

Drinks Ontario Calendar of Events

Notice To Readers -- “*Drinks Ontario*” is the new name of the Association representing imported beverage alcohol suppliers and their agents in the Ontario marketplace -- it replaces “*Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association*.” This name change presents a more modern image for the Association and better describes its function to both industry and government --that is, an Association representing Ontario businesses. While the majority of Drinks Ontario Members’ products may be imported, they make very significant contributions to the Ontario economy through LCBO mark-ups and corporate taxes. These funds are used by government to back investments in infrastructure and social programs, benefitting all Ontarians.

2010 -- Ontario Events

- February** 24 **Vintages Presents Quintessential Burgundy Tasting and Dinner** (6:30 p.m., Tasting; 7:15 p.m., Dinner; Juniper Kitchen and Wine Bar, 245 Richmond Road, Ottawa; Featuring the LCBO’s Igor Ryjenkov who will discuss the Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs that set the benchmarks against which all others are measured) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764 (SOLD OUT)
- 24 **Ontario Wine Society Annual Dinner** (6:30 p.m., Reception; 7 p.m., Dinner; The Chefs’ House, 215 King Street East, Toronto) Ken Burford, 416/-921-9798, contact@ontariowinesociety.com, www.ontariowinesociety.com
- 26 **We Care Ski Day** (Alpine Ski Club, Collingwood; Benefitting Easter Seal Kids) -- Eddie Sokoloff, 416/499-2211, fpitzd@rogers.com
- March** 4 **Vintages Presents Dominus Structured Tasting and Dinner** (6-7:30 p.m., Structured Tasting; 7:30 p.m., Reception; 8 p.m., Dinner; Centro Restaurant & Lounge, 2472 Yonge Street, Toronto; Featuring Christian Moueix, visionary producer of Château Pétrus and other top Bordeaux estates) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764 (SOLD OUT)
- 7-10 **CRFA Show** (Direct Energy Centre, 100 Princes’ Boulevard, Toronto) -- Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association, 1-800/387-5649, www.CRFAShow.ca
- 11 **Pairing Port & Cheese** (6:30 p.m.; Spence Gallery, 600 Markham Street, Toronto) -- Eleanor Cosman, South African Wine Society, 905/762-9161, sawsinfo@rogers.com
- 11 **St. Patty’s Day** (7 p.m.; Leslieville Cheese Market, 891 Queen Street East, Toronto; An evening of beer and cheese pairings hosted by brewmaster Sam Corbeil) -- Leslieville Cheese Market, 416/465-7143; info@leslievillecheese.com
- 18 **Vintages Presents Bordeaux Meets Burgundy** (6:30-9 p.m., Walk-Around Tasting; Le Méridien King Edward, 37 King Street East, Toronto; Featuring more than 40 stunning wines from Bordeaux and Burgundy) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764
- 18 **Never Met a Goat I Didn’t Like** (7 p.m.; Leslieville Cheese Market, 891 Queen Street East, Toronto; An evