

September 24, 2015

Ag-West Bio Taste of Innovation showcases Saskatchewan food companies at Annual Meeting at Prairieland Park

Saskatoon, SK: Ag-West Bio hosts its Annual Meeting at Prairieland Park, September 24, 2015. The meeting will be followed by "A Taste of Innovation," a showcase of food companies and a networking reception.

A special presentation will feature Neal Carter, president of Okanagan Specialty Fruits (OSF). Carter will tell the story of the development, deregulation and marketing of the company's nonbrowning Arctic® apple. OSF labs are located in the National Research Council facility in Saskatoon.

Wilf Keller, President and CEO of Ag-West Bio, says scientific research is crucial for moving Saskatchewan's agriculture industry beyond just exporting commodities.

"Saskatchewan has become very good at growing crops and selling commodities. The next step is to add value to those raw materials through processing. This is in line with the Province of Saskatchewan's Value Added Strategy. We are happy to showcase outstanding companies developing innovative food products at this event."

Bill Greuel, Assistant Deputy Ministry, Regulatory and Innovation for Saskatchewan's Ministry of Agriculture will bring greetings from the Government of Saskatchewan.

Other Saskatchewan food industry players will discuss the process of moving a food product to market. Rick Green, Vice-President Technology at POS Bio-Sciences, and Shannon Hood-Niefer Vice President, Innovation and Technology at the Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre, who will talk about their companies' roles in helping food companies get products ready for market.

The details:

Thursday, September 24, 2015 Prairieland Park (Hall A) 503 Ruth St. W, Saskatoon, SK

Registration: 1:30 pm Annual Meeting: 2:00 pm

Following the presentations (4:00 pm), please stay for the networking reception, where you will be treated to delicious samples from some of our food ingredient companies.

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About Ag-West Bio:

Ag-West Bio is a membership-based organization located at Innovation Place in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The company works as a catalyst for developing partnerships and industry growth in the bio-economy through investments, aiding strategic alliances, and providing business planning support, regulatory advice and communications. Funding for Ag-West Bio is provided by Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Growing Forward, and Western Economic Diversification Canada. For more information, please visit the website: www.agwest.sk.ca