



From
the
Chair...

IAN D.C. McPHAIL, Q.C.

In May 2000, I had the great honour of being appointed Chair of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO). I am proud to be associated with an effective regulatory agency that is fair, responsive, and operates in the public interest to ensure honesty, integrity and social responsibility in the alcohol and gaming industries.

In this edition of Licence Line, one of the issues we take a look at is underage drinking and ways to prevent it. As licensees, it is your responsibility to check ID and discourage underage drinking in your establishment.

Underage drinking is on the increase and the statistics from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's latest Ontario Student Drug Use Survey confirm this fact. The percentage of students who drink alcohol rose to 65.7 per cent in 1999 from 56.5 per cent in 1993.

The survey also reported that 19.7 per cent of student drinkers drank weekly in 1999 compared to 14.4 per cent in 1993.

Spotting fake ID

In the AGCO's Liquor Enforcement section, serving minors has been identified as being one of the three main problems liquor inspectors identify when inspecting licensed premises. The AGCO requires that all licensed establishments be vigilant when checking ID. The AGCO has a tip sheet on checking ID which lists the acceptable forms of ID and information on how to spot fake ID. Licensees can also read about the LCBO's new guide on checking ID on page five of this issue of Licence Line.

Over the summer, some law enforcement agencies in Ontario worked with local community groups to develop programs to reduce underage drinking. We applaud their efforts and expect that with results from surveys like this one, these types of community programs will

Continued page 2 See Chair

How to make your bar a safer place

Every now and then, the media will carry a story regarding a violent incident at a bar or nightclub. These incidents reinforce how vital well-trained, professional security personnel and strict security policies are to the management of a successful bar or nightclub.

One program recently presented to the Commission is the "Safer Bar" training program. Developed in collaboration with the hospitality industry, this program includes a three-hour training session with materials, which cover a wide range of topics from describing legal issues related to aggression in bars, to strategies for keeping cool under stress. It also teaches you how to recognize risk factors that exist and how to minimize those risks by making changes to your bar.

Bar fights

The training program is based on the principle that bar fights are preventable and that problems should be dealt with early on before they have a chance to escalate. The overall goal of the training is to increase the safety of both customers and staff.

There are lots of things you can do to avoid problems and the potential legal liability that they create. Here are a few suggestions offered by the Safer Bar training program:

- ◆ Have enough staff on duty to ensure the safety of your customers;
- ◆ Make sure staff are trained to deal with difficult situations;
- ◆ Have clear policies on denying entry to customers who are intoxicated or known to be aggressive;
- ◆ Keep a report of any fights that occur - including where, what happened and who was involved; and
- ◆ Have a house policy for customers that makes it clear that aggression and harassment are not acceptable in your bar.

For more information on this program or a copy of the brochure, contact:

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's

24-hour Information Line:

Ontario toll-free: 1-800-463-6273

Toronto: 416-595-6111

Announcement



RANDY BARBER

G.R. (Randy) Barber, Thornhill, Ontario has been appointed as a full-time vice-chair of the AGCO Board of Directors. His appointment is for three years and became effective on April 19, 2000.

Mr. Barber brings a wealth of experience to his full-time position as he has held executive positions in both the private and public sector. Randy was appointed as a Member to the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario in 1997, and cross-appointed to the Board of Directors of the AGCO in March 1997. He was designated a part-time vice-chair of the AGCO on August 1997. Mr. Barber has served six years as a municipal councillor for the Town of Markham.

Page 2

Canadian Alcohol
Facts

VQA Act proclaimed
Brew-on-Premises

Page 3

Decision Summary

Page 4

Decision Summary

Washroom ads
promote sober
driving

Page 5

Underage drinking

New ID guide
from LCBO

Page 6

Bar owner fined

Concert-goers enjoy
beverage alcohol

Claw Machines

Track Licence Line

Questions & Answers

Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario
20 Dundas Street West, 10th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 2N6



Canadian Alcohol Facts 1998-99

Did you know that ...

