

CONNECTING THE PIECES



March 2018

Specialty/Renewable Chemical Ingredient (SCI) Initiative's E-News and Upcoming Events

Welcome to the e-news update and highlights of the Specialty/Renewable Chemical Ingredients (SCI) Initiative, a unique government-industry collaborative business development cluster in Alberta focused specifically on the development and commercialization of high-value innovative products and sustainable specialty chemicals from renewable biomass. SCI operates within Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) as part of an effort to facilitate growth of high-value non-food products and ingredients from agriculture. The SCI e-news is distributed occasionally to highlight past and upcoming SCI activities and events.

Inside SCI e-Update:

- **SPOTLIGHT: BPIC Grand Opening in Edmonton**
- **Announcement: Leading North American herb associations promote Good Agricultural and Collection Practices**
- **Funding Update**
- **Upcoming Events**

Our SPOTLIGHT is ON: BPIC

Last fall, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry celebrated the grand opening of the **Bio Processing Innovation Centre (BPIC)** in Edmonton, a new 10,000 sq ft pilot-scale facility and labs that house state-of-the-art equipment. BPIC will help diversify and grow Alberta's bioeconomy and help position Alberta as a national and global bioeconomy leader by providing expertise and tools to equip start-ups to meet global consumer and market demand. (see page 2)

Leading North American herb associations promote Good Agricultural and Collection Practices GACPs provide a framework to help growers, harvesters, and processors ensure quality

Published: Monday, March 5, 2018

SILVER SPRING, MD - The American Herbal Products Association (AHPA) and the Canadian Herb, Spice and Specialty Agriculture Association (HSSA) encourage the use of recognized Good Agricultural and Collection Practices in the North American herbal products market. With herbal product manufacturers increasingly sourcing plant material on a global basis, AHPA and HSSA are recommending the consistent use of Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GACP) as the herbal industry standard for North America. GACP practices provide a framework for growers, harvesters, and processors so they can ensure that herbal raw materials used in consumer products are accurately identified, not adulterated with contaminants that may present a health risk, fully conform to all quality characteristics and respect ethical and environmental principles.

[See the full announcement online.](#)

Bio Processing Innovation Centre (BPIC) in Edmonton, Alberta helps diversify and grow Alberta's bioeconomy

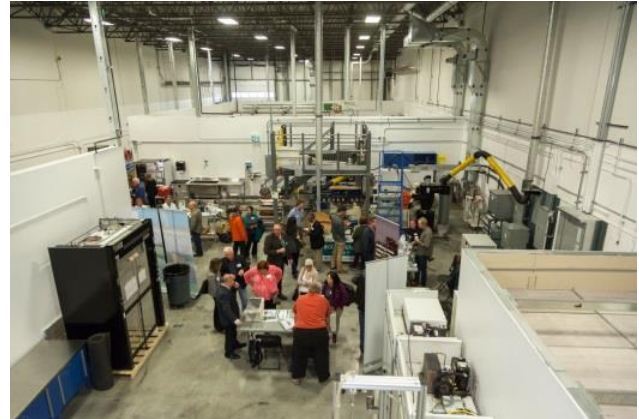
December 2017



Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Assistant Deputy Ministers Jamie Curran and Lisa Sadownik cut the industrial hemp rope at the grand opening of the Bio Processing Innovation Centre (BPIC), in Edmonton, Alberta. Congratulations to Food and Bio-Processing Branch Executive Director Ken Gossen, Bio-Industrial Opportunities Section Director Hong Qi and her technical and industry development staff.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry recently celebrated the grand opening of the Bio Processing Innovation Centre (BPIC) in Edmonton, a new 10,000 sq ft pilot-scale facility and labs that house state-of-the-art equipment. BPIC will help diversify and grow Alberta's bioeconomy and help position Alberta as a national and global bioeconomy leader by providing expertise and tools to equip start-ups to meet global consumer and market demand.

Over 150 attendees helped celebrate the grand opening, including stakeholders from the bio-industry and industry associations, academia and research institutions as well as federal and provincial governments. It is clear that the Alberta bioeconomy is strong, vibrant and ready for rapid growth through collaborations and partnerships. ACIDF (Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund Ltd) is a strong supporter to build value-added processing capacity for the province and BPIC received significant assistance with enhanced drying and processing/fractionation scale-up capabilities.



Over 150 stakeholders helped celebrate BPIC grand opening.

