



April 1, 2020

COVID-19 Response – Dairy Education and Research Centre (DERC)

Since our last letter summarizing the DERC's response to the COVID-19, several meetings were held with the members of the LFS and UBC community to discuss and implement extra measures to cope with the COVID-19.

In the previous report, the measures taken by the DERC emphasized social distancing and reduction of research activities to only those deemed essential. All researchers currently running projects at the DERC were then mandated to submit exemption requests to the Office of the VP, Research and Innovation. The only projects that are now being carried at the DERC were the ones approved by the VP Office. We would like to thank Drs. Laura Mowbray and Cathy Schuppli for their support.

In the coming days and weeks, further meetings will be held between members of the Dairy User's Committee and key stakeholders from AAFC, and allied dairy industry for updates and to coordinate actions to ensure the safety of our staff and students, as well as to improve the operation of the dairy and the on-going research projects. More specifically we will be looking at options regarding:

- Emergency plans
- Summer-student assistance for the DERC
- Summer USRA's and other research students
- Operational and research collaborations with AAFC

We will continue to follow closely the recommendations from the federal and provincial governments, UBC, and LFS.

We would like again to thank all involved with the DERC for your commitment and support. We are all incredibly proud and humbled by the way we have all at the DERC been working during this challenging times.

Please, do not hesitate to contact us should you need further information.

Warm regards,

The Dairy User's Committee

Ronaldo Cerri – Associate Professor and DERC Director

Nelson Dinn – DERC Manager

Marina von Keyserlingk - Professor

Daniel Weary - Professor



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Land and Food Systems
248-2357 Main Mall
Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z4

Phone 604 822 1219
Fax 604 822 6394
dean.landfood@ubc.ca
www.landfood.ubc.ca

Again, everyone involved with activities at the DERC should stay informed and check often for updates on the links provided below.

BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)

<http://covid-19.bccdc.ca/>

The University of British Columbia (UBC)

<https://covid19.ubc.ca/>

The Government of Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

The World Health Organization (WHO)

<https://www.who.int/en/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>