- ◆ the value of Canadian beer, spirits and wine sales amounted to \$12.4 billion in 1998/99, up 5.6 per cent from the previous year?
- ◆ Canadians drank 2.5 billion litres of beer, wine and spirits last year, a 2.6 per cent increase over the previous year?
- ◆ most Canadians preferred beer to wine or spirits, drinking an average of 85.3 litres of beer per person, compared with 11.2 litres of wine and 6.1 litres of spirits?
- ◆ drinkers in the Yukon bought the most beverage alcohol with an average annual purchase of 173.8 litres per person?
- ◆ drinkers in Manitoba bought the least beverage alcohol with an average annual purchase of 82.7 litres per person?
- ◆ drinkers in Ontario bought an average of 99.4 litres of beverage alcohol per person?
- ◆ Albertans prefer beer, Quebecers prefer wine and Manitobans prefer whiskey?
- ◆ Canadians are developing a taste for wine coolers, with sales up 7.2 per cent over the previous year?
- ◆ red wine continues to gain popularity? Sales of red wine grew more than 10 per cent for the sixth straight year, bringing red wine to 47 per cent of the total, compared to white wine at 53 per cent.

Sources: Statistics Canada /
The Toronto Star / London Free Press



BOB RUNCIMAN

VQA Act proclaimed as provincial law

On June 29, 2000, the *Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) Act* changed from a voluntary standard-setting system to a system that will be regulated by provincial law. This brings the *VQA Act* and its standards for quality into line with the regulated appellation systems of France, Germany, Italy and other major wine regions.

Bob Runciman, Ontario's Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations said, "The *VQA Act* embodies the government's commitment to strengthen the competitiveness of Ontario's wine industry both domestically and internationally, create new jobs and further develop Ontario's growing reputation for premium quality wines."

continued from page 1 Chair

increase to ensure the safety of our youth.

The AGCO reminds all licensees that it is their responsibility to check ID. Remember, serving minors is a serious offence under the *Liquor Licence Act*, and we must all work together to address the problem of underage drinking.

Ian D.C. McPhail

Medallion Standards

VQA Ontario, the province's wine authority, will establish, define and set quality standards that must be met for a wine to carry the VQA medallion.

Only those manufacturers who are members of the wine authority can apply for an approval to use VQA terms, descriptions and designations. To be approved, manufacturers must be in compliance with VQA Ontario's rules, including those establishing quality standards, and must also meet all other requirements necessary for an approval.

\$100,000 fine

To ensure compliance, VQA Ontario may appoint persons as inspectors to carry out inspections of the premises of those manufacturers who have applied for approval or who have been approved. A manufacturer who fails to comply with any provision in the *VQA Act* is liable to a fine of not more than \$100,000.

The Ontario wine industry developed voluntary VQA wine standards in 1988. VQA sales now account for 10 per cent of all domestic wine sales in Ontario.

For more information, contact:

Vintners Quality Alliance Ontario
250 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M5B 2N5
Tel: (416) 326-8413 Fax: (416) 326-8885

Brew-On-Premises

On March 30, 2000, the Ontario government approved new Brew-On-Premise (BOP) licensing requirements and regulations to set out the role of the operator and the duties of the customer, to promote even competition among BOP operators and to ensure a strong and vibrant industry.

Since the introduction of the new regulations, several questions have been raised regarding application requirements, advertising and customer and operator involvement. Here are some of the more frequently asked questions:

Q: How much assistance can a BOP operator provide to the customer?

A: The operator can provide a facility, ingredients, equipment and expertise for a customer to make beer or wine, and, according to the regulations, is also allowed to undertake certain value-added activities on behalf of the customer i.e. filtering, carbonating and adding of finings and stabilizing agents.

Q: Does the customer have to be present at all steps?