New opportunities, maximizing value, facilitating commercialization

As part of the government's focus on innovation for value-added diversification and job creation, BPIC helps enhance the value of Alberta's abundant renewable resources (agriculture and forestry biomass feedstocks) to drive commercialization of new products and processes. We aim to help companies accelerate their research and development efforts, reduce risk and increase commercial successes by providing technical expertise and access to labs and pilot-scale equipment.

BPIC provides essential value-added product development and scale-up support and services to Alberta companies for fibre cleaning and refinement, grain fractionation, separation, extraction, polymerization and extrusion. With a natural health product (NHP) site license from Health Canada, the facility can assist companies in developing and scaling up the manufacture of cosmetics, personal care products and NHPs. Our unique to Alberta processing equipment helps provide proof-of-concept for new products, processes and technologies.

One of the strengths of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Bio-Industrial Opportunities Section staff and the new BPIC facility, is our ability to work alongside companies to provide practical solutions to their ongoing challenges.



BPIC has a uniquely integrated team of scientists, engineers and industry development professionals.

The bio-economy in Alberta is growing

Of the 315 value-added agriculture products and ingredients developed and successfully introduced to market with assistance from Agriculture and Forestry, nearly one in 10 are bio-processed. A 34% increase over previous year. (Source: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry 2016-17 Annual Report)

You might ask—*“that’s impressive, but so what?”* These products- be it a wood pellet, hemp panel for green building industry or a bioactive ingredient that goes into a natural health or personal care product, helps add-value to Alberta’s agricultural and forestry resources by using every single fibre and chemical from the crops and trees that are harvested. The products that are made are renewable and environmentally friendly, helping to displace and improve equivalent products that are traditionally made using fossil fuels.



Food and Bio-Processing Branch Executive Director Ken Gossen acknowledging staff and looking forward to future bio-industrial opportunities.

In a world where consumers are increasingly conscious of materials sourcing and environmental sustainability, these Alberta developed bio-based solutions will ultimately satisfy consumer demand and help to diversify and expand our economy.

Contact us today with your ideas, questions or for a tour of our Bio Processing Innovation Centre (BPIC) pilot-scale facility located at 5520 36 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Our uniquely integrated team of scientists, engineers and industry development professionals are happy to help connect you. Check out our [website](#) for more information on our areas of expertise, equipment, application forms and fee schedule.

For more information:

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Funding Updates

Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) program suite in Alberta

Beginning in April, a phased roll-out of 15 programs over the spring, summer and fall of 2018. *For more details and to receive CAP program announcements as they occur, click on the orange ‘subscribe’ button in the CAP website: [Canadian Agriculture Partnership \(CAP\)](#)*

AAFC CAP Program

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is accepting applications for the **federal** Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) program. *Program details and links to application forms can be found [online](#).*

Farm Energy and Agri-Processing (FEAP) Program

The Program is designed to encourage energy management which will result in cost savings, energy conservation, and ultimately, reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Program details are available [online](#)

Alberta Innovates - [Alberta Bio Future \(ABF\) Opportunities Program](#) is open with a continuous intake. Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2019.

Alberta Industry Directories

[BioAlberta Industry Directories:](#)

* Alberta Bioindustrial Directory 2017

* Alberta Functional Foods & Natural Health Products Directory V2.0

Upcoming Events

Alberta

April 23-24, 2018

[AccelerateAB 2018](#)

Edmonton, AB

May 27-31, 2018

[101st Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition](#)

Shaw Conference Centre

Edmonton, AB

****A one-day Industry Symposium:**

[Pathways to Success for Green Fuels and Chemicals - Industry Speaks](#) is planned for

May 29 as part of this conference.

Symposium sponsor, Alberta Innovates is offering a special \$100 CAD discount for individuals from industry to attend. For the discount code and more information on symposium agenda and '2 Minute Company Pitch Session' contact [Dr. Christine Murray](#) or +1-403-382-7188. Early registration deadline is April 24, 2018.

June 6-8, 2018

[INVENTURES\\$](#)

Calgary, AB

National/International

May 9-11, 2018

[The 8th ICIS World Surfactants Conference](#)

Hyatt Regency Jersey City

NJ

May 14-18, 2018

[Natural Health Product Research Society of Canada 2018 Annual Conference](#)

Guelph, ON

May 15-16, 2018

[NYSCC Suppliers Day 2018](#)

Javits Convention Centre

NYC

May 16-18, 2018

[9th Sustainable Cosmetics Summit NA](#)

Park Central New York

NYC

June 27-28, 2018

Natural Products Canada

[Nutrition Capital Network & NPC Investor Meeting](#)

Toronto, ON

October 17-18, 2018

[In-cosmetics North America](#)

NYC

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Thanks!