

PROVISION COALITION

PROCESSING FOOD SUSTAINABLY

Provision Coalition Introduces First Elected Board and Welcomes Meena Hassanali at Inaugural AGM

For immediate release

June 13, 2013

Guelph – Friday, June 7, 2013 was a day of firsts for Provision Coalition. The organization held its first Annual General Meeting since becoming a not-for-profit corporation, and its members voted in their first elected Board of Directors. The day also included a discussion of plans, strategies and goals for the newly incorporated organization as well as a formal welcome for Meena Hassanali, the Coalition's new Program Manager.

The following members were elected to serve as Provision Coalition's Board of Directors:

- Robert Cash, Board Chair, Canadian Oilseed Processors Association
- Paul Hetherington, Vice Chair, Baking Association of Canada
- Ron Campbell, Treasurer, Ontario Agri Business Association
- Steve Peters, Director, Alliance of Ontario Food Processors
- Walter Kraus, Director, Baking Association of Canada
- Christina Lewis, Director, Ontario Dairy Council
- Daphne Nuys-Hall, Director, Ontario Independent Meat Council

"It is tremendously exciting to see everything coming together," said Cher Mereweather, Executive Director of Provision Coalition. "The Board had a very productive first meeting, and I am extremely grateful to them and to all of our member associations. Provision Coalition has evolved to better fulfill its mandate, and the hard work and support of our Board and membership made it possible."

Provision also used its AGM to officially welcome Meena Hassanali as its new Program Manager. Meena will work on a variety of initiatives on behalf of the food and beverage manufacturing industry, including the Processing Food Sustainably program.

Holding a Master's degree in Environmental Studies, with a focus on Business and Sustainability, Meena has an impressive resume, which includes nine years with the Bloom Centre for Sustainability (BLOOM). While at BLOOM, Meena managed various industrial sustainability programs including its award-winning On-site Technical Assistance Program.

"Meena's wealth of experience and industry knowledge made her the ideal choice when selecting a Program Manager to successfully deliver Provision Coalition's programs," said Mereweather. "I am thrilled to welcome her to the Provision team, and am confident that she will help drive our mission of being recognized as the leading voice on sustainability for the food and beverage manufacturing industry."

About Provision Coalition

Provision Coalition is a coalition of 11 member associations representing the sustainability interests of food and beverage manufacturing and input supply sectors in Canada. Providing valuable resources, programming and advocacy, Provision is the industry's leading voice on sustainability. Provision utilizes science, economics and the expertise of its members to ensure the competitiveness and long-term prosperity of the industry. Founded under the federal-provincial-territorial initiative Growing Forward, Provision helps its members enjoy the economic, environmental and social benefits that come with operating in a sustainable manner.

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