

What is the CMSMC?

The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee (CMSMC) is the key national body for policy development and discussions concerning the dairy production and processing sectors. The Canadian Dairy Commission (CDC) chairs and supports the CMSMC and its Secretariat, a technical committee which provides economic analysis and advice to CMSMC members.

Voting members of the CMSMC represent the nine provincial milk marketing boards (all but Newfoundland & Labrador) who are signatories to the National Milk Marketing Plan, the federal/provincial agreement which the Committee oversees. Representatives of national consumer, processor and producer organizations also participate as non-voting members.

Meetings are held five times a year to review and consider the major production, economic and marketing issues affecting the dairy sector. These include:

- trends in domestic consumption and production

of milk and dairy products;

- the level of skim milk powder and butter stocks held by the CDC and the trade, and;
- export market activities.

The CMSMC also reviews and monitors the CDC's marketing operations and promotional activities, its administration of federal subsidy payments, the pooling of market returns and provincial quota allocations and utilization.

National industrial milk requirements are constantly monitored and adjusted when necessary to reflect changes in demand for industrial milk products such as butter and cheese, measured in terms of butterfat. Requirements are reflected in adjustments to the Market Sharing Quota (MSQ) issued to the provinces. Provincial MSQ shares of the total available MSQ are determined in accordance with terms laid out in the National Plan. In turn, each province allocates its share of the MSQ to its respective producers according to its own policies.

source: <http://www.cdc.ca/Policies and Programs/>