

## **CFSEA OBTAINS FUNDING FOR A FOOD SAFETY INITIATIVE**

At the June 17, 2001 meeting of the CFSEA National Board of Directors, members were informed about federal funding that is available to national associations to develop food safety initiatives. The funds are available through the Canadian Food Safety Adaptation Program (CFSAP) that is administered by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Board members discussed how CFSEA might benefit from the Program while building on its networking and education focus. It agreed to form a committee to look into developing a national HACCP-based food safety standard for volume feeding operations that might eventually be the basis of a national HACCP certification program for the volume-feeding sector; building the standard would need to link with our networking and education activity.

Since then, the committee applied for and received \$35,000 to do a situation analysis and report to help the National Board decide how it wishes to proceed. Specifically, the funding contributes to costs incurred between July 12 and November 15 for:

1. A contract to:
  - Prepare a survey for various segments of the institutional foodservice market regarding their current HACCP programs, training and awareness, and report on survey findings. Large, medium and small contract and self-operated food service organizations in organizations such as healthcare, school and campus feeding, remand feeding, business dining, prisons, and military establishments will be surveyed (includes facilities using conventional systems as well as those that have implemented food safety systems).
  - Identify a minimum of 3 generic-type operations that currently have HACCP programs which self-monitor for a continuous approach to food safety.
2. A facilitated food safety workshop to precede the October 27 and 28 CFSEA National Board meeting. The workshop will include speakers on food safety, presentation and discussion of the contracted survey report, and development of recommendations for next steps for consideration by the National Board at its meeting.

The survey and report have been contracted to Allison Miner Consulting. The food safety workshop will take place in Ottawa on October 26 and 27.

A Steering Committee has been formed to develop a plan, apply for funding, oversee contract work, and develop an agenda for the workshop. You will find the Committee's Terms of Reference at the end of this note. Committee Members are: Nicole Gardiner (Halifax-Dartmouth) - alternate is Ted Musset; Elaine Robichaud (Moncton); Isabel Clark, CFE (Ottawa) - alternate is Theo Hunter; Colleen Koch-McDonald, CFE (Manitoba); Marlee Loiselle, CFE (Vancouver); Jennifer Hill, CFE (Ex-Officio). The Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association has been invited to send a representative. Nicole and Elaine have agreed to Co-chair the group. The committee will keep you informed through the newsletter, the web site, and your National Director.

Jennifer Hill, CFE

CFSEA National President

July 15, 2001

**TERMS OF REFERENCE  
- STEERING COMMITTEE -**

**Roles and responsibilities:**

- Reports to CFSEA National Executive
- Manages contract awarding process (incl. preparation and dissemination of RFP, evaluation of submissions, recommendation to National Executive re contract winner)
- Oversight and guidance to contractor
- Ensures time lines are met
- Organizes October 2001 workshop

**Composition:**

- Four to six people
- CFSEA members; may include one non-CFSEA member
- Maximizes cross-Canada representation
- Maximizes representation of all possible expertise (e.g., suppliers, operators, production managers, service providers, educators, technical experts)
- National President is ex-Officio member

**Chair:** Chosen by members

**Meeting frequency:** Monthly or more often, as required

**Note:** As impartial representatives of the association, Steering Committee Members and/or their employers and/or partners/associates and/or firms may not bid on contracts to be awarded (i.e. arm's length should prevail)

Accepted by the Food Safety Project Steering Committee, July 13, 2001