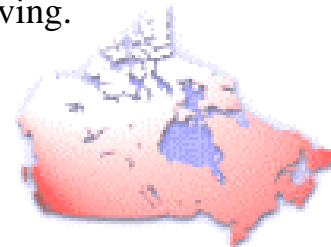




“Provincial and territorial governments have no excuse for delay—there are ways to have a positive impact on the problem of drinking and driving. We are urging governments to act.”

—Carolyn Swinson, MADD Canada National President, June 22 press release



## MADD Grades Canada's DUI Legislation

MADD Canada has been leading the fight against drinking and driving for nearly three decades and the release of the *2000 Report Card* proves why. Based on the landmark study, *Rating the Provinces and Territories: A National Study of Highway Traffic, Victims and Insurance Legislation Relating to Impaired Driving* by respected law academic, Robert Solomon, the *Report Card* grades provincial and territorial efforts against model measures such as:

- Three-stage graduated licensing.
- Mandatory zero blood alcohol (BAC) for drivers under 21
- 24-hour roadside licence suspensions for drivers with a BAC .05 or higher, or who refuse to provide breath or blood samples or take a physical coordination test without a reasonable excuse
- 90-day Administrative Licence Suspensions for drivers with a BAC over .08 or who fail to take the required tests without a reasonable excuse.
- Remedial programs that require first-time offenders with a BAC under .16 (twice the legal limit) to successfully complete an education program, and those with a BAC of .16 or higher, or convicted of impaired driving causing death or bodily harm, to undergo a comprehensive assessment and successfully complete addictions treatment if required.
- Alcohol interlocks for all repeat impaired driving offenders, first time offenders with a BAC over .16, and drivers who according to the Registrar, are at a significant risk of drinking and driving.
- Seizure and impoundment of uninsured vehicles or vehicles driven by unlicensed, disqualified or prohibited drivers.

**Table 1: MADD's 2000 Report Card: How the Provinces Stack Up**

BC	YK	NT	AL	SK	MB	ON	NB	NS	PE	NF
C+	D+	F	C-	C-	C	C+	D	C	D+	D+

Source: *The 2000 Report Card*. Toronto: MADD Canada, June 2000.

While there was evidence of best practices, no province rated higher than a C+ — a clear indication of room for improvement. MADD's suggested priorities: greater consistency among jurisdictions, as well as:

- More comprehensive graduated licensing legislation.
- Expanded police authority to stop vehicles at random, use passive alcohol sensors, and demand physical coordination tests and breath samples from drivers in crash-related injuries or fatalities.
- More rigorous driver's licence suspensions, particularly those aimed at repeat offenders.
- Widespread use of alcohol interlocks and vehicle impoundment.
- Improved remedial programs for those convicted of impaired driving.
- Better access to the legal system, support services and compensation for victims of impaired driving, broadly defined as individuals suffering physical, property or economic loss as well as their spouse, parents, siblings and children.
- Mandatory \$500,000 minimum third party insurance coverage, insurance premiums that reflect the driver's record and education for drivers and car owners on the liability and insurance risks of driving while impaired or suspended.

To view the full report go to [www.madd.ca/library/prov2000](http://www.madd.ca/library/prov2000) or call MADD Canada at 800-665-6233.

## Research Corner

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These articles were culled from recent issues of alcohol and health-related journals. For copies or to borrow a journal, contact the CAMH-ARF Library, 416-535-8501 Ext 6144, Email: [isd@arf.org](mailto:isd@arf.org). To search for abstracts of these and other scholarly articles online, check out the *Research, Networking & Information Exchange Action Pack* on APOLNET, [www.apolnet.web.ca](http://www.apolnet.web.ca).

# Round Up

“Got a question? Scoop? Opinion? Get on the new APOLNET Listserv. To join, go to [www.apolnet.web.ca](http://www.apolnet.web.ca).”

## New Code of Conduct; Curriculum Released

On June 23, *Bill 81, The Safe Schools Act, 2000*, became law in Ontario. A key component of the Tory election platform, the bill was introduced in the provincial Legislature on May 31 by Education Minister, Janet Ecker. It includes a controversial new *Code of Conduct for Ontario Schools* that prohibits school members from being in possession or under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, or providing these to others. Students under the influence of alcohol are subject to on-the-spot suspensions. Those who provide alcohol to friends under the legal drinking age will be suspended and subjected to an expulsion hearing. They may also face charges in keeping with a soon-to-be-released protocol guiding police response to incidents on school property and at school events. Also on the education front, the grade 11 and 12 *Health and Physical Education* curriculum was finally released on June 2. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) are collaborating on the development of course profiles specifically related to the substance abuse portion. For more info contact CAMH Program Consultant, Sharon LaBonte-Jaques, 519-583-1089. For links to the *Code of Conduct* and the new curriculum visit the Ministry of Education web site, [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/welcome.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/welcome.html). For background info, see the *Alcohol and Youth Action Pack* on APOLNET, [www.apolnet.web.ca](http://www.apolnet.web.ca).

