



# Executive Director's Report

by Kim Haakstad

## 1 km Separation between LRS Locations

As of February 15, an LRS cannot locate within 1 km of another LRS store. When government severed the tie between Liquor Primary (LP) and Liquor Retail Store (LRS) licenses, ABLE asked for a 1 km separation between LRSs. It was felt by members of the ABLE board that this separation would provide added protection to existing LRS operators, should the LRS moratorium ever lift. You have a lot invested in your business and ABLE wants it protected.

ABLE thanks Minister Coleman and the government for making this important change in order to prevent a proliferation of Liquor Stores.

## ABLE Launches New Radio Ads

In January 2010, ABLE marked a new milestone by producing radio ads to promote our industry. These ads ran during 5 Vancouver Canucks games in January and were broadcast throughout BC on the Canucks radio network. The ads highlighted the advantages of shopping at your local independent liquor store, and countered some of the information that the BC Government Employees Union (BCGEU) had been putting out with their "Shop Public" campaign.

These radio ads were made possible through membership dues and contributions to our ABLE Advocacy Fund. ABLE continues to raise money through this fund in order to do more to publicly promote our industry as a whole.

## Keeping Up With a Changing Industry

With the severing of the tie between LP and LRS licences, ABLE has made a few changes. You will now see us mention whether information we are sending is for your LP, your LRS, or both. We have also designated a Vice-President for LP issues and a Vice-President for LRS issues. Each VP will be working closely with the ABLE office to ensure that we continue to represent the issues of both types of businesses. Matt MacNeil from the Bard and Banker Pub in Victoria will serve as VP - LPs and Salim Karim from InnHouse Licensed Retail Concepts, will serve as VP - LRSs. Please feel free to contact Matt and Salim with your comments, questions, and feedback.

## ABLE BC Buyers' Guide

Along with this edition of *The Publican*, look for your 2010 ABLE BC Buyers' Guide - a listing of LP and LRS suppliers that support our industry and the association as Associate Members of ABLE. This handy guide can help you find the supplies or services you need when making changes to your menus, undertaking renovations, searching for new products, seeking HR, real estate, legal advice, and so much more.

## Coming Soon to Your Area

Spring means it is time for ABLE to hit the road again. Watch for upcoming industry sessions in your region. Similar to last year, we will be hosting meetings in pubs all across BC.

These meetings are a great way to learn about what ABLE has been working on, get information on recent government changes, hear what is going on in the rest of the province, discuss the business climate in your region, and get your questions answered directly. Meetings are open to ABLE members and potential members.

## Still Not a Member?

Join today. ABLE is on the front lines working to advance our industry. Our membership continues to grow and there is no doubt that our members are in the know. One of the best benefits of membership with ABLE is timely access to information about our constantly changing industry. We also have cost-saving programs and are here to answer or find answers to your questions.

Still not sure why you should join? Contact the ABLE office or the ABLE director in your region today!

## New Members

Check out the "Names in the News" column on page 37 for a list of new ABLE members.

Have something you want to brag about or share with other pub and liquor stores operators? Send your information to [admin@ablebc.ca](mailto:admin@ablebc.ca) and we will submit it for an upcoming "Names in the News" in *The Publican*.

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