A: The customer must be present at certain steps to ensure this is his or her product — not someone else's. A customer can consist of more than one person but those persons must be present for the steps required by the customer in the regulation. A customer is allowed to bring an assistant to help the customer if need be. However, the assistant must be 19 years of age or older and the customer must be present.

Q: Why are BOP operators only allowed to advertise place of business, ingredients and services, and not finished product?

A: BOP operators are limited to advertising consistent with their business or consistent with the products and services they offer i.e., the provision of a facility, equipment, ingredients and

expertise (namely the services they provide to their customers). BOP operators have the option to change their mode of operation and become a licensed manufacturer of beverage alcohol and then be able to advertise and use promotions consistent with the AGCO Advertising Guidelines for beverage alcohol manufacturers.

Q: On the BOP application form, an applicant has to fill out a personal history report. Why does the AGCO need all of this information?

A: All applicants for licensing under the *Liquor Licence Act* are required to file personal history reports with their application. This is to satisfy the requirements under the Act that persons in this sector will operate with honesty, integrity and will obey the laws of the province.

Q: Can BOP operators "top up" customers' product, e.g. top up a customer's carboy of wine with wine of the same type or with boiled or distilled water?

A: A BOP operator cannot top up a customer's product with wine, however, he or she may top up a customer's product by adding distilled or boiled water as a stabilizing agent during the process of adding finings or stabilizing agents or after racking or filtering. (Topping up the level of a customer's carboy ensures that there is no air pocket that could lead to spoilage.)

For detailed information on BOP regulations and the application process, contact the AGCO Customer Service line at (416) 326-8700 or toll free in Ontario at 1-800-522-2876.

For details regarding the Brew-on-Premise Association of Ontario (BOPAO), you may contact BOPAO at c/o 125-A Stanley Street, Brantford, ON N3S 6N1 Tel: (519) 753-2962 Fax: (519) 753-8584 Web site: www.bopao.on.ca

Decision Summary		
The following establishments were recently brought before the Commission for disciplinary hearings. Suspensions for similar infractions may vary in length according to the specifics of each case. Details about these decisions are now available on QUICKLAW.		
ESTABLISHMENT	INFRACTION	SUSPENSION
1246434 Ontario Limited /Bunnies, Markham	Public interest, adulterated liquor, permitted narcotics on premises, breach of condition	Licence revoked
Ardy's Sports Club / Hillcrest Banquet and Convention Centre, Richmond Hill	Serving minors, permitted drunkenness, illegal liquor, permitted removal of liquor from premises	30 days*
Beat Junkie (The), Toronto	Overcrowding, serving minors, failure to inspect identification	14 days
Blue Moon Bar & Grill, Nepean	Not financially responsible in conducting business due to Retail Sales Tax Act, breach of condition	Licence revoked
Boo Radley's, Guelph	Liquor sold to person who appears to be intoxicated, permitted drunkenness, serving minors, failure to inspect identification, overservice	21 days
Captain Ken's Diner, Penetanguishene	Permitted operation of a business not permitted under the Act or Regulations	14 days
Cayman Restaurant and Bar, Toronto	Obstructing an inspection, overcrowding, serving minors	15 days
Cocktails & Shotz, Midland	Not financially responsible in conducting business due to Retail Sales Tax Act - did not contest	Licence revoked
Corner Bar & Grill, Etobicoke	Not financially responsible in conducting business due to Retail Sales Tax Act	Licence revoked
Courtyard Pub (The), Ajax	Not financially responsible in conducting business due to Retail Sales Tax Act, breach of condition - did not contest	Licence revoked
Cuisine Show Catering, Stoney Creek	Illegal liquor	30 days
Envy Lounge, Toronto	Public interest, permitted narcotics on premises, permitted drunkenness, illegal liquor, experienced food and beverage supervisor not on premises	Licence revoked
Garden Restaurant, Toronto	Service outside prescribed hours	14 days*
Hingloon Chinese Restaurant, Mississauga	Not financially responsible in conducting business due to Retail Sales Tax Act - did not contest	Licence revoked
Hong-Shing Chinese Restaurant, Toronto	Service outside prescribed hours	21 days
Ichabod's, London	Illegal liquor	30 days*
Juliana in Paradise, North York	Permitted drunkenness, breach of condition, failure to clear signs of service, past conduct	Licence revoked
La Bamba Restaurant & Night Club, Toronto	Serving minors, no light meals available, permitted narcotics on premises	18 days
La Cocina de Dona Luz, Toronto	Illegal liquor, permitted removal of liquor from premises	30 days
Latin Quarter (The), Brampton	Serving minors, permitted drunkenness, not financially responsible in conducting its business due to Retail Sales Tax Act	Licence revoked
Mataeu Restaurant & Café, Toronto	Service outside prescribed hours, failure to clear, obstructing an inspection, permitted removal of liquor from premises	14 days
Neighbourhood Pub Restaurant, Toronto	Illegal liquor	21 days
Parkview Tavern, Chatham	Not financially responsible in conducting business due to Retail Sales Tax Act, breach of condition - did not contest	Licence revoked
Regency Hotel, Toronto	Serving minors, illegal liquor, breach of condition	30 days
Santa Rosa Restaurant, Hamilton	Failure to clear signs of service, served outside prescribed hours, permitted drunkenness, permitted narcotics on premises, past conduct	Licence revoked
More Decision - Page 4		

