

A new organization will represent milk producers

THE *FÉDÉRATION DES PRODUCTEURS DE LAIT DU QUÉBEC* BECOMES *LES PRODUCTEURS DE LAIT DU QUÉBEC* (PLQ)

Quebec City, April 17, 2014/CNW – During the Annual General Meeting of the Fédération des producteurs de lait du Québec (FPLQ), Quebec milk producers founded the new organization that will now represent them. Starting on May 1, *Les Producteurs de lait du Québec (PLQ)* will officially become the organization that represents the some 12,000 milk producers and 6,000 dairy farms in the province.

In the interest of lightening the administrative load and ensuring consistency with the joint provincial milk marketing plan, milk producers decided to group all of their activities within one single legal entity.

“When our predecessors founded the Fédération des producteurs de lait in 1983, they achieved the huge feat of combining four joint plans and merging 28 regional syndicates into just 14, which included both fluid and industrial milk producers and were affiliated with the FPLQ. They were visionaries and we can be proud of our collective achievements. Our new organization, Les Producteurs de lait du Québec, is appropriately named since its members are now directly the some 6,000 dairy farms in Quebec. Our new organization will keep the essence, core and foundations of the old one but represent producers through just one organization and a network of regional groups and delegates connected to its core within one single legal entity,” explained the FPLQ's Chairman, who will in fact become the first chairman of the new organization.

The 14 regional groups set out by the PLQ's by-law will be known as:

- Les Producteurs de lait de l'Estrie
- Les Producteurs de lait de la Côte-du-Sud
- Les Producteurs de lait de Gaspésie-Les Îles
- Les Producteurs de lait de Lanaudière
- Les Producteurs de lait de la Mauricie
- Les Producteurs de lait d'Outaouais-Laurentides
- Les Producteurs de lait du Centre-du-Québec
- Les Producteurs de lait d'Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- Les Producteurs de lait de Québec
- Les Producteurs de lait de la Beauce
- Les Producteurs de lait du Bas-Saint-Laurent
- Les Producteurs de lait du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean
- Les Producteurs de lait de Montérégie-Est
- Les Producteurs de lait de Montérégie-Ouest

Les producteurs de lait du Québec

Les Producteurs de lait du Québec will represent the province's 12,000 milk producers and 6,000 dairy farms. In Quebec alone, the dairy industry creates 83,000 jobs, contributes \$5.5 billion to the GDP and generates \$1.25 billion in tax receipts. In Canada, the dairy industry creates 220,000 jobs, contributes \$16.2 billion to the GDP and generates \$3.2 million in tax receipts for the three levels of government.

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