

November 5, 2010

Best Bar None recognizes licensed venues for safety, service

Edmonton... Licensed establishments in Edmonton are being recognized for higher safety and customer service standards by the *Best Bar None (BBN)* program. This week 38 pubs, clubs, bars and lounges received accreditation through this voluntary program.

Since the program's June launch, 63 of Edmonton's 330 pubs, clubs, bars and lounges applied for *BBN* accreditation. *BBN* uses a system of accreditation, assessment and awards to pit night spots in a healthy competition with each other, to earn the right to be recognized as excelling in public safety and customer service. Accredited venues can display *BBN* signage to help patrons recognize the bars, pubs and clubs participating in the program.

"I'm pleased so many Edmonton venues applied for *Best Bar None* accreditation and I'm also impressed with the toughness of the standards," said Frank Oberle, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security. "Meeting the program's criteria is not as simple as hanging a sign or changing a light bulb. It's about having policies and practices to keep patrons safer and to operate a better business in a competitive market."

"We were confident that Edmonton's licensed venues would take advantage of the opportunity *Best Bar None* affords them to demonstrate good business and service practices," said Mayor Stephen Mandel. "The city's bars, pubs and clubs will benefit from attracting patrons who seek and appreciate the improved safety and service of our vibrant hospitality industry."

BBN partners are the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission, the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Police Service (EPS). The program is also supported by community agencies such as the Public Safety Compliance Team, the Alberta Safer Bars Council and Responsible Hospitality Edmonton.

"When we launched *Best Bar None* last summer, we were excited at the opportunity for licensees to work with their staff and other agencies in an effort to meet or exceed established best practices," said Neil Dubord, EPS Superintendent and member of the *BBN* Steering Committee. "Now we have 38 licensed establishments that have done that, and more. We're confident this kind of participation and support is going to have an impact on reducing violence in and around licensed premises."

For more information, visit bestbarnone.ab.ca.

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Vanda Killeen, Communications
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission
Phone: 780-577-6972

Vanda.killeen@aglc.ca

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

Jacqueline Ladouceur, Communications
City of Edmonton

Phone: 780-442-6966

Jacqueline.ladouceur@edmonton.ca

Anne Gray, Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Edmonton Police Service

Phone: 780-421-2039

Anne.gray@edmontonpolice.ca

Editor's Note: An Accreditation and Awards Event will be held November 16th at the TransAlta Arts Barns, from 5 to 9 p.m. to recognize the accredited venues and the award winners.

November 5, 2010

38 pubs, clubs, bars and lounges recognized for efforts to improve safety, customer service

The criteria for *Best Bar None* accreditation and awards fall into three categories: Essential, Desired and Bonus. Meeting the Essential criteria is required for accreditation and meeting the Desired and/or Bonus criteria merits eligibility for awards (Overall Winner, Winner, 1st and 2nd Runners-Up in the three categories of pub, club, bar/lounge).

Essential criteria include operational requirements such as keeping incident records, ensuring the requirements of *ProTect* and *ProServe* training are met and that a minimum of one staff is on shift at all times with valid first aid/CPR training.

Desired and Bonus criteria have additional requirements such as using a security scanning system and a surveillance/camera system for interior and exterior areas area, using metal detectors or wands and providing hot and cold food service during all hours of liquor service.

Visit bestbarnone.ab.ca for more information on accreditation criteria.

Best Bar None Accredited Venues:

Big Foot Pub	Oil City Roadhouse
Ceili's Irish Pub and Restaurant Edmonton	On the Rocks Restaurant Bar & Live Music (Jasper Ave.)
Cook County Saloon	Pawn Shop
Devaney's Irish Pub	Prospectors Lounge - Rosslyn Inn & Suites
Diesel Ultra Lounge	R Pub Ltd.
Eden Exotic Entertainment Nightclub	Sands Hotel & Conference Centre
Empire Ballroom Nightclub WEM	Suite 69
Flow Lounge & Grill	Teddy's Palace
Funky Buddha	The Billiard Club
Hudsons Canadian Tap House (Campus)	The Druid Irish Pub
Hudsons Canadian Tap House (Downtown)	The Keg Steakhouse & Bar – Old Strathcona
Hudsons Canadian Tap House (South Common)	The Pint Public House
Hudsons Canadian Tap House (Whyte Avenue)	Tom Goodchild's Moose Factory
Kingsway Garden Mall Smitty's	Twist Ultra Lounge
Lucky 13 Dance Club	Tyson's Games Room at the Travelodge East
Mama Pizza & Flair Lounge (Millwoods)	Union Hall Nightclub
Manning Crossing Smitty's	Vinyl Retro Dance Lounge
Millwoods Town Centre Smitty's	Westmount Shopping Centre Smitty's
Moriarty's Bistro & Wine Bar	
Northgate Centre Mall Smitty's	

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Vanda Killeen, Communications
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission
Phone: 780-577-6972

Vanda.killeen@aglc.ca

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

Jacqueline Ladouceur, Communications
City of Edmonton

Phone: 780-442-6966

Jacqueline.ladouceur@edmonton.ca

Anne Gray, Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Edmonton Police Service

Phone: 780-421-2039

Anne.gray@edmontonpolice.ca