

InFARMation

Yukon Agriculture Branch Quarterly Bulletin
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**Yukon**

North of 60 Agriculture Conference

Yukon's 2018 agriculture conference took place at Yukon College from Friday evening November 2 until Sunday November 4. The conference continues to evolve with support from the Yukon agriculture community and outside support from Farm Credit Canada, which sponsored a few door prizes and coffee for the weekend.

One of the notable changes to the conference weekend was that Yukon Agricultural Association held its annual general meeting on the Sunday afternoon following the conference. This demonstrated how government and industry are collaborating to create synergies during agriculture events.

Yukon Young Farmers (YYF) were also involved over the weekend and sponsored Friday night, providing chili and buns for the Friday night kickoff. This also provided YYF a platform to talk about their role and to highlight their seasonal program of events and sponsors.

The young farmers also worked directly with the Agriculture Branch to help develop the agenda they provided ideas on what the conference and schedule should look like. The Yukon Hog Producers' Association provided input with a request for pig specific topics, resulting in two experts from Alberta presenting a range of swine-related topics.

The Yukon government's Animal Health Unit started the conference on the Friday night with a talk on biosecurity. The key take home messages were:

- Create a separation from anyone or anything that could carry disease onto your farm
- Using best management practices to reduce the chance of a disease being carried onto and off your property by people, animals, equipment or vehicles.

The conference agenda then moved to the topic of traceability and provided an overview of how Yukon administers the Premises Identification (PID) program and information about the PigTrace Program.

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Director's Message

As I sit down to write this message for our winter newsletter, I find myself reflecting on this winter weather. The first part of winter saw warm ocean currents from the Pacific bringing in above average temperatures and higher humidity, but unfortunately very little snow. Now that we are back into some more normal weather, with the lack of snow leaves one to wonder what this means for the upcoming growing season.

While Yukon cycles through wet and dry years, we tend to be semi-arid throughout the course of the year. We may see years of higher precipitation. Dugouts, wells and irrigation systems will help to provide needed water when mother nature misses the mark. Either way, please look for opportunities to access and store water.

For our commercial farmers, just a reminder to please touch base with our office. We can help with best management practices and potential funding opportunities, specifically around water management.

We continue to hear some issues with wild elk in the Takhini Valley. Contact our office if elk are a nuisance for your farm. We want to hear from you.

In the fall, the domestic sheep and goat control order was announced, it will come in to effect in early 2020. This order sets out rules to keep all domestic and wild sheep and goats separated to reduce the risk of disease transmission to our vulnerable wild sheep herds. The control order will be jointly coordinated between the Animal Health Unit and the Agriculture Branch.

We continue our work on the Agriculture Policy. Please feel free to send me an email or call if you have anything you want to discuss about the policy. The *What We Heard* document is available on our webpage. We are working with the Agriculture Industry Advisory Committee through the winter to develop an updated policy that will guide Yukon agriculture into the next decade.

Please continue to seek and buy local foods whenever you can. We are seeing more products in the market and by choosing local we support our industry.

Matthew Ball
Director, Agriculture Branch

Animal Health Unit Animal Care Survey and Engagement

The Animal Health Unit asked Yukoners about animal care this fall. A survey and public meetings provided feedback on how Yukoners view the control and protection of domestic animals. The results will help update the legal framework governing the responsibilities for animal care. While dog care has proven to be a key area, the survey and meetings also addressed feral and exotic animals, enforcement and animal organizations.

The information gathered will shape an update to the territory's laws and standards for domestic animals, with a focus on pets, but could also affect Yukon's farming community. The Animal Health Unit is compiling the results into recommended changes which will be discussed with the public and other stakeholders in the coming months. Although a date has not been set, the Animal Health Unit plans to consult with the Yukon's agriculture industry directly in the next months.

If you have any questions, please contact the Animal Health Unit:

(867) 667-5600 or
1-800-661-0408, ext 5600
Government of Yukon
P.O. Box 2703 (V-7)
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 2C6
animalhealth@gov.yk.ca.



North of 60 Agriculture Conference cont...

