

FCPC

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Products of Canada

PACC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FCPC APPLAUDS GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ANNOUNCEMENT ON FOOD AND PRODUCT SAFETY

Toronto, October, 24, 2007 –

Food & Consumer Products of Canada (FCPC) applauds Health Minister Tony Clement for today announcing the government's intention to launch a centralized website on food and product recalls.

"Canadians can have confidence that Canadian food and consumer product manufacturers consider the safety of their products priority number one," said FCPC's President & CEO, Nancy Croitoru. "As an industry, we are proud of our record of partnership with government on safety issues and see today's announcement by Minister Clement as a further strengthening of an already strong safety system," she added.

In addition to a solid record of complying with more than 442 federal and provincial pieces of legislation, Canadian food and consumer product manufacturers also have strict in-house quality assurance protocols.

"Companies in our industry spend vast resources, in technology, time, quality assurance protocols, and training, to ensure the integrity of the system," said Croitoru.

The industry stays on top of product and food safety initiatives by working with government agencies such as the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada on an ongoing basis.

"It's in everyone's best interest to protect the quality and integrity of products sold in Canada and to keep consumer confidence in the industry high," said Croitoru, adding that "Canadian manufacturers will look forward to continued collaboration with the government on this important file."

Food & Consumer Products of Canada (FCPC) is the largest industry association representing Canadian-operated food and consumer product companies that make and market national and retailer brands sold through retail and foodservice outlets. The industry employs approximately 300,000 Canadians across the country, making it the largest employer in the Canadian manufacturing sector, generating \$24 billion annually in GDP (13% of the Manufacturing Gross Domestic Product). On an annual basis, the industry donates an estimated \$100 million in cash donations to charitable causes and over 5 million bags of groceries to food banks in Canada. The industry has a record of embracing world-class regulatory standards and is governed by 442 federal and provincial pieces of legislation, as well as thousands of regulations and self-imposed standards.

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October, 2007