

Challenges & Successes working with Licenced Establishments

Presentation to the 7th annual
Alcohol: No Ordinary Commodity Forum
March 2, 2010

- What is the Toronto Drug Strategy?
- TDS initiatives related to licenced establishments
- Challenges and successes
- Q&A
- Sharing of ideas from the group

What is the Toronto Drug Strategy?

- Comprehensive municipal strategy for alcohol and other drugs
 - prevention, harm reduction, treatment, enforcement
- Balance public health + public order concerns
- Purpose is to:
 - ground program, policy and funding decisions
 - foster intersectoral collaboration

- Strengthen regulatory legislation for alcohol
- Reduce alcohol-related violence in bars and clubs – promote CAMH *Safer Bars* Program
- Explore option for City to make *Safer Bars* mandatory
- Limit density of licenced establishments

- Workshops for licenced establishments on how to develop/implement policies - *Larry Grand*

“This was an excellent experience. I learned a lot. I don’t think I realized how serious these issues can be.”

“A house policy is a great framework to get us started; great workshop.”

I found this workshop to be very informative and can definitely use this information in our establishment.”

- Municipal Licencing and Standards Division report on option for City of Toronto to require all licenced establishments to undergo *Safer Bars* training.
- Recommendation not supported.
- “Problem property” committees at the municipal level.

- Presentations on alcohol liability issues for licenced establishments – *Robert Solomon*
- Promote CAMH *Safer Bars* program and resources at workshops and events
- Partner in the *Toronto Summit on Nightlife, Violence & Youthful Drinking*

- AGCO Board re: including *Safer Bars* on list of accepted training programs for new risk-based licencing system
- Provincial Mental Health & Addictions Strategy
 - maintaining strong regulatory controls
 - limiting density of licenced establishments

- Mandate is to develop strategies to prevent AOD-related violence and harms
- Diverse, intersectoral membership
- Areas of focus include:
 - youth engagement re: safer partying
 - illicit drugs and related harms
 - prevention info/resource sharing

Related activities

- Input into Entertainment District BIA best practices document
- Participating in Entertainment District BIA meetings
- Attending nightlife industry conferences
- Regional Safer Bars Committee

- Engaging business owners
- Support for regulatory/prevention measures
- Provincial/municipal jurisdictional tensions
- Meaningful penalties for LLA infractions
- Adequate enforcement resources

- Intersectoral collaboration
- Stronger relationships with enforcement – AGCO, police, MLS, etc
- Stronger relationships with BIAs, and licenced establishments
- Ripple effect of bar policy workshops, etc

Q & A

What successes and challenges
would you like to share?

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