Alberta experts Dr. Julia Keenlside and Dr. Frank Marshall took over the Friday night presentation, which spilled over to Saturday and covered a wide range of pig health topics. Julia and Frank brought with them a wealth of knowledge and experience from the Alberta pig industry. Over the weekend, local farmers were able to glean the tips and tricks they need to help improve the health of their operations.

The talks were well attended and averaged about 40 attendees each. The audience changed when the topic moved from pigs to permaculture. Zach Loeks and Mount Lorne grower Agnes Seitz presented their ideas of growing in the north using permaculture principles, which attracted a slightly different audience. Zach, the author of "The Permaculture Market Garden" shared his ideas on the importance of growing using regenerative principles. Zach also hosted a three-hour workshop on Sunday morning that centered on how you can design a market garden that mimics its own ecosystem and improves soil health.

Agnes shared her learnings on adopting a permaculture approach to the "forest garden" that she built on her property. What Agnes has learned from her operation could have filled the whole day, but thanks to her fast pace and exuberant energy, she inspired the audience on how Yukoners can grow sustainably.

The conference concluded Sunday afternoon with a presentation from Kristine Ferris on the highlights of her Yukon Hay Production Best Management Practices study. The conference wrapped up with the annual general meeting of the Yukon Agricultural Association.

Thanks you to all who participated. Please share your ideas for next years conference.

The Corner L.O.T.

Land, Opportunities & Tidbits from the Agriculture Branch's Lands Unit

Commercial Agricultural Lots for Sale

The Agriculture Branch is currently offering soil based agriculture lots in the following area:

- Murray agricultural subdivision, in the Ibex Valley, west of Whitehorse. Three soil based agriculture lots approximately 63 ha (156 acres) in size are available. These lots have an upfront cost of \$29,950.36 + GST and a minimum farm investment cost over seven year agreement for sale period of \$378,094.12.

The parcels are part of a planned agriculture land release and will be sold using an evaluative process. Project plans will be evaluated with an offer of sale to the applicants who demonstrate the clearest understanding of developing a sustainable commercial farming enterprise.

Corner L.O.T. Hot Topic!

Q. Can firewood only be coniferous?

A. No, deciduous is a viable option too.

With fuel wood prices reaching \$300 per cord for coniferous species. Is it now an appropriate time to look at BTU heat produced from locally available but presently disregarded alternatives?

How aspen and willow compare to the main fuel wood used by Yukon residents.

| Wood Type | Millions of BTU per cord |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Willow | 17.6 |
| Aspen | 18 |
| Spruce | 15.5 |
| Pine species | 14.3-21.1 |

BTU equals British thermal unit (dried to 20%)

Aspen produces more heat than spruce, so is it just a myth Aspen is not a fuel wood? Something to think about as we clear land for agriculture.

Ref: www.firewood-for-life.com

Yukon's 2018 Farmers of the Year

Each year, Yukon's Agriculture Branch highlights a farm family, farmer, or farm advocate who has made an outstanding contribution to Yukon. Recipients are nominated by their peers for their commitment to, and passion for, local farming.

We received a handful of great nominees for this year's award from across the territory. Nominees and Farmers of the Year are as follows:



Ranj Pillai, Minister responsible for Agriculture presents Scott and Jackie Dickson with Yukon's 2018 Farmers of the Year award

Derrick Hastings and Kate English (Dawson farmers, farm manager and community champions)

Derrick and Kate's nomination points to their dedication to local production. They were instrumental in starting the community garden, they run their own farm, volunteer with the Klondike Conservation Society and Derrick manages the Tr'ondek Hwech'in Farm. Derrick, Katie, and their four kids have been farming for over 10 years near Dawson.

Ralph and Norma Mease (Longtime Mayo farmers and community leaders)

Cornerstones to the agriculture community in Mayo, Ralph and Norma's nomination points to their decades of service to the agriculture industry, and to the mentorship they provide to younger Yukon agriculture enthusiasts.

Sonny and Janelle Grey (Flat Creek Farm and active YAA president)

The nomination points to Sonny's contagious energy, and the work he is putting in as a Yukon Agricultural Association member to help build Yukon agriculture. Sonny and Janelle with their kids farm north of Whitehorse and are actively working to supply meats to new markets.

