

Preface

This issue of *Advances in Dairy Technology* contains the text of papers presented at the 25th Western Canadian Dairy Seminar (WCDS), held in Red Deer, Alberta, March 6th to 9th, 2007. The theme of this year's conference is "25 Years of Progress: Looking Back, Moving Ahead". When we look back at the seminar over its 25 year history, it is amazing how it has changed! It started in 1982 as a small conference at the Banff Springs Hotel and has blossomed into an internationally acclaimed conference with over 700 people attending. The seminar has celebrated 25 years of success and is moving ahead to celebrate many, many more. It will continue in the tradition of hosting speakers of the highest calibre who are recognized nationally and internationally in their area of expertise. It will continue to offer an information-filled 2½ day program at a very reasonable cost. And finally, it will continue to provide an opportunity for individuals from all sectors of the dairy industry, including producers, researchers, government personnel, and service providers to exchange ideas and socialize in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

The WCDS could not be the success that it is without the valuable contributions of the speakers, organizing committee and student volunteers. We are most grateful to all these people for devoting so much of their time and energy to making the Western Canadian Dairy Seminar such an outstanding success. Our thanks are also extended to Joanne Morrison, seminar coordinator since 1999. Joanne's superb organizational skills ensure that the seminar runs seamlessly every year. We are also grateful to our sponsors for their continued financial support. This support is essential to maintaining a quality seminar as it allows us to invite the very best speakers while still maintaining a very reasonable registration fee.

The WCDS is proud to be an integral part of the Canadian dairy industry. Over the last 25 years it has been our mission, and will continue to be our mission, to provide industry stakeholders with an opportunity to keep abreast of the latest developments in research, technology, and policy that influence production efficiency, milk quality, and marketing of milk and dairy products.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Dr. John Kennelly for his dedication to the Western Canadian Dairy Seminar, and indeed, the Canadian dairy industry. John was instrumental in organizing the first WCDS and his vision and tireless efforts over the 22 years in which he was Program Director have made the WCDS one of the premier dairy seminars in the world.

I hope that you enjoy reading these proceedings and find the information in its pages of value to you as you continue making contributions to the success of the Western Canadian dairy industry.

Lorraine Doepel
Program Director