# **DRAFT MINUTES**



## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS - AUGUST16TH /2016

Attendees: Peter Brain, Simon Resch, Gerry Lee, Abe Taqtaq, Laurie Karson and Philippe Bachand

Special GR Advisors: Tania Lee (Blue Water Bridge)

**Absent**: Michael Gruyich

Review of prior meeting minutes:

Motion by Simon Resch to approve the draft GR Mtg. Minutes from: July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Seconded by Abe Taqtaq. No opposition. All approved.

## Lease Update:

The winning RFP announcement in which Peace Bridge Duty Free store has won was recently announced.

- Peace Bridge has not communicated since the winning bid to the FDFA re: rejoining the FDFA
- The group concluded that the FDFA should reach out to Peace Bridge i.e. Jim Pearce and Greg O'Hara regarding the FDFA's efforts to support the D432 position
- There is speculation that Peace Bridge is in partnership of some kind with DFASS

#### **ACTION:**

- Peter Brain to contact Greg and Jim regarding the FDFA's efforts/lobbying regarding the lease situation over the last six months and to inquire as to their renewal of FDFA membership.
- Laurie to communicate via the communique to the membership of the winning bid and the FDFA's support of our longstanding position to ensure D<sub>432</sub> remains in place
- Tania Lee to speak to contacts on DFASS's involvement and discussions with other stores pertaining to distribution.
- Peninsula Duty Free is unsure about rejoining the FDFA. Abe Taqtaq to contact Chris Foster about rejoining given the upcoming review and its significance to his store viability.

## Conference Call Update with Laurie and Brent McRoberts:

Laurie noted that Brent McRoberts of CBSA contacted her and noted the following:

- 1. CBSA was pleased with the outcome of Peace Bridge winning the bid
- 2. They are in the process of reviewing the D-memo's and regs as it relates to the lease file to ensure a most stable position is clear for all parties.
- 3. Shawn Riel of CBSA will be leading this file.
- 4. Laurie asked if this review is similar in process to the strategic and program reviews. Brent noted it was a review but a more focused review pertaining to these respective issues i.e. lease.
- 5. He requested a luncheon in Ottawa with Laurie this September to discuss the next steps in the review.
- 6. Laurie also is setting up a meeting with Christine Walker, VP of Controllership, Brent, etc. regarding the longstanding lease negotiations that continue to be unresolved for Philippe Bachand and Kitt's Duty Free. Philippe noted that IGL was also experiencing lease communication issues with CBSA and will advise Laurie on the details.

#### **ACTION:**

- 1. It was agreed that Laurie will set up lunch mtg. with Brent and Gerry, Peter and Philippe will also join the lunch to discuss the review in Ottawa.
- 2. It was also agreed that Laurie would ask TSA Scott Munnoch to reach out to his Niagara contact to see if we can assess lease rental agreement that may affect other store negotiations, and if any other factors with the winning bid decision that we should be aware of.
- 3. Laurie provided full lease budget and legal invoices in detail.

## **Ethics Complaint**

The Committee discussed the confidential Ethics Complaint that Windsor has put forth.

#### 1. Process

• Peter will send a note to the Board to identify a ethics advisor to oversee the process and identify a proper committee/investigation.

## **Nest GR Meeting:**

No meeting scheduled at this time.