

FACT SHEET

- BC Milk Producers Association is a not for profit organization representing all dairy farmers in British Columbia.
- BCMPA is an advocate with government, media, special interest groups, environmentalists, and other industry associations.
- BCMPA represents approximately 545 commercial dairy producers who milk 72,000 cows daily.
 - These producers are divided into the following eight regions: Fraser Valley, Bulkley Valley, Cariboo, Kootenays, Okanagan, Peace River and North and South Vancouver Island.
 - Delegates from each region are appointed to serve on the BCMPA board of directors for three-year terms.
 - The BCMPA board of directors is made up of fourteen delegates: six from the Fraser Valley, two from Vancouver Island, two from Kamloops-Okanagan, and one from each of the other regions.
- Milk production in BC totalled over 660 million litres in 2009:
 - 73% came from the Fraser Valley, 14 % came from the Okanagan and 9% came from Vancouver Island.
 - The remaining four regions ranged from 0.3 % to 1.4 %.
- Before the BCMPA was around the BC Federation of Agriculture (1937) served as the forum for dairy groups across the province for producers to develop procedures and policies. It has evolved through several stages:
 - *Early 1960s* - creation of BC Federation of Agriculture Dairy Committee, which later became the BC Federation of Dairymen's Association
 - *1987* - BCFDA was incorporated to represent all seven dairy regions in BC
 - *1995* - changed name to BC Milk Producers Association
- BCMPA works closely with the following organizations:
 - *BC Dairy Foundation*: a not for profit organization responsible for promoting fluid milk products and nutrition education in schools.
 - *Dairy Farmers of Canada*: an association that deals with national dairy issues including policy, lobbying and trade, and market development for industrial products.
 - *BC Agriculture Council* and *Canadian Federation of Agriculture*: umbrella groups that work to promote and advocate the collective interests of all agricultural producers in both BC and Canada.
 - Over 35 other groups, committees, and boards throughout the agriculture industry.

- In 2009 farm cash receipts from dairy added \$5.4 billion to the Canadian economy, with BC contributing \$493,000 million. Dairy products are ranked third in BC for agricultural commodities.