



News Release

Delta Chamber supports farmers through BC Chamber resolution on product labeling

DELTA, B.C. (June 17, 2008) The farmers of Delta, and across the province, have the support of many chambers of commerce in BC around the lack of clarity in labeling of produce, drinks and manufactured goods as “Product of Canada”. The BC Chamber of Commerce approved a resolution, submitted by the Delta Chamber of Commerce, at the BC Chamber’s annual general meeting May 22 to 25 in Whistler, BC.

The resolution originally addressed the concerns of farmers and consumers in the labeling of food and drink as “Product of Canada”, when some of those products originate in other countries. The final resolution approved by chambers of commerce and boards of trade, as associations of businesses throughout the province, at the BC Chamber AGM added the manufacturing sector as another area of concern.

The resolution calls for the federal government to correct “Product of Canada” regulations and change existing rules to require goods to state where the product originates or is manufactured and enforce those rules.

“We have worked with local farmers on this resolution, and farmers in other parts of the province and our country,” says Delta Chamber of Commerce President, Maria DeVries. “While it’s important that we support the Agricultural Land Reserve and our local farmers it’s just not enough. We need to talk and act in support of the viability of farmers everywhere. We must give farmers the tools to protect the valuable farming industry. This new policy of the BC Chamber of Commerce is a step towards ensuring that our farmers are able to farm their land now and well into the future. It can lead to a win/win for both the farmer, and the consumer who could be in a better position to make a choice in supporting our local farmers.”

Founded in 1910 the 400-member Delta Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit association which cultivates a healthy environment for business, industry and commerce, and collaborates with governments and interest groups to achieve a sustainable community in Delta, British Columbia.

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For more information contact:
Maria DeVries
President, Delta Chamber of Commerce
Tel. 604-943-8368