Sarah Ouellette (Sarah's Harvest and coordinator for Kids on the Farm)

Sarah was nominated for her farm Sarah's Harvest and her active involvement in the community. The nomination points to Sarah's success in developing her market garden vegetable business over the past five years. Sarah attends the Fireweed Community Market, farms full time, is the secretary for Growers of Organic Foods Yukon, and runs the Kids on the Farm program. The Kids on the Farm program has provided thousands of Yukon young people the opportunity to see operating northern farm operations.

2018 Farmers of the Year

Jackie and Scott Dickson (Takhini River Ranch)

In nominating Scott and Jackie as the Yukon's Farmers of the Year for 2018, fellow Yukon producers pointed to the love, care and attention Scott and Jackie show the livestock in their mixed cow-calf operation at their Takhini River Ranch. They have built a viable operation based on hard work, resourcefulness and dedication to neighbours and community.

Jackie takes time to teach, with riding lessons at home or at the riding arena. Scott recently completed his butcher certification, which he completed with honors. They have spent many hours over the last two years getting the butcher shop going on their farm.

Congratulations to Scott, Jackie and all the nominees for the 2018 Yukon Farmers of the Year award.

Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

January 18, 2019

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) introduced new consolidated regulations that simplify and strengthen rules for food in Canada. The Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) came into force on January 15, 2019. Representatives from CFIA held an information session in Whitehorse on January 18 to provide details of the changes.

The key food safety elements of the new consolidated regulations include:

- licensing;
- preventative controls;
- traceability of food products; and
- importing & exporting



These new requirements ensure industry provides safe food, can be innovative and competitive at home and abroad, and is set up to avoid costly recalls. The updates include a mix of prescriptive and outcome-based regulations aimed at ensuring food safety.

The regulations target businesses that ship food across provincial or territorial borders, or import food, or prepare food for export. For these businesses, a license will be required and will need to meet requirements for preventive controls. In addition, food businesses with gross annual food revenues over \$100,000 will be required to submit for approval and maintain a written preventive control plan.

Preventative (food safety) controls mitigate food safety hazards and reduce the likelihood of contaminated food entering the market, whether they are prepared within or outside of Canada. Preventative controls are outcome-based, where possible, to allow for flexibility and innovation. Controls include:

- a hazard analysis and control measures for the hazards associated with food;
- requirements related to treatment processes, establishment conditions, sanitation, pest control, competency, investigation and complaints; and,
- a process for investigation, complaints and recalls.

Traceability tracks the movement of food products one-step forward and one-step back through the supply chain, to protect Canadians during a food safety incident. Traceability measures can reduce the time it takes businesses to remove unsafe food from the market, protecting Canadians. They can also minimize the scope of recalls and reduce the cost of recalls for businesses, and are designed to align with international standards (e.g., Codex)

To find out more information around the SFCR the following is a contact list.

Contacts at the CFIA:

- Food Labelling: cfa.waistsupervisor-superviseurcooesi.acia@canada.ca or (604) 666-6038
- Meat Slaughter, Tammy Lang: tammy.lang@canada.ca or (604) 557-4809
- Meat Processing, Cheryl Vaughan: cheryl.vaughan@canada.ca or (778) 988-2859
- Processing Fruits and Vegetables, Honey, Maple or Eggs: George Ferguson, George.Ferguson@canada.ca or (604) 292-5773
- Fish Processing: Andy Chan, andy.chan@canada.ca or (604) 666-2471
- All other food commodity types: Ken Skibinski – Ken.Skibinski@canada.ca or (250) 470-5124

The CFIA website www.inspection.gc.ca/safefood has additional information that can help you with the changes in the new regulation and if you need a license or a preventative control plan. There are many tools available on the website, including guides and templates for preparing a preventive control plan.

Meet Your Maker

January 14, 2019

Judging by the energy and enthusiasm in the room, Meet Your Maker Event 2019 was a huge success. This annual networking event took place the evening of January 14 at the Best Western Gold Rush Inn in Whitehorse.

