

Alberta Roundtable on Violence In and Around Licensed Premises Activity Update

What was the Roundtable and when was it held?

The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission partnered with the Solicitor General and Ministry of Public Security to host two roundtable sessions on the issue of violence in and around licensed premises. The first session was held in November 2005 and the second was held in March 2006.

The Alberta Roundtable on Violence In and Around Licensed Premises explored the issue of violence within the context of bars, nightclubs, and other licensed premises. Its purpose was to gather input, information and advice from stakeholders on the frontlines – from the people who work in, own, manage, regulate and protect the province's licensed premises.

Who was involved?

Communities across Alberta were represented through government agencies, municipalities, police agencies, industry and municipal associations, addictions counsellors, researchers and liquor licensees.

Outcome of the Roundtable sessions

Stakeholder discussions and suggestions on this issue were summarized in the report, *Alberta Roundtable on Violence In and Around Licensed Premises: Exploring the Issues*, released in August 2006. The full report is available on the AGLC website.

Identifying best practices, sharing information and community mobilization efforts are the focus of this Roundtable Activity Update.

Current Activities

- Research is being conducted to identify regulatory and operational best practices that we know will make a difference;
- A public awareness campaign aimed at bar patrons is being developed;
- A security/door staff training module will be added to the current Alberta Server Intervention Program this fall.

- Memberships on task forces (Edmonton and Fort McMurray have developed public safety task forces since the roundtable event. The task forces include representatives from the city, fire services, police or RCMP, and the AGLC.)

Future Plans

- GOA ministries potentially impacted by the proposed Action Plan will be consulted.
- Further consultation with a wider audience and the public is anticipated as part of any legislative or policy changes that may come forward from this process.
 - October 2007 – The AGLC will host a stakeholder meeting in Calgary to discuss (1) the results of the research, (2) how to more widely disseminate the information (i.e. website resource) and (3) to develop a method for encouraging the adoption of “best practices” by licensees to increase patron safety in and around licensed premises.
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Pilot Project: The AGLC is sponsoring a project to improve patron safety by auditing the physical ‘environment’ (e.g. lighting) of licensed premises where violent incidents have occurred. The results of the audits will be shared with licensees and we will work with them to improve to improve security at the premises.