

April 26, 2011

Update re Taxes on Promotional/Sample Wine

As you know, the recent Ontario budget included the announcement that wineries will no longer pay the wine taxes on up to 10,000 litres of promotional (including samples) and other 'non-sale' wine (annually).

The Ministry of Revenue has advised that they are finalizing the new remittance forms going forward, as well as the mechanics for recovering previous taxes paid (back to July 1, 2010). In any event, these materials cannot be distributed until the budget has been passed into legislation. Estimated timeframe for this is June.

Until further information is received from Revenue, wineries must continue to file their returns using the existing forms (and paying taxes in accordance with the 'old' rules). If you have any questions on this matter, please contact D. Gibson at the WCO office.

The Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Ontario Wines

Guidelines

- The Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario is pleased to announce the creation of the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Ontario Wines.
- This will be an annual competition for all [VQA Ontario wines](#).
- Wine submissions will be reviewed by an independent panel, who will select between eight to twelve wines. This unique process is not a 'best of' per varietal but instead will celebrate 'excellence' among all Ontario wines.
- There are a maximum of four (4) submissions from every winery. Three (3) bottles must be provided of each submission.
- There is no age restriction for wine vintage.
- There is no entry fee.
- Submitted wines should be commercially available (i.e. more than 100 cases available for purchase).
- The Lieutenant Governor will announce the Wines of Excellence in July 2011, and award presentation ceremonies will take place at each winery.
- There are two parts to the entry process:
 1. [Entry Form \[PDF, 15KB\]](#). The Entry Form must be printed, completed, signed, and either e-mailed (lgwineawards@ontario.ca) or faxed (416-325-3186) by **Friday, May 20th, 2011**.
 2. [Bottle Submission](#). The submission of bottles (three of each entry, maximum of four entries) must be carefully packaged, identified, and delivered to the address below. The bottles must be delivered between 7am and 3pm on either **Monday, June 6th, or Tuesday, June 7th, 2011**. A copy of the previously submitted Entry Form should be included with the bottle package re-confirming your submission.

The Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Ontario Wines
c/o Canadian Food & Wine Institute
(Attn: Carolyn Lane)
Central Stores, Niagara College
135 Taylor Road, SS #4
Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario
L0S 1J0

Questions? Call: 416-325-1625, E-mail: lgwineawards@ontario.ca, Fax: 416-325-3186

WCO Social Media campaign

Be sure to submit your winery's event to www.winesofontario.org/submit-event for posting on the website. Content for the WCO social Media campaign will be pulling events from that site.