



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dairy Farmers of Ontario Applauds Government Action on Unpasteurized Milk

MISSISSAUGA, November 29, 2006 – Dairy Farmers of Ontario (DFO) today applauded the unequivocal [statement by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care](#) warning Ontarians about the significant health risks of unpasteurized or raw milk.

“There are valid scientific and medical reasons why we have been pasteurizing milk for over seventy years.” said Dairy Farmers of Ontario General Manager, Peter Gould. “Drinking unpasteurized milk is patently unsafe.”

“It is illegal to sell or distribute any raw milk in Ontario.” said Gould. “We are actively examining the full range of options available to DFO to continue working with all branches of government to protect the health of consumers.”

DFO is also greatly encouraged by this morning’s statement by Ontario Premier, Dalton McGuinty, who continued his strong endorsement of enforcing the pasteurization of milk for public safety.

Dairy Farmers of Ontario is gravely concerned about the risk to public health posed by any sale of raw milk to consumers. “When milk is not produced and processed under regulated conditions, its safety cannot be guaranteed.” said Gould.

DFO has always been a strong advocate of rigorous licensing and inspection for both farms and processors. DFO met as recently as Monday morning with the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Leona Dombrowsky, to offer DFO’s support for the actions taken last week by the provincial agencies.

“We are completely supportive of further government action to crack down on unlicensed milk processors.” Gould said. “We are also very encouraged that the Premier has re-emphasized that our public health professionals are correct when they tell us that all milk distributed to children and families requires pasteurization.”

Dairy Farmers of Ontario is the marketing group for all dairy farmers in Ontario and is totally financed by them.

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