Decision Summary continued from page 3

ESTABLISHMENT	INFRACTION	SUSPENSION
Shish Mahal Indian Cuisine, Mississauga	Illegal liquor	21 days*
Stone Angel Restaurant, Toronto	Permitted drunkenness, liquor sold to person who appears to be intoxicated, permitted narcotics on premises, permitted removal of liquor from premises	30 days
Tailgate Charlie's, Oshawa	Serving minors, permitted drunkenness	17 days
Village Inn, Bradford	Illegal liquor, adulterated liquor, permitted drunkenness	25 days
West Side Moronis, Gananoque	Serving minors, liquor sold to person who appears to be intoxicated, overcrowding, permitted drunkenness	14 days
White House, Mississauga	Illegal liquor	30 days

* All managers and servers must take Smart Serve responsible trainer program.

Washroom ads promote sober driving

The Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) are bringing their sober driving message to men’s washrooms in licensed premises across the province.

Three English posters and one French poster have been developed for display in men’s washrooms in selected bars and licensed establishments. These posters will be displayed in more than 500 locations in major centres from now until January.

The 13 inch x 17 inch black and yellow posters deliver a drink responsibly message to young men, 18-35, the group historically most likely to be charged as a result of R.I.D.E. spot checks and involved in impaired driving crashes. It is also directed at anyone considering drinking and driving.

Due to the nature of the ads, these posters are primarily being displayed in men’s rooms in bars and restaurants catering to young men, such as: sports bars, pubs, roadhouses, adult entertainment clubs, campus pubs, etc., and not in family-style locations.

Make the right choice

The campaign’s theme is “Drinking and driving is no accident. It’s a choice. Make the right one.”

“Our message is clear,” says LCBO Chair and CEO Andrew Brandt. “Individuals must accept responsibility for their behaviour and for the consequences of their actions when they drink. When it comes to drinking and driving, the price for making the wrong choice can be severe.”

These washroom ads are part of a year-long \$2.4 million responsible-drinking ad campaign launched in June. It also includes powerful television advertising, English and French radio commercials, English and French magazine ads in LCBO’s free consumer publication FOOD & DRINK/ A BON VERRE, BONNE TABLE, and messages in LCBO stores.

“This ad campaign will hopefully increase awareness of the consequences of drinking and driving and encourage people to make the right choice. We must do everything possible to reduce the terrible toll of drunk driving,” says Andrew Murie, National Executive Director, MADD Canada.

