

**February 19, 2013**

**Upcoming Meetings** – no meetings this week

**Wine Competition Consolidation Reminder**

The next consolidation for International Wine Competitions is for the International Wine Challenge and the consolidation takes place this week. Contact [Linda Watts](#) for more information.

**The Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers (CAPS) – Team Canada – Toyko Bound Fundraiser**

The CAPS Ontario Chapter invites you to attend a special fundraising event to help send "Team Canada" to Tokyo, Japan, for the "14th A.S.I. World's Best Sommelier Competition." Next month, **Will Predhomme** (representing Ontario) and **Veronique Rivest** (representing Quebec, as well as the Americas) will be competing against the top sommeliers from 55 different countries.

**Date/Time:** Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

**Place:** Canoe (66 Wellington Street West, 54th Floor, Toronto)

Guests will have the opportunity to mix with the who's who of the Canadian wine world while at the same time, contribute to the success of Team Canada at the "World's Best Sommelier Competition." Guests will meet principals of top wineries, enjoy fine drink and food, and network with others in the industry. There will be many prizes including trips, personalized private dinners, wine, etc.

The goal is to raise \$25,000 for the delegates . If you can't make it, you can still make a contribution by purchasing a "Still want to contribute!" ticket. See website at: <http://capsteamcanada.eventbrite.ca>.

In addition, delegate Bruce Wallner MS is holding two CAPS sanctioned tasting events in an effort to help fund Team Canada. Details are as follows:

**Taste like a world competitor: Experience tasting at the world competition level**

Date/Time: Tues. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Cost: \$30 - maximum 30 people

Event Sponsor: Small Wine Makers

Format: Wine tasting tutorial format. Reviewing structure and experiencing tasting at the competition level. Wines will be tasted by all participants.

Location: IWEG Drinks Academy - 211 Yonge Street, Suite 501

**Sommelier Smack-down**

Date/Time: Tues. Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Cost: \$30 - maximum 60 people

Event Sponsor: Small Wine Makers

Format: A Sommelier Smackdown with Veronique Rivest (ASI Best Sommelier of the Americas, 2012 & CAPS's Inniskillin Best Sommelier of Canada - CAPS 2012), Will Predhomme (Competitor, ASI Best Sommelier of the Americas, 2012 & Finalist, CAPS's Inniskillin Best Sommelier of Canada, 2012), and Bruce Wallner, MS and Sommelier Team Canada Trainer. This fun event and test your abilities against these highly skilled professionals!

Location: The Sommelier Factory – 303 King Street West

For more information on both of Bruce's events, please email him directly at [winetastesgood@hotmail.com](mailto:winetastesgood@hotmail.com)

### **WCO Membership Renewal Forms**

There are still a few members who have not yet returned the membership renewal forms (to Tanya) **Please do so as soon as possible.** If you have any questions on any of this material sent out, please contact Duncan at the WCO office).

**Wine Country Ontario Travel Guides 2012 edition** – we still have copies of the 2012 Guides available for your wineries. The new guides will not be released till middle of May so please order and use the 2012 copies.

### **Sustainable Winemaking Ontario - 2013 Sustainable Self-assessment Survey**

**STILL TIME – EXTENDED to Feb 28<sup>th</sup>!**

Make sure your winery has a "green leaf" in the *2013 Wine Country Ontario Travel Guide* by filling out the *2013 Sustainability Self-assessment Survey*, part of the *Sustainable Winemaking Ontario: An Environmental Charter for the Wine Industry*.

How to get started:

Log on to the *Wine Council of Ontario* member's site to access the *2013 Sustainability Survey* at <http://members.winecouncilofontario.ca/survey.php>. Don't have an account?

Register for an account at <http://members.winecouncilofontario.ca/account-create.php>. Don't forget to check out all of our sustainability publications while visiting. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Regina at the WCO to discuss - [regina.foisey@winesofontario.org](mailto:regina.foisey@winesofontario.org) or call 905-562-8070 ext 227.

### **WCO Health and Safety Committee – Volunteers needed**

Further to the presentation by the Ministry of Labour at our Town Hall meeting last week, we are looking for volunteers to sit on this new committee being formed at the WCO. Members will be asked to attend meetings periodically as required. Initial meetings will be with respect to the upcoming MOL visits/audits during 2013. If you are interested in participating, please advise D. Gibson at the WCO office ([duncan.gibson@winesofontario.org](mailto:duncan.gibson@winesofontario.org)).

### **PR & Communication Updates and Opportunities**

#### **Help Vote for the P7 Webisode to win Telly Award.**

The LCBO has submitted the P7 webisode featuring Norm Hardie in a U.S. Video competition called the Telly awards. They are trying to get as many people to vote for it as possible, as they are up against some stiff international competition. If you could forward this link to your contacts or tweet about it, and get more people to vote for it that would be great!

Here's the link. <http://www.youtube.com/tellyawards?x=-xVNbgY3OZc>

#### **Recent Articles:**

<http://www.buffalospree.com/Blogs/Be-There/Annual-2013/Icewine-Adventures/>

<http://www.buffalospree.com/Blogs/Consuming-Passions/Annual-2013/Celebrating-icewine-with-the-Ice-Queen-Ball/>