The concept behind Meet Your Maker is to facilitate business connections between Yukon farmers, producers and processors to local caterers, retailers, restaurant, hotels, resorts, food service suppliers and folks doing food procurement.

Meet Your Maker is co-hosted by Yukon Agricultural Association and Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon. The event brings both suppliers and buyers together to help promote the inclusion of locally grown food in Yukon menus. Energy, Mines and Resources and Economic Development Minister Ranj Pillai opened the evening, welcoming everyone and emphasizing the collaboration between Yukon's agriculture and food service and tourism industries.

This year's Meet Your Maker event also helped to launch the 2019 Culinary Festival, which will take place August 1 to 4. Miche Genest, member of the planning committee, chatted with many Yukon farmers and chefs about how they can contribute and participate in the summer food extravaganza. Planning meetings with suppliers will take place in April.

Over 100 people attended this year's Meet Your Maker with an equal split between those representing sellers and buyers. The room featured 20 booths providing businesses with a table to share samples and show off their products and services. Adding to the buzz and excitement, four Yukon chefs were on hand demonstrating how they utilize local ingredients to create unique northern dishes.

Representatives from Yukon Agricultural Association and Yukon Young Farmers facilitated many introductions and promoted other Yukon farmers with a live demo of the Yukon Farm Products and Services Guide.

Many who participated this year are looking to save the date for next year. If you want to learn more about the next Meet Your Maker, as well as the Culinary Festival, contact Jennifer Hall, Executive Director, Yukon Agricultural Association. admin@yukonag.ca, (867) 668-6864.

In addition, check out Miche Genest's article about the Meet Your Maker event on the First We Eat webpage. <http://firstweeat.ca/2019/01/18/meet-your-maker/>



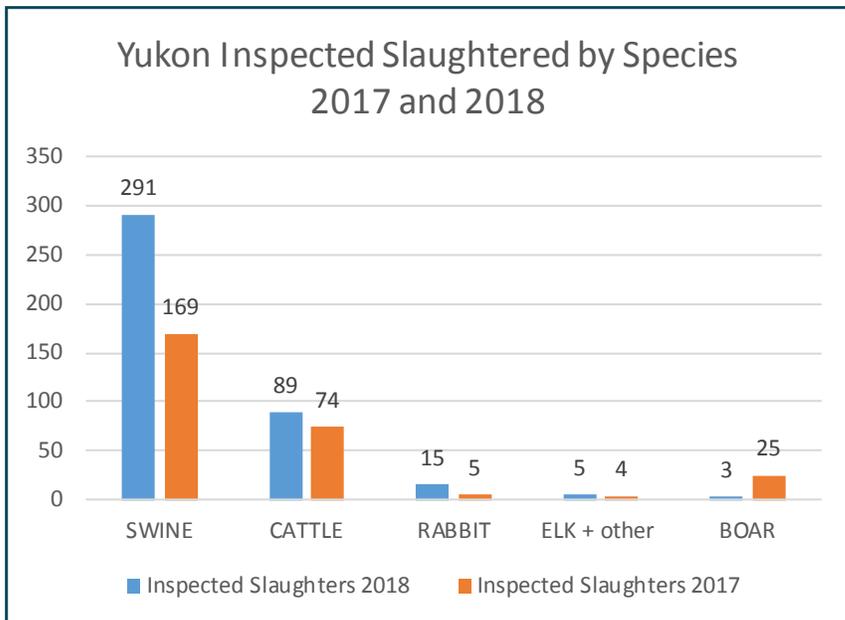
Inspected Meat Slaughters Continue to Grow in Yukon

The stats are in from the inspected slaughters conducted in the two licensed abattoirs in the territory: Naturally Northern Meats and the Yukon Mobile Abattoir, operated by Tum Tum's Black Gilt Meats.

