



AGRICULTURE COUNCIL
OF SASKATCHEWAN INC.

NEWS RELEASE

Food Professionals Management Program announces first graduates

Saskatoon (April 16, 2009) – The Agriculture Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (ACS) is proud to introduce the first graduates from the Food Professionals Management Program, a pilot program funded through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Saskatchewan (ACAAFS) program.

In partnership with food industry consultants and faculty from the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture and Bioresources, ACS started the Food Professionals Management Program to provide businesses and organizations within Saskatchewan's burgeoning food processing industry with knowledge and hands-on exercises to improve and expand their businesses. The ten graduates of the first program come from various organizations and backgrounds within Saskatchewan's agri-food sector.

"This was a successful program for the participants and for ACS," said Bryan Kosteroski, ACS Value Chain Specialist. "The program was designed to be practical and directly applicable to the unique needs of each participant. From the feedback we have received, the program provided valuable industry knowledge and information on current trends that will directly benefit the businesses of those involved. There is clearly demand for this type of training and we are now evaluating the program and hope to continue it in the future."

The Food Professionals Management Program is aimed at executives, managers and representatives of retailers, food processors, food service organizations and other agri-businesses. The program was delivered from January to April of 2009, with two days of training and hands-on exercises devoted to each of the four modules.

The graduation ceremony will take place in room 1E80 of the University of Saskatchewan's Agriculture Building on Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call (306) 975-6847, toll free at 1-800-641-8256, send an E-mail to info@agcouncil.ca, or go to our website at www.agcouncil.ca.

- 30 -

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