Free distribution

In addition to licensed establishments participating in the program, designated LCBO stores and depots will also have some posters for free distribution. When licensees in these areas call and/or come in to fill their orders, LCBO staff will offer them one or more of the posters for display in their men’s washrooms. It is important, however, for licensees to remember these posters are for display only in men’s washrooms and not elsewhere on their premises.

For more information or for copies of the washroom ads, licensees can also contact Linda Hapak, LCBO Corporate Communications, (416) 864-6875, or e-mail hapakl@lcbo.com or Elizabeth Kruzel, LCBO Social Responsibility, (416) 864-6820 or e-mail kruzele@lcbo.com.



UNDERAGE DRINKING

The AGCO's Liquor Enforcement section counts minors being served at licensed establishments as one of its challenges. And it's easy to see why... underage drinking is on the rise.

According to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's 1999 Ontario Student Drug Use Survey, alcohol use among teens in Ontario has increased. In 1999, 65.7 per cent of teens from Grade 7 to the OAC level reported that they use alcohol regularly, up from 56.5 per cent in 1993.

There were also regional differences in the use of alcohol where students from Northern Ontario reported the highest rate at 77.6 per cent, followed by the West at 70.5 per cent, the East at 65.4 per cent and Toronto at 59.4 per cent.

Under the *Liquor Licence Act*, section 30 (8) states no person under 19 years of age shall have, consume, attempt to purchase, purchase or otherwise obtain liquor.

Watch for fake ID

So how do teens get alcohol when it is illegal? It's quite simple really - use fake ID, get older friends to purchase alcohol for them, or order alcohol from illegal underground liquor delivery services.

Several problems arise from underage drinking including getting drunk, fighting, alcohol poisoning, unwanted sex and unwanted pregnancies, and drunk driving which leads to injuries and even fatal car accidents.

To combat this growing problem, some law enforcement agencies organized

community programs targeting underage drinking during the summer months.

One such program was Operation Teen Save held by the Niagara Regional Police in conjunction with the Niagara Regional Health Unit. All uniformed police participated in this program, which ran in May and June, focusing on areas where teenagers were known to drink. In addition, all licensed premises were checked regularly and plainclothes officers in unmarked vehicles were randomly stationed at beer and liquor outlets.

Check for minors

But what about licensed establishments? Are minors allowed to enter?

If you have a condition on your licence that prohibits the entry of anyone under 19 years of age, you must ensure that identification is inspected and the person is 19 or older prior to admitting the person into your premises. However, if you do not have this condition on your licence, you can allow minors into your establishment at any time, but you must not serve or sell minors any beverage alcohol, or permit the consumption of any beverage alcohol by minors such as the passing of drinks to minors.

It is against the law for a minor to be served beverage alcohol in a licensed establishment, even if a parent, friend or guardian wants to order them an alcoholic drink. Section 30 of the *Liquor Licence Act* deals with the issue of minors. Under subsection (2), no person shall sell or supply liquor to a

person who appears to be under 19 years of age. And subsection (4) states that no licensee or employee or agent of a licensee shall permit a person who appears to be under 19 years of age to have or consume liquor in the licensee's licensed premises.

Quick tips

If your liquor licence allows minors into your establishment, here are a couple of tips to prevent underage drinking:

- ◆ Post a sign indicating that management reserves the right to deny entry to underage persons;
- ◆ Ensure that staff understand their legal duty regarding service to underage customers;
- ◆ Provide staff with guidelines to deal with underage customers, including how to recognize and deal with false ID, what forms of identification are acceptable and when to ask for ID. (see story below: LCBO's new Working Smaart Quick Check ID guide);
- ◆ Be sure staff monitor customers' behaviour, making sure that drinks ordered by one person are not consumed by another who is possibly underage;
- ◆ Serve all alcohol-free drinks in containers easily distinguishable from regular alcoholic beverages; and
- ◆ Get creative with non-alcoholic drinks and promote alternative beverages that will appeal to the underage crowd. ■

New ID Guide discourages underage drinking

As everyone involved in the service and sale of beverage alcohol knows, appearances can be deceiving when it comes to a person's age.

