

DRAFT MINUTES

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE – MAY 24th, 2017

Attendees: Peter Brain, Abe Taqtaq, Laurie Karson, Philippe Bachand, Gerry Lee and Cam Bissonnette

ABSENT: Simon Resch

Call to Order, Philippe Bachand

- Philippe Bachand called the meeting to order.

CBSA Discussion:

- **Lease Rate Review Update**
 - Laurie noted that she reached out to Mr. Chenard regarding a status update on the Lease Rate Review. She received a communication from Mr. Chenard that she has shared with Philippe noting that they anticipate being completed the review in conjunction with Public Works before Canada Day. Previously, we were told before St. Jean Baptiste Day for the final results.
 - Laurie has provided Darryl Larson and Shawn Riel the key agenda points for their presentation at the semi-annual meeting. We also received the draft minutes for the committee's review from our live GR meeting in Ottawa on April 26th
 - **ACTION: Laurie to continue communications with Mr. Chenard on the final dates to discuss with the stores their lease rate review decisions.**
 - **ACTION: She will provide each member at the Semi-Annual Meeting the "What we heard Document" in both French and English – which CBSA created as a background on their process pertaining to the lease rate review.**
 - **ACTION: The committee to review the draft minutes of April 26th – live meeting with GR and CBSA in Ottawa so that Laurie can respond as to any amendments and/or approval. Should consider next live meeting time in Ottawa i.e. this Fall 2017.**

Industry Paper

- The Committee discussed the importance of having an updated Industry paper for general advocacy purposes alongside a potential addendum on tobacco with specific duty free tobacco stats.
- While Peter noted that internally we can collect this information without requiring a third-party agency to do so, Laurie noted the importance of understanding what the purpose of the stats would be used for and developing a framework of questions to the operators to meet these respective objectives.
- The group also discussed the challenges in the past on collecting industry stats from our members and ensuring confidentiality to assure members that their information would not be shared.
- Gerry Lee noted that in respect to tobacco, we need to understand what "disaster scenarios" are in the short term for our industry i.e. plain packaging? While Duncan Raynor presented to our members

on the pending tobacco threats to our industry during our Chicago Semi-Annual meeting, it was noted that many of these tobacco control group objectives are being met and met in quick fashion.

- **ACTION:** Laurie to contact Duncan Raynor on a proposal for the GR Committee's review of the impending tobacco threats to our specific duty free industry. The proposal will outline who we would reach out to from a political perspective per each respective "threat" and what stats we would require combatting these "disasters". The goal is to create a more proactive approach to these potential challenges as opposed to reacting. Laurie to also ask for a cost from Duncan for the GR Committee's review.

ACTION and FINAL NOTES:

- Laurie is working with Phillippe on his Semi-Annual Government Relations presentation and will note the importance to the members of summer grassroots advocacy, etc.

Next GR Teleconference:

- TBD next teleconference. L.Karson will send outlook invite.