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## Hemp Fibre Production Company to Put Down Roots in Vegreville

Michelle Pinon  
News Advertiser

An Edmonton based company is looking to put down roots in Vegreville.

Trevor Kloock, President of the Hemp Fibre Production Company, (HFPC) said they are in negotiations with the Town of Vegreville. "We've been discussing the size of the parcel as well. Roughly speaking it will be between 20 and 25 acres for the entire plant."

The proposed hemp fibre processing plant will be located in the new SE 17 Industrial Park. "We've been in negotiations with them on a location very close to Highway 16, (across from the museum). One of the things that's attractive about that location from a pragmatic standpoint is access. We are going to be bringing in large volumes of agricultural biomass for processing. And so, we need to be efficient and get the product to market quickly as well. So it's a very good location from a business standpoint."

When planning and development for the plant began about a year ago, Kloock said they began to think about Vegreville because of "very specific and unique market opportunities" that are available here.

"It's one of the reasons we're really trying to focus on Vegreville early on was for two reasons. One was because it is a very good agricultural area with a history of hemp growing, and also because the surrounding political powers and organizations have been extremely supportive. The Town of Vegreville has been a strong advocate for us and they are very pragmatic, and they're very responsive to creating new economic activities. We've worked with Inno Tech Alberta in Vegreville for quite a number of years now and have a lot of respect for what they've done and



for their vision for this industry.

So Vegreville essentially just becomes the natural place to do this. We really think it can be, if not the hub for this new sector in the world, one of the most important places in the world to experience growth.

We will be targeting four markets. One of them, and the most important, is related to the packaging sector. So we're going to be converting agricul-

tural fibres into packaging. And then we're also quite heavily involved in the chemical and environmental sectors as well. So we've got market opportunities in those places that we will be pursuing pretty aggressively."

They will be creating fibres that are convertible and blendable with plastics. For example, one of the end uses would be packaging for boxes, cartoons, and food packaging that are plastic now and becoming more fibre based."

Kloock said the process they will use is similar to the oil and gas refinery where they will take raw feedstock, (oil), and then convert it into a whole suite of products based on what the market demand is. "So it's the same basic principle, but what is different is that we will be using agricultural inputs as the core feedstock to what we're doing."

In terms of feedstock requirements, Kloock said estimates the volume will be between somewhere between 15,000 and 30,000 tonnes of hemp straw depending on the time of year and the product that's going out to market. "We will be buying equivalent quantities of other straw and fibre from the region as well."

The company is working with the

HEMP - CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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**DAN'S QUOTE of The Week**



"A person who doubts himself is like a man who would enlist in the ranks of his enemies and bear arms against himself. He makes his failure certain by himself being the first person to be convicted of it."

- Alexandre Dumas

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## HEMP - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

town to start developing relationships with local producers. "One of the things unique to us is that we'll be more flexible than a traditional decortication platform. We will be able to use other crop fibres as well.

We are selling product internationally. So we are quite excited about getting it constructed as quickly as possible because we are at a point where we have a significant amount of market demand we'd like to meet as quickly as possible.

In general, Kloeck said the cost to construct a fibre processing plant is between \$15 and 30 million. "Large markets are coming on stream and that could affect our final projections. In terms of jobs, we expect to hire 30 to 40 fulltime employees from Vegreville and surrounding areas.

"We're looking to a very positive

future and Vegreville is really driving this, not just in Alberta, but in Canada."

Tom Koep, Economic Development Manager with the Town of Vegreville, said they have signed a Memorandum of Agreement, (MOU) with HFPC. He explained an MOU is a broad term but is not an actual signed agreement. It does allow them to move forward in the process.

As far as benefits to the community, Koep said, "It can mean a lot for Vegreville, first in the form of construction jobs and contracts. Our MOU stipulates that they hire local contractors whenever possible and this could mean a lot of opportunity for local contractors and tradespeople. Once operating, they will need 35-40 jobs to operate the plant and they will be hiring as many locals as possible here as well. Once up

and running, we will see them purchasing a lot of goods and services from local businesses."

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## Sponsors Needed

The Vegreville Food Grains Growing Project is looking for new volunteers and sponsors in order to continue the operation of this charitable venture in Vegreville.

Sponsors can contribute by supplying labor, inputs, machinery, or management expertise. Even encouraging words are appreciated.

Interested parties can contact:  
Steven Achymichuk, Kyle Bodnarchuk or Terry James.  
**(780-632-3871)**

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## Thank You!

The organizers of the Vegreville and District Food Grains Project would like the community and in particular the following people for their support of the 2019 and 2020 growing projects. As a result of their contributions, the local organizing committee has been able to send \$57,000 towards worldwide famine relief.



### 2019 Contributions

**Land.....**Dr. Timothy Nawrot, Randy Kereliuk  
**Seeding.....**AgnTerra Equipment  
**Fertilizer.....**Grainland Farms (Roger Welsh)  
Achymichuk Farms, Terry James  
**Spraying.....**Brent Bohayachuk  
**Chemical.....**John Kubin  
**Hail Insurance.....**AFSC, Vegreville  
**Harvesting.....**Terry James,  
Steven Achymichuk,  
Viking Hutterite Colony  
**Grain Purchase.....**Viterra, Vegreville

### 2020 Contributions

**Land.....**Dr. Timothy Nawrot, Randy Kereliuk  
**Seeding.....**Nick and Noah Bilyk  
**Fertilizer.....**Achymichuk Farms  
Crop Management Network  
**Spraying.....**Terry James  
**Hail Insurance.....**AFSC, Vegreville  
**Harvesting.....**Deerland Equipment  
Webbs Equipment  
**Drying.....**Achymichuk Farms  
**Trucking.....**Grant Durie,  
Achymichuk Farms  
**Grain Purchase.....**Viterra, Vegreville

In 2016-17, the Canadian Food Grains Bank helped over 900,000 people in 35 countries. It has been recognized as one of the top 10 impact charities in Canada. Donations to the local growing project or to the national project are always appreciated. For further information contact the local organizing committee: Terry James, Steven Achymichuk or Kyle Bodnarchuk.

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## MEET YOUR LOCAL TEAM



Stacey Fleming



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**Weekly Crop Market Review**

**ICE FUTURES CANADA (CDN \$/TONNE) as of Dec 04/2020**

CONTRACT	WEEKLY			
	MONTH	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE CHANGE
CANOLA	-SASK JAN21	599.00	573.40	593.10 +10.10
	-SASK MAR21	591.90	571.30	587.80 +8.80
	-SASK MAY21	585.60	568.40	583.20 +7.30
	-SASK JUL21	577.20	562.60	576.50 +6.60
	-SASK NOV21	528.80	518.90	526.70 +2.40

**FEED GRAIN BIDS (CDN \$/TONNE) - feedmills, feedlots, cash grain brokers**

		WEEK OF Nov 30	PREVIOUS WEEK
WHEAT	-EDMTN	257.00 - 270.00	257.00 - 275.00
OATS	-EDMTN	221.00 - 265.00	214.50 - 245.00
PEAS	-EDMTN	290.00 - 290.00	267.50 - 290.00
BARLEY	-VERM	244.27 - 265.00	245.27 - 262.53
	-EDMTN	245.00 - 270.00	240.00 - 270.00