## LCBO Releases New ID Guide

In May, the LCBO introduced the *Working SMAART Quick Check ID Guide* to make it easier to determine if youthful-looking customers have valid proof of age. The 12-page guide includes full-colour images of acceptable identification in Ontario, including the LCBO BYID Card, the Ontario Photo Card, a Driver's Licence, a Canadian Citizenship Card, a Canadian passport and a Canadian Armed Forces Identification Card. The guide—also available to private beer and wine retailers and holders of special occasion permits and liquor licences—is part of a renewed effort

by the public retailer to discourage sales to minors. Last year, LCBO staff checked more than 913,000 individuals under its *Challenge and Refusal* and *Check 25* programs. Of those challenged, almost 83,000 were refused service for failing to produce valid proof of age, or for appearing intoxicated. As part of its social responsibility efforts, the LCBO has also produced a poster that depicts three coal miners accompanied by the message *The Only Miners We Serve*, and is considering developing a video to discourage underage drinking for use in schools across the province. For a copy of the poster, call the LCBO information line, 800-ONT-LCBO (668-5226). For info on the LCBO's Social Responsibility initiatives, contact Elizabeth Kruzal, [kruzele@lcbo.com](mailto:kruzele@lcbo.com).

## Snowmobiling Bill Squeaks Through

On June 20, *Bill 101, the Motorized Snow Vehicles Amendment Act, 2000* received first reading in the provincial Legislature. Introduced by Tourism Minister Cam Jackson, the bill expands police powers by making failure to stop for a police officer an offence punishable by a \$10,000 fine and six months in jail. Those who flee police, may be subject to an additional \$25,000 fine, a minimum 14-day prison sentence, and a 5-year driver's or operator's licence suspension. In cases where the person's conduct or subsequent police pursuit result in death or bodily harm, licence suspensions will be extended to a minimum of 10 years to life. The bill also creates an offence for operating a snowmobile while under suspension and disqualifies those with suspended driver's licences from obtaining a snow vehicle operator's licence. The bill has been referred to the Standing Committee on General Government for public hearings. For dates and locations, contact Clerk, Viktor Kaczkowki, 416-325-3522. For links to the bill and debates, visit the Hot Issues Section of APOLNET.

## Alcohol Banned in Provincial Parks

On May 10, the Ministry of Natural Resources announced an 11-day ban on alcohol at 34 provincial parks beginning

May 12. The measure was put in place to discourage alcohol-related violence, injuries and property damage that sometimes accompanies the beginning of camping season around the “May 2-4” long weekend. Under the Ontario *Liquor Licence Act* individuals 19 and older may only consume alcohol or keep open containers at registered provincial campsites. Those possessing or consuming beer, wine or spirits elsewhere in the park, including roads, beaches and picnic grounds and other day-use areas may be charged and evicted. Alcohol use in municipal parks is generally prohibited. For a list of provincial parks with alcohol bans go to [www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/parks/search.htm](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/parks/search.htm). For info on camping-related policy development, see *Setting a New Direction, a resource guide for alcohol, tobacco and other drug policies for summer camps* developed by the Ontario Camping Association and CAMH. An order form is available at [www.camh.net/resources](http://www.camh.net/resources).

## Boating/Water Safety Promoted

On May 18, Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Herb Dhaliwal launched *National Safe Boating Week*. The focus of this year's event was on education, particularly that of young boaters. Federal regulations introduced last year ban those under 16 from operating personal watercraft, and encourage young boaters to take an accredited boating course to qualify for a Pleasure Craft Operator Card. Under a planned phase-in of the regulations, competency requirements will be expanded to operators of pleasure craft under 4 metres on September 15, 2002, and to all operators of motorized craft by 2009. For a guide to the new boating regulations and links to accredited courses offered in Ontario, visit the Office of Boating Safety website at [www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/obs-bsn/main.htm](http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/obs-bsn/main.htm). Meanwhile, the Red Cross's *2000 Drowning Report* brought home some sobering statistics: alcohol was suspected or proven a factor in 43% of drownings, including 41 boating fatalities in Canada in 1997. To download the full report go to [www.redcross.ca/english/watersafety/watersafety.html](http://www.redcross.ca/english/watersafety/watersafety.html).