This year saw an increase to 403 slaughters compared to the 277 slaughters conducted in 2017. Pigs, cattle and rabbit all saw marked increases, while Eurasian pig (wild boar) saw a significant decrease. Elk as flat. It is difficult to attribute the growth in inspected slaughter to a single variable. Some possible explanations for the growth of the inspected meats beyond just consumers demanding more are:

- Farmers continue to innovate and figured out the logistics, feed, slaughter and marketing of the meat.
- The service provided by Tum Tum's and Naturally Northern Meats gives farmers a viable alternative to slaughtering on farm. Removing the burden of this process away from the farmer to professionals.
- Slaughter under the inspected process can provide peace of mind that the meat is processed in an inspected facility that mitigates food safety concerns.
- Farmers may be looking at new market opportunities beyond farm gate (although a good portion of the inspected slaughter continues to be sold at the gate).

With more meat going through this process, there has also been a noticeable increase in retail availability of meat products. The following is a list of outlets where some of this inspected products are available: Fireweed Community Market, Super A and Big Way grocery stores, Riverside Grocery, Takhini Gas and BonTon Butcherie and Charcuterie in Dawson.



Super A Foods in Porter Creek, Riverside Grocery and Takhini Gas recently added Y-Bar meats to their shelves. Y-BAR (Yukon Born and Raised) is Dev and Louise Hurlburt of Horse Haven Ranch new brand for their meat businesses

Yukon Government Releases Sheep Control Order

October 30, 2018

The Government of Yukon released a control order, which places rules to keep domestic sheep and goats separated from wild sheep and goats to reduce the risk of transmitting respiratory disease to wildlife. The control order is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2020.

What is a Control Order?

Governments may use control orders to respond to health and safety issues. The Government of Yukon is issuing this control order pursuant to the *Animal Health Act* to balance the responsible development of a domestic sheep and goat industry with protecting the health of wild thin horn sheep and mountain goats.

Why is a Control Order necessary to protect wild sheep and goat health?

Wild thornhorn sheep and mountain goats are at risk of developing respiratory disease if they come into contact with domestic sheep and domestic goats. The disease can spread rapidly within wild sheep and goat populations, causing high numbers of deaths and significantly reducing the size and health of populations.

When is this happening?

The control order comes into effect January 1, 2020. Owners are encouraged to contact the Animal Health Unit and Agriculture Branch for more information and to access government support to comply with the order.



What does this mean for you, if you keep sheep or goats?

If you want to raise sheep and goats in Yukon, you must be in compliance with the Control Order by January 1, 2020.

How to comply with the order:

Before the Control Order comes into effect, sheep and goat owners must ensure their animals are being kept below 1,000 meters in elevation. In addition, all owners of sheep or goats, whether they own a single animal or operate a farm with many animals, must comply with the following conditions:

- all sheep and goats are maintained in an enclosure approved by an inspector before January 1, 2020 and annually thereafter;
- all sheep and goats have some form of permanent identification, e.g., ear tags;
- records are maintained for each individual sheep and goat;
- all sheep and goats are tested annually for pathogens of concern;
- any sheep or goats that escape from an enclosure, or while being transported, must be reported immediately to the chief veterinary officer; and
- sheep and goats can only be moved into Yukon, or out of Yukon, by permit.

Enforcement

Once the control order is in effect, violating the order will be an offence under the *Animal Health Act*. Inspectors will enforce the order. At any time before or after the control order comes into effect, staff from the Animal Health Unit at the Department of Environment and from the Agriculture Branch at the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources are available to provide support to help owners comply with the control order.

Testing/monitoring

As a condition of the control order, all domestic sheep and goats must be tested annually for pathogens of concern that cause respiratory disease. Nasal swabs will be collected from each domestic sheep and goat. If a sheep or goat tests positive on any sample, it will be considered a potential carrier of respiratory disease. In that case, the sheep or goat would be ordered to be destroyed and the owner would be compensated under the *Animal Health Act*. If pathogens of concern are not detected, the animal will be tested again the following year. The cost of all testing will be paid by the Animal Health Unit.



What if I no longer wish to keep sheep or goats?

Sheep and goat owners who choose to no longer keep sheep or goats have two options before the control order comes into effect:

- transfer ownership of their sheep and goat(s) to someone else who will comply with the terms of the control order; or
- slaughter their sheep and goat(s).

