

For Immediate Release

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AFC congratulates client on Emerging Company of the Year win

Nisku, Alberta – The Agriculture and Food Council of Alberta would like to congratulate Edmonton-based BioNeutra Inc. on being named Emerging Company of the Year at the BioAlberta Awards Gala this week.

“It is my pleasure on behalf of Council to congratulate president and CEO Dr. Jianhua Zhu and BioNeutra on being named Emerging Company of the Year,” said Council Chair Marilyn Sharp. “I had the pleasure of attending the grand opening of BioNeutra’s Edmonton plant recently and I was very impressed with the dedication of Dr. Zhu, his staff and supporters.”

BioNeutra’s pilot plant converts Alberta wheat, barley and potato starch into a healthful sweetener. It officially opened in August with a \$200,000 cash infusion from the Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) program, an Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada program administered in Alberta by the Agriculture and Food Council.

The plant produces a low-calorie sweetener called VitaSugar, which has an organic structure that improves digestive health. It is already being sold to a Las Vegas company that makes breakfast bars. ACAAF provided \$200,000 in funding for the project under Pillar II – Capturing Market Opportunities by Advancing Research Results.

The Council is a leader in Alberta’s agriculture and food industry. It is a unique agent with a vision for Alberta’s agriculture, food and life sciences industry to be globally competitive, profitable and sustainable. To help realize this vision, the Council has developed various partnerships with industry and governments. It operates a number of targeted programs and initiatives, and is increasingly viewed by industry partners as a catalyst for policy discussions on important issues and trends affecting the industry.

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