



Canadian Cowshare College

One-day Basics Course
Saturday, 19 March 2011
9 am – 4:30 pm

This session is intended for producers and interested consumers. It covers basic information on developing a dairy operation that will safely produce milk for direct consumption, and practical guidance in developing your own cowshare programme.

At the end of this session, participants will have a basic understanding of:

- the biology of milk
- the safe production and handling of raw milk
- the legal framework currently required for a cowshare program
- developing, maintaining and managing cowshare member relationships

Included in this session:

- a full day of instruction with raw milk and cowshare expert Michael Schmidt
- tour of a raw milk dairy operation
- lunch and refreshments
- certificate of completion
- copies of

Raw Milk Production Handbook by Tim Wightman

The Untold Story of Milk by Ron Schmid

Safe Handling: Consumers' Guide to Fresh, Whole, Unprocessed Milk by Peggy Beals

Workshop Leader: Michael Schmidt

Michael Schmidt has defended public access to healthy foods for almost two decades. He has been the lightning rod in two major “Milk Wars” with local Boards of Health and the provincial government, spurred on by powerful industrial farming interests, and has successfully defended the rights of cowshare programme members to consume locally produced milk, produced specifically for direct consumption. He has a Masters in Agriculture and more than 25 years' experience in biodynamic farming. Currently, he is involved in the rescue of a British Columbia cowherd operation, ordered to shut down by government officials. Michael founded Cow Share Canada early in 2010, to establish a grassroots organization and infrastructure for consumers and producers to connect and learn more about sustainable agriculture and healthy foods.

Topics

The biology of milk

Safe raw milk production

farm management

cow breeding

feeding

animal husbandry

Safe handling of raw milk

cleaning

testing

distribution from producer perspective

Cowshare programmes

legal framework

current legislation - kowalsky raw milk ruling

co-operative structure

liability issues

Cowshare member relations

how to connect

how to maintain and develop reliable partnerships

how to manage expectations

Location: (Glencolton Farms) 393889 Concession Rd 2, RR 1, Durham, ON NOG 1R0

Cost: \$295 – payable by cash or cheque to Cow Share Canada on or before day of workshop