

Report from the
FOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE
To the 88th Annual General Meeting of the
CANADIAN HORTICULTURAL COUNCIL
Fairmont Château Frontenac, Québec City, Québec
March 5, 2010

**To the President and Members of the
Canadian Horticultural Council**

We have progressed from a series of plans and proposed timelines to implementation and reports on achievements...

We are on the road and gaining experience and momentum ...

This past year has been our first under our new name .. **CanadaGap** ...

Our program has gained credibility and acceptance from not only our own membership, Canadian retailers and buyers, but also, the international community.

Various surveys demonstrate a surprisingly high level of satisfaction from growers across the country and across commodities. Major retailers are working closely with us to develop better market responsive options for our members, the International benchmarking process with Global Food Safety Initiative is almost completed. These are massive accomplishments for only one year of operation.

In order to assure maximum benefit to our membership across the country, we are also on the verge of accommodating multi-certification options for audits. This will allow for competition to exist between auditing firms, and, provide growers with options.

Much remains to be done as we grow both in numbers and in scope. We need to continually evaluate our progress and look at the most efficient and effective governance structure that will carry the program to new levels in the near future.

I must again acknowledge the wonderful work done by our Management Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, and staff particularly Heather, for her continuing dedication and excellence in her work.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul LeBlanc
Chair, Food Safety Committee
March 5, 2010