

**October 12, 2010**

### **Ontario announces Small Business Transition Support Program for HST conversion**

The Ontario government is providing one-time transition assistance to help small businesses make changes to their point-of-sale and accounting systems in order to collect the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) that came into effect in Ontario on July 1, 2010.

The amount to be received by individual HST registrants is between \$300 and \$1,000 (depends on size of registrant, and applies to organizations having less than \$2 million in annual sales).

For further information including eligibility, details of the program may be found at <http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/en/taxtips/hst/07.html> . If you have any questions, contact D. Gibson at the WCO office, extension 222.

### **Social Media Program**

#### How Members Can Get Involved:

1. Update all events taking place at your winery at <http://winesofontario.org/submit-event>
2. Provide updates for events and activities happening in your region at <http://winesofontario.org/submit-event>
3. Talk about the WCO social media activities in your communications to consumers and trade.

If you are active on Twitter please follow us and retweet the information when appropriate **@WineCountryont**

4. If you have provided us with your Twitter information we will follow you and retweet your information when appropriate.
5. If you are active on Facebook, Like us at **Wine Country Ontario** and we will Like you.
6. Send us photos or videos of events and other activities at your winery or in the region and we will post them, please send to Jess Bennett [bennett@veritascanada.com].

### **Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance Summit – November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

Tickets are on sale to attend the Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance Summit. This is an excellent opportunity to network and learn more about what's happening in culinary tourism across Ontario. Visit [www.ontarioculinary.com/summit](http://www.ontarioculinary.com/summit) to learn more and/or register for the event.

## **Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Wine Competition**

Just a quick reminder that the deadline for entries for The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Wine Competition is drawing to a close.

The judging is on Sunday the 31st, but I will have to call a final deadline on the 28th of October.

As many of you are no doubt aware, I came on board with the Royal Winter Fair Wine Competition only a couple of weeks before the competition took place in the fall of 2009.

After carefully observing last year's RAWF competition, followed by consultations with both wineries and industry professionals, I have decided made a number of major changes to the entry protocol for 2010 (detailed below)

Despite approximately 170 entries in 2009 I felt that these changes were necessary to encourage more wineries to compete in the 2010 competition and to raise the standard of the RAWF competition in general.

The most notable change is regarding the number of bottles needed for entry:

In previous years 12 (twelve) bottles were required by the RAWF for each entry... I have reduced this number of bottles to 2 (two) for each entry, a number I am sure you will agree is a lot more palatable.

I have again assembled a stellar judging panel consisting of Sommeliers, Chefs, and Winemakers, augmented by a number of consumer judges.

As the Royal Winter Fair has signed up as a Good Food Fighter with Good Food Revolution there will be full media coverage of this year's competition, from judge profiles, to award announcements, and finally coverage of the award reception on Monday the 8th of November.

Online entries can be completed via <http://royalfair.org/EnterOnline>

Although please do not get confused when it looks as if you are entering cattle! All of the agricultural entries are grouped together.

Otherwise please use the attached entry form (RAWF Entry Form 2010) and fax to the RAWF entry office at 416.263.3488

I have also been given the task of creating a winelist for the RAWF Wine Bar this year... so expect to see a great selection of my favourite wines from all over Ontario!

I very much look forward to seeing your wines in competition this year.

Healthy vinous regards

Jamie Drummond

More information is available here:

<http://goodfoodrevolution.wordpress.com/2010/09/21/calling-all-ontario-wineries-royal-winter-fair-wine-competition/>

## Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Wine Competition - Confirmation of Judges and Categories

### Judging Panel for 2010 Competition:

Jamie Kennedy (Jamie Kennedy Kitchens)  
Petra Cooper (Fifth Town Cheese)  
Zoltan Szabo  
John Maxwell (Allens On The Danforth)  
Taylor Thompson (Ritz Carlton)  
Peter Boyd (Scaramouche)  
Richard Healy (Air Canada Centre)  
Anton Potvin (Niagara Street Cafe)  
John Lee (Chippy's)  
William Predhomme (Canoe)  
Sara D'Amato (Air Canada Centre)  
Suresh Doss (Spotlight On Toronto)  
Zinta Steprans (Malena/L'Unita)  
Chris Sealy (Union)  
Jeremy Day (Cafe Taste)

### Categories are as follows:

WIN-0200-00001 Chardonnay Oaked under \$20  
WIN-0200-00002 Chardonnay Oaked \$20 and over  
WIN-0200-00003 Chardonnay Unoaked under \$20  
WIN-0200-00004 Chardonnay Unoaked \$20 and over  
WIN-0200-00005 Riesling under \$20  
WIN-0200-00006 Riesling \$20 and over  
WIN-0200-00007 Aromatic White under \$20  
WIN-0200-00008 Aromatic White \$20 and over  
WIN-0200-00009 White Blend  
WIN-0200-00010 White Blend \$20 and over  
WIN-0201-00001 Merlot under \$20  
WIN-0201-00002 Merlot \$20 and over  
WIN-0201-00003 Cabernet Franc under \$20  
WIN-0201-00004 Cabernet Franc \$20 and over  
WIN-0201-00005 Pinot Noir under \$20  
WIN-0201-00006 Pinot Noir \$20 and over  
WIN-0201-00007 Other Red Varietal under \$20  
WIN-0201-00008 Other Red Varietal \$20 and over  
WIN-0201-00009 Meritage under \$20  
WIN-0201-00010 Meritage \$20 and over  
WIN-0201-00011 Red Blend  
WIN-0201-00012 Red Blend \$20 and over  
WIN-0202-00001 Rosé  
WIN-0202-00002 Sparkling  
WIN-0202-00003 Dessert

### **Bellissima Bottles for Sale**

Bellissima bottles, 375mL, flint with BVS 30H60 finish. Each pallet contains 912 bottles. Available immediately. Please call Roselyn at 905-246-9463 or [roselyn@cattailcreek.ca](mailto:roselyn@cattailcreek.ca).