Owners who choose to slaughter their sheep and goats before the control order comes into effect may be eligible for compensation. Either option must be completed before January 1, 2020. Otherwise, an owner will be in violation of the *Animal Health Act* and may not be eligible for compensation if their sheep and goats are ordered destroyed or other costs are incurred to comply with the control order after it comes into effect.

Destruction, salvage and compensation after January 1, 2020

If an animal is ordered destroyed in the course of complying with this control order, the owner is eligible to apply for compensation. The amount of compensation is up to a maximum amount as laid out in the federal government's *Compensation for Destroyed Animals Regulations* (SOR/2000-233). To salvage the value of animals ordered destroyed, animals are most likely to be ordered destroyed through slaughter. The presence of Movi, for example, would not reduce the value of meat from the animal. Animals may be placed under a quarantine order under conditions to keep them further separated until they reach an appropriate weight. Farmers will obtain the salvage value based on the animal's live weight. This amount will be deducted from compensation paid under the *Animal Health Act*. The *Animal Health Act* and *Animal Health Regulation* provide further details on compensation, including the appeal process. Contact the Animal Health Unit or Agriculture Branch if you have questions on this process.

What about buying new sheep or goats or moving them on or off my property?

Once the control order comes into effect, you will be required to have a permit to move any domestic sheep or goats into or out of the territory. Domestic sheep and goats can move within the territory from one approved enclosure to another if owners take reasonable steps to prevent the animals from escaping during transport. Owners will be required to keep a record of movements (e.g., animal purchases, sales, or slaughter).

What happens if any of my sheep or goats escape their enclosure?

If a domestic sheep or goat escapes while under your care, you must report the escape immediately to the Chief Veterinary Officer. To report an escaped animal, call 867-667-5600.

Contact:

For general questions about the control order and testing for respiratory pathogens:

Animal Health Unit, Government of Yukon
 (867) 667-5600 or
 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5600
 P.O. Box 2703 (V-7) Whitehorse, YT
 Y1A 2C6
animalhealth@gov.yk.ca

For questions about fencing specifications and support available:

Agriculture Branch Government of Yukon
 (867) 667-5838 or
 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5838
agriculture@gov.yk.ca
 (867) 668-6834.

Canadian Agricultural Partnership



The Canadian Agricultural Partnership rolled out in April 2018 and 80 projects have since been approved for \$629,000 in funding under the program. This has supported Yukon agriculture projects with a total on farm investment over \$1.5 million.

Some of the highlights include continued support for key education, awareness and market opportunities in the territory with funding going to Fireweed Community Market, Kids on the Farm and From the Ground-Up.

Under the Wildlife Prevention program, 13 different farms received funding to help build fencing options to protect their birds, pigs, bees and fruit trees from wildlife.

Six internship opportunities provided funding for on farm training to the next generation of farmers. Funding for these internship were supported under the Agriculture Training Program, which also funded individuals to attend conferences across the country, including three Yukoners who attended the Food Secure Canada National Assembly. The Agriculture and Value-Added Development Program provided \$140,000 in support to farmers and services to purchase equipment such as a pig scalding and dehairer, grain storage and feed bins, nesting boxes and upgrades to butcher shop and meat storage.

The following tables detail the approved funding. The first table shows the number of projects, total costs of projects and approved funding under each program. The second table helps split out the number of projects and funding directed to farmers and producers vs money approved to fund projects by Yukon associations and governments. The final table helps outline how much funding went to infrastructure type projects. These include equipment, structures, fences, dugouts and upgrades to irrigation.

Project Summary as of December 1st, 2018

| Designated Program | # Projects | Total Project Cost | Approved Funding |
|--|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Market Development | 7 | \$173,371 | \$50,102 |
| Agriculture Business | 1 | \$10,000 | \$7,000 |
| Agriculture Training | 14 | \$88,474 | \$40,039 |
| Community Agriculture | 4 | \$200,585 | \$37,530 |
| Yukon Research and Innovation | 2 | \$65,000 | \$50,000 |
| Food Safety | 3 | \$20,218 | \$17,523 |
| Plant/Livestock Health and Biosecurity | 2 | \$31,238 | \$31,238 |
| Wildlife Damage Prevention | 13 | \$70,177 | \$29,362 |
| Agri-Environmental Support | 1 | \$8,000 | \$8,000 |
| Land Utilization | 5 | \$98,081 | \$39,117 |
| Environmental Farm Plan | 12 | \$100,073 | \$52,842 |
| Agriculture and Value-Added Dev | 7 | \$450,650 | \$139,586 |
| Agriculture Awareness | 6 | \$113,941 | \$86,501 |
| Agriculture Education | 3 | \$70,829 | \$39,841 |
| TOTAL | 80 | \$1,500,637 | \$628,682 |