# News & Views

## Upcoming Events

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Manage the Energy Conference on the Prevention of Injury and Impaired Driving will take place **February 25-27, 2001** at the Inn on the Park in Toronto. A Call for Presentations related to the theme, *Breaking Down the Silos*, will be available in September. For more info visit the SMARTRISK website, [www.smartrisk.ca](http://www.smartrisk.ca) or contact Bev Woods, 416-463-9878.

## Media Campaigns

In May, the LCBO and MADD Canada released a hard hitting new TV spot called *Buried Alive*. The ad is part of the *Drinking and Driving is No Accident* Campaign, launched by the two organizations a year ago. It targets young men with the message *Drinking and driving is no accident. It's a choice. Make the right one*, and includes radio commercials, billboards with actual crashed cars or their pictures, and ads in bar and restaurant washrooms and the LCBO *Food & Drink Magazine*. Also in May, the Ontario Community Council on Impaired Driving (OCCID) released a new series of social responsibility materials as part of its summer-long *Arrive Alive Drive Sober Campaign*. A new **ZERO HERO** video PSA is set for release on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Finally, the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council unveiled two new public service announcements on the dangers of cooking or smoking while under the influence of alcohol. The text of the 30 and 15 second PSAs called *A Dangerous Mix* is posted online at [www.gov.on.ca:80/OFM/pubsafet/psa-drink.htm](http://www.gov.on.ca:80/OFM/pubsafet/psa-drink.htm). For info on the MADD/LCBO Campaign go to [www.lcbo.com/about/social\\_resp/advertising/content\\_advertising.shtml](http://www.lcbo.com/about/social_resp/advertising/content_advertising.shtml). To download or order OCCID materials go to [www.occid.org/awareness/index.html](http://www.occid.org/awareness/index.html).

## Comings and Goings

**Sharon Glover** has been named Executive Director of The Brewers of Ontario. Sharon takes over from **Jan Wescott**, now CEO of the Association of Canadian Distillers. In January, **Andy Brandt** was reappointed Chair and CEO of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) for a three-year term. Effective May 15, Toronto lawyer **Ian McPhail** took over from Clare Lewis as Chair of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO). **Pamela Fralick** was elected Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health at the Annual General Meeting in June, following the resignation of Bill Currie and Nora McCabe, Chair and Vice-Chair respectively. Finally, former CAMH Program Consultant, **Trevor Wereley** was selected to head the new FOCUS Resource Centre. For an updated list of these and other alcohol policy contacts, visit APOLNET.

## APN News

**Jennifer Hance** joined APN as the full-time Web Administrator in June. Jennifer takes over from Ana Almeida who was instrumental in launching the APOLNET web site in 1995 and managing its growth and development since. Ana is now Membership and Events Manager at the Recycling Council of Ontario. Jennifer brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to APN, having earned a Masters of Information Studies at the University of Toronto, and worked with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and the Council for Tobacco-Free Ontario for a number of years. Over the next few months, Jennifer will be updating and expanding the APN website, coordinating the new APOLNET listserv and launching two new searchable online databases, one of key contacts, the other of alcohol-related public education materials, including public service announcements. She can be reached at 416-367-3313 ext. 23 or [apolnet@web.ca](mailto:apolnet@web.ca). *Welcome, Jennifer!*

## About Us

*Alcohol Policy Update (APU)* is a free quarterly fax-newsletter of the Alcohol Policy Network (APN), a project of the Ontario Public Health Association. Our mission is to facilitate the development of policies that prevent problems associated with alcohol use and enhance the health, safety and well-being of individuals and communities across Ontario.

APN fulfills its mission by offering a range of products and services including information and referral, regional workshops and seminars, publications and a comprehensive website called APOLNET.

APN does not take public positions on issues although its members and its host, the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), may do so.

Information appearing in this newsletter in no way constitutes an endorsement by OPHA or its members. Submissions are welcome. Printing is subject to space availability.

*APU* is distributed via fax to over 600 subscribers active in substance abuse prevention, injury prevention and public health. It is also available on APOLNET, [www.apolnet.web.ca](http://www.apolnet.web.ca).

For more info on this newsletter or APN's other products and services, please contact Paula Neves, Project Manager, [apn@web.ca](mailto:apn@web.ca), or Jennifer Hance, Web Administrator, [apolnet@web.ca](mailto:apolnet@web.ca). We can also be reached by phone at 800-267-6817.

Alcohol Policy Network

# Fax Back

(416) 367-2844

INFO FOR UPCOMING ISSUE OF *APU* ATTACHED

I would rate this issue of *Alcohol Policy Update* as ...

I will use this information to ...

**Excellent**      **Very Good**      **Good**      **Fair**      **Poor**

1                      2                      3                      4                      5