

# DRAFT MINUTES

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE – JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2017

**Attendees:** Peter Brain, Simon Resch, Abe Taqtaq, Laurie Karson, Philippe Bachand and Cam Bissonnette

**Absent:** Gerry Lee

**Call to Order – Abe Taqtaq called the meeting to order.**

### **Government Relations – for review – no motions required:**

The GR Committee recently met via teleconference on June 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss key GR topics, some of which were highlighted during the open discussions at the Semi-Annual meeting. Pls. see a summary of the topics/outcomes.

**CBSA Overview** – Next Mtg, Recent Live Presentation by CBSA and review of recent April 2017 Meeting minutes

- Discussion as to whether Abe, Laurie and Philippe conclude with CBSA's draft minutes from the live meeting held in Ottawa with FDFA/CBSA as part of the Bi-Annual meeting agreement.
- **ACTION: The draft minutes were agreed upon, and FDFA will approve.**
- **ACTION: Laurie will contact CBSA to identify potential Fall dates for the next FDFA/CBSA live meeting.**
- It was the conclusion of the GR Committee that while we were pleased with CBSA presenting at the recent semi-annual meeting, the presentation only provided limited insight into CBSA objectives and we were not told formerly about the decision on CBSA's part to cancel the sales stats process.

### ***B117 – Sales Stats***

- Given the recent formal communication from CBSA that the sales stats collection/distribution would be ending most likely in a year's time, the GR Committee discussed the importance of creating a private stats forum that the FDFA could facilitate.
- Recommended ACTIONS: Abe noted creating on a secure cloud based system
- Since we will be asking the members for permission to collect stats relating to general advocacy stats i.e. employment, and tobacco, Laurie will update the MOU to reflect the permission to collect other stats for potential sales stats distribution by the FDFA.
- The FDFA would send this to non-members as well – for consideration by Board

### ***Tobacco Sub-Committee – Collection of Stats***

- Simon Resch who leads the tobacco sub-committee, discussed some of the key questions to operators relating to stats which included the necessity to collect unit sales not gross sales, also breakdown of regional tobacco i.e. sticks going out, who is American vs. CDN customers, etc. The sub-committee will also work with the tobacco companies to retain information at least five years out.
- **ACTION: Overall, the Tobacco Sub-Committee will meet at the end of July 2017 to formalize the key questions for the GR and Board to review.**

**Draft Memorandum of Understanding & CBSA Live Meeting**

- The FDFA office put together a draft of the MOU for the GR Committee's review that was agreed upon at the recent semi-annual meeting.
- **ACTION:** The GR Committee has requested an update to the MOU to reflect additional stats to be requested for future sales stats collection by the FDFA since CBSA is disbanding this process.

**Next GR Teleconference – August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**