The above images demonstrate some of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership projects funded in Yukon under Wildlife Prevention, Environmental Farm Plan and Land Utilization programs.

Applicants by Type

| Applicant Type | # Applicants | # Projects | Total Project Costs | Approved Funding |
|---|--------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Producers and Processors | 33 | 52 | \$834,747 | \$304,450 |
| Associations | 9 | 17 | \$304,549 | \$149,430 |
| Governments (Territorial, Municipal, First Nations) | 10 | 11 | \$361,341 | \$174,802 |
| Total | 52 | 80 | \$1,500,637 | \$628,682 |

Infrastructure-specific funding

| Designated Programs | # Applicants | # Projects | Total Project Costs | Approved Funding |
|---|--------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Community Agriculture | 4 | 4 | \$200,585 | \$37,530 |
| Food Safety | 2 | 3 | \$5,148 | \$2,453 |
| Wildlife Damage Prevention | 12 | 13 | \$70,177 | \$29,363 |
| Land Utilization | 4 | 4 | \$78,881 | \$32,617 |
| Environmental Farm Plan | 3 | 12 | \$100,073 | \$52,842 |
| Agriculture and Value-Added Development | 5 | 7 | \$450,650 | \$139,586 |
| Total | 30 | 43 | \$905,514 | \$294,391 |

If you have any questions on the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program or how you can access funding support, please contact the Agriculture Branch or visit our website agriculture. www.emr.gov.yk.ca/agriculture/canadian-agricultural-partnership.html

Exporting Your Agriculture Products

The Yukon government's Department of Economic Development's Business and Industry Development Branch hosted a Trade Forum in Whitehorse, at MacBride Museum January 17. The information presented at the forum was of interest to producers who are or may be considering exporting their products. It highlighted the many programs and services available to Yukoners. The forum included representation from a variety of agencies with expertise in trade and export, including:

- Global Affairs Canada: Trade Commissioner Service
- Consulate General of Canada in Seattle
- Export Development Canada
- Department of Economic Development
- Department of Energy, Mines and Resources – Agriculture Branch
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency

The Trade Commissioner Service and the Consulate General of Canada's office in Seattle presented as key contacts for those looking for export opportunities and which markets are easiest to access. Export Development Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada spoke to how they can help develop and position your product or business for foreign trade.

To round things off, a representative from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency explained their role in making sure products are safe for export and which foreign countries may have additional food safety or labeling requirements. The presenters had a wealth of specific information to share and tools that support accessing a trade opportunity.

A result of the trade forum is that we now have a list of the names, offices and websites to contact or visit if you are thinking of trade. For those who did not have the chance to attend, Economic Development's Business and Industry Development Branch is taking the lead for Yukoners thinking about trade, and can point you in the right direction, share the right contact and help you develop your export idea.

The forum provided a good reminder that Yukon businesses should take some time to consider the potential of foreign markets. There are exciting markets abroad looking for Canadian products, but the cost of doing business and the additional steps involved in exporting products should not be underestimated.



Cheese photos in this edition of InFARMediation are courtesy of Jen and Loren Sadler of Klondike Valley Creamery. The Dawson Creamery started offering a variety of artisan cheese and yogurt to the local market this summer.

InFARMediation is: A Yukon government newsletter published by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Agriculture Branch. If you would like to add or remove your name from the newsletter mailing list, comment on an article, contribute a story, or post an advertisement, please feel free to contact us.

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(867) 667-5838 | Fax: (867) 393-6222,
toll-free outside of Whitehorse
1-800-661-0408 ext. 5838

Email: agriculture@gov.yk.ca

Online: www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca