

# IDAHO POTATO PULSE



Brought to you by the Idaho Potato Commission  
Website: [www.idahopotato.com](http://www.idahopotato.com)

January 13, 2009

## Government Affairs Report

By Pat Kole

Over the past three weeks, I've participated with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and USDA APHIS in Bi-lateral negotiations with Japan and Korea. Our aim has been to restore export eligibility for Idaho® potatoes to these two countries. I'm pleased to report that we have made progress with both countries in our efforts to reopen these markets. There are remaining technical issues to resolve, but we are on a good path.

I also attended the US/Canada Potato Committee meeting in early November. You have seen the Press Release jointly issued by the National Potato Council and the Canadian Horticulture Council outlining the results of that meeting. I believe that this meeting marked the first time that the industry representatives from both countries actually grappled with and brokered an agreement regarding a serious problem, PCN. It is now our responsibility on both sides of the border to work to ensure that our governments implement what industry has agreed to.

## Industry Relations Report

By Todd Cornelison

### Potato Industry meeting to be held in Pocatello

The Idaho Potato Commission is sponsoring an Industry meeting to be held in Pocatello immediately following the Potato School. Everybody is invited; the meeting will take place at the Pocatello Red Lion hotel on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We will begin with an **OPEN** Ag Affairs Committee meeting beginning at 2:00 p.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. The open meeting will allow for industry input on legislative issues prior to the state legislative session and the NPC Public Policy meeting which will be held in D.C. in February. This is your opportunity to make sure your voice is heard!

Following the Ag Affairs meeting, there will be a no host cocktail hour from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.. A buffet style dinner with a guest speaker will be offered from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to [tcornelison@potato.idaho.gov](mailto:tcornelison@potato.idaho.gov) immediately, if you are planning on attending the dinner.

This promises to be a very informative evening and I hope all can attend.

### Idaho Potato Industry POPAC to hold auction in Pocatello

The newly formed Idaho Potato Industry PAC is holding an auction at the Red Lion hotel in Pocatello from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday January 22<sup>nd</sup> (immediately following the IPC dinner). The auction is sponsored by the IGSA and PGI. Come join us to help build funds for our new PAC!

## Calendar

### January

- 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> NPC Potato Expo, San Antonio, TX  
9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> NPC Annual meeting/USPB Winter meeting, San Antonio, TX  
15<sup>th</sup> Ag All Star Legislative Banquet (Historical Museum - Boise: 6:30 Reception, 7:30 Dinner) Contact Rick Waitley, 208-888-0988  
20<sup>th</sup> Potato Seed seminar, Pocatello Idaho  
20<sup>th</sup> IPC Cost of Production Committee meeting, Red Lion Inn, Pocatello, ID 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Idaho Potato Conference and Eastern Idaho Ag Show, Pocatello, ID  
22<sup>nd</sup> IPC Ag Affairs meeting and Dinner, Red Lion Hotel, Pocatello, ID 2:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
22<sup>nd</sup> Potato Industry PAC auction, Red Lion Hotel, Pocatello, ID  
28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Idaho Potato Commission Meeting, Boise, ID

### February

- 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> UPGA Marketing Committee and Board of Directors meetings, Hard Rock Hotel, Las Vegas, NV  
23<sup>rd</sup> Ag Summit Strolling Dinner (DoubleTree Riverside - Boise, 5:30 p.m.)  
Contact Rick Waitley, 208-888-0988  
23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Idaho Ag Summit (DoubleTree Riverside - Boise)  
Contact Rick Waitley, 208-888-0988 or [www.idahoagsummit.org](http://www.idahoagsummit.org)  
25<sup>th</sup> Food Producers of Idaho Weekly Legislative Meeting (Idaho Ag & Grain Ctr - Boise: 9:00 A)  
Contact Rick Waitley, 208-888-0988  
19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Potato Industry Leadership Institute, Washington, DC.