson as saying, the regulatory system "should be changed so that the public can be told clearly whether or not there is scientific evidence to support the efficacy of a particular product".

Source: [www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,23068700-23289,00.html](http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,23068700-23289,00.html)

### **EVENTS**

#### **I.E. Canada's 3rd Annual Food Forum**

I.E. Canada, Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters, invites members of the food industry to attend the third annual Food Forum, February 20, Toronto Airport Hilton.

The goal of the forum is to update participants on Health Canada and CFIA policies, programs, and compliance initiatives undertaken in 2007/2008 and to provide information on other government programs. This year includes specific information and focus on the hot topic of imported food and product safety. Through this Forum, Canadian food importers and manufacturers will be better prepared to respond to the Agency's initiatives, resulting in an increased level of compliance and product purchasing.

The Honorable Minister Tony Clement, Minister of Health is the opening keynote speaker. In addition, Debra Bryanton, Executive Director of the CFIA, will give an update on CFIA's activities and future plans, and Janet Beauvais, Director General of Health Canada, will provide an update from Health Canada's perspective and provide information on the Food and Product Import Safety Guide. David Acheson from the U.S. FDA provides a perspective south of the border.

CHFA is involved as a cross promotional partner for this event. CHFA members will receive I.E. Canada's membership rate when registering, a savings of \$100 per delegate.

Visit the following link for a copy of the agenda and registration details:

[www.iecanada.com/events/2008/food\\_forum/2008\\_food\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.iecanada.com/events/2008/food_forum/2008_food_brochure.pdf)

### **APPOINTMENTS**

The Honourable Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and Minister for the Canadian Wheat Board, announced the appointment of Ian White as President and



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Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB). Mr. White has been appointed for a three-year term starting March 31, 2008.

Source: [www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index\\_e.php?s1=n&s2=2008&page=n80130](http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index_e.php?s1=n&s2=2008&page=n80130)

### **JOB POSTINGS**

CHFA member, DSA Consultant Services Limited, has two positions available in their Burlington, ON office. The positions are Quality Consultant and Regulatory Affairs Consultant. Full details are available on the CHFA website at [www.chfa.ca](http://www.chfa.ca) under "Job Postings."

### **Thanks for Reading!**

CHFA e-News is a bi-monthly member publication produced by the Canadian Health Food Association. It provides a quick summary of Association news and the latest developments in the natural and organic products industry. Please contact [Natalie Cajic](#), Communications Coordinator, for questions/comments or suggestions on content. CHFA e-News is archived on the [CHFA website](#) in the "Publications" section.