Requesting identification from a potential patron or customer who appears to be under the age of 19 is, however, only one part of the process. When checking identification, you need to examine the person's photograph, dates (including expiry dates), and be alert for signs of tampering or fake identification. Even more fundamental, you need to know what the identification should look and feel like.

Useful resource

To meet this need, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) developed the *Working SMAART Quick Check ID Guide*. The guide's name draws from the LCBO's award-winning retail training program, *SMAART* (Strategies for Managing Age and Alcohol-Related Troubles). Though a great support to LCBO employees, the guide is also a very useful resource for anyone involved in serving and selling beverage alcohol in Ontario.

The 12-page guide showcases the six types of proof of age photo identification prescribed under the *Liquor Licence Act*.

- ◆ LCBO BYID (Bring Your Identification) photo card
- ◆ A photo card issued by the former Liquor Licence Board of Ontario (Ontario Photo Card)
- ◆ Ontario driver's licence with a photo
- ◆ Canadian citizenship card with a photo
- ◆ Canadian passport

- ◆ Canadian Armed Forces identification card.

Legal drinking age

Each form of photo identification is pictured in full colour and shown to size. Included with pictures of both the front and back faces of each card is a physical description of the size, texture, and production method. It also shows each of the valid versions of prescribed identification. Did you know that there are four different types of Canadian armed forces ID cards? Do you know what the two versions of the BYID card look like?

Whether you work in a bar or restaurant, brew-on-premise facility, beverage alcohol retail outlet, or at SOP events, the compact format of the guide makes it a handy reference to keep by your cash or service areas. It will assist you when checking identification to make sure the customer is of legal drinking age. It is also valuable from a customer service standpoint when someone presents a version of a prescribed form of ID you may not have seen before.

The AGCO also has a tip sheet on checking ID. This helpful tip sheet will be included with your order of the LCBO's *Working SMAART Quick Check ID Guide*.

Order today

The LCBO is pleased to make this resource available to you. Including shipping and taxes, copies are \$5.00 each. To order your copy, send your name, address, telephone number and

the number of copies you need along with a cheque or money order to:

LCBO BYID Photo Card Program
P.O. Box 1800, Station A
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1V6

Restaurant chains or retailers interested in orders of 50 copies or more, and willing to cover distribution costs to their business locations, should contact Sherry Smith to discuss a discount on shipping costs. Sherry may be reached by phone at: 416-864-6632 or by e-mail at byid@lcbo.com.



Q&A Questions & Answers

Q. Can customers take their own wine into an unlicensed restaurant?

A. No one is allowed to consume beverage alcohol in a public place unless it is a licensed establishment or an event is held under the authority of a Special Occasion Permit. Under section 31 (2) (b) of the *Liquor Licence Act* "no person shall have or consume liquor in any place other than premises in respect of which a licence or permit is issued". Establishments that are not licensed and allow patrons to consume liquor can be charged under the *Liquor Licence Act*. However, under section 31 (2) (c), you are allowed to bring beverage alcohol to a private place, as defined under Regulation 718 section 3 (2), which could include an office boardroom, which is not available for rent by the public and where the public is not ordinarily invited or permitted.

Q. I will not be selling beverage alcohol at my event, do I still need to get a Special Occasion Permit (SOP)?

A. If you are planning to serve, but not sell beverage alcohol in a premises which is not a residence or private place, you will need to apply for a no-sale SOP from a designated LCBO store. This permit costs \$25 per day and allows you to serve beverage alcohol at your event without charging your guests.

Q. When can home-made wine be served at an event?

A. Home-made wine can only be served at a family's religious event such as a wedding reception, baptism, confirmation, bar mitzvah, etc. You will need to apply for an SOP to serve home-made wine at your event. It is meant for personal use only and can only be served, not sold, to your family and friends attending the religious event.

