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FEE CHANGES FOR OCCASIONAL PERMITS TO TAKE EFFECT FEBRUARY 1, 2010

The MLCC is changing its occasional permit fee structure to simplify the application process; provide savings to event organizers; and increase business efficiencies within the organization and other liquor retailers.

MLCC President & CEO Ken Hildahl said the changes, which take effect February 1, 2010, will see the MLCC move from a complex two-fee system to a one fee system based on type of event. While he noted there would be an increase in all permit fees, the additional fees, charged for events where liquor is sold, will be eliminated.

"The current two-fee system for sale events is complex. Many of our customers do not understand the additional fees; which require considerable manual calculation," said Hildahl. "Customers and event organizers will find the process much easier and will see significant savings with the elimination of the additional fees. Simplifying the fee structure will also provide greater business efficiencies for the MLCC, liquor vendors and the private wine stores by freeing up staff time to focus on customer service and sales."

Under the current system, permit fees for events where alcohol is sold are comprised of two fees: a fixed permit fee and an additional fee of \$2.50 per unit of liquor. Under the new system, only one fee will be charged and the additional fees will be eliminated. Hildahl said the permit fees have not changed since 1987 and will now reflect today's cost for processing and investigating applications, as well as inspecting the events.

Ron Gauthier, Executive Director of Folklorama, welcomes the new permit fee changes. "The elimination of the additional fees is a positive move," said Gauthier. "It will be less cumbersome for our pavilions when applying for an occasional permit and will result in significant cost-savings for many of our pavilion organizing committees."

(more)

Hildahl said to assist with the permit fee transition and better serve permit and liquor licence holders, the MLCC is also establishing a toll-free telephone number 1-888-898-6522 (MLCC).

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Editor's Note: Permit fee changes and examples of savings attached.

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NEW MLCC OCCASIONAL "SALE" PERMIT FEE STRUCTURE

Permit Type	Typical Size of Event	Total Current Fees			New Fee	Typical Savings
		Permit fee	Additional Fees	Total		
Family Oriented Events	260	\$25	\$130	\$155	\$50	\$105.00
Organizational Functions	285	\$25	\$142.50	\$167.50	\$100	\$67.50
Charitable Fundraisers	320	\$25	\$160	\$185	\$100	\$85.00
Community Events	570	\$25	\$285	\$310	\$250*	\$60.00*

^{*}Fee amount based upon number of units of liquor for this size of event (570).

Note: Fees for community events are based on units of liquor. Savings for community events will increase with the size of event and units of liquor. Medium and large sized community events will save a minimum of \$25, with increased savings the larger the event.