Q. At what age can someone serve alcohol at a licensed establishment?

A. To sell, serve or handle beverage alcohol at a licensed establishment, your employee **must** be 18 years of age or older. Remember that you can only sell or serve beverage alcohol to patrons who are 19 years of age or older. ■

Corrections

In the Spring 2000 edition of Licence Line, - Decision Summary - O'Tooles Roadhouse Restaurant, Toronto, Ontario, the liquor licence was suspended for 12 days (April 22 to May 5, 2000) - not revoked, and Plaza Flamingo Fruit Market Eatery, Toronto, Ontario, the liquor licence was not suspended for 14 days. Licence Line regrets the errors. ■

"Claw Machines"

A word of caution to licensees that have claw or crane machines in their licensed premises - the legality of these machines is currently under scrutiny in the matter of R. v. Balance Group International, a judgment of the Ontario Court of Justice released on July 20, 2000. In this case, the defendant was found guilty of contravening section 206(1) of the *Criminal Code* in relation to their ownership of two such machines. Although the AGCO understands this decision is currently being appealed, licensees who have claw or crane types of machines on their premises are cautioned to seek their own legal advice to ensure that these machines and their operation do not contravene the *Criminal Code*. ■

Bar owner fined \$75,000

As a follow-up to a story printed in our Spring edition, the Uxbridge bar owner who was convicted of serving liquor to an intoxicated patron later involved in a head-on collision after leaving the bar, has been fined \$75,000.

Bar operator, Theodore Karavos, pleaded guilty in February to charges of serving an intoxicated person and permitting drunkenness under the *Liquor Licence Act*. The bartender was found not guilty.

Justice of the Peace Bob Harris said he was sending a message to the restaurant industry by fining Mr. Karavos \$25,000 and the corporation of which he was a director, \$50,000. He went on to say "those in the business of serving alcoholic beverages not only have a duty to protect those they are serving, but to protect the public from the people they serve".

In February 1999, after leaving J.P. Plank's Tap and Grill, John MacKenzie was allegedly involved in a head-on collision that resulted in the death of a 46-year old woman. He is currently facing charges of impaired driving and criminal negligence causing death.

J.P. Plank's Tap and Grill has since closed. ■

Concert-goers can now enjoy service of beverage alcohol

Until now, only licensed stadiums holding professional sporting events were permitted to sell and serve beverage alcohol to spectators for consumption in tiered seating.

In May 2000, the provincial government approved an amendment to Regulation 719 under the *Liquor Licence Act* to allow the sale and service of beverage alcohol to patrons for consumption in the tiered seats at live concerts held at licensed stadiums and at live events held at specific outdoor concert venues.

Licensed stadiums and outdoor concert venues will need AGCO Board approval for each event where they wish to sell and serve beverage alcohol.

The Board will not give its approval unless:

- ◆ The majority of the patrons are 19 years of age or older;
- ◆ The lighting in the tiered seating area is sufficient enough to conduct liquor inspections; and
- ◆ The promoter and/or the performing artists have consented in writing to the sale and service of beverage alcohol in the tiered seats. ■

Now it's easier to keep track of Licence Line

Every now and then we get calls from licensees, requesting an issue of Licence Line they think they've missed because of the current way we label the editions i.e. Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter. Although we usually produce four editions every year, sometimes this does not happen and readers assume they have missed an edition.

To make it easier for our readers to keep track of Licence Line editions, starting next year, we will switch to a Volume and Issue format where the volume number will change each year and the Issue number will change for each edition. We believe this will clear up any concerns our readers have about missed editions of Licence Line. ■

Licence Line is published quarterly by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario to provide licensees and interested parties with information regarding alcohol legislation and related issues. Reader contributions, letters and suggestions are welcome. This newsletter is available free of charge to all holders of an alcohol sales licence in Ontario.



AGCO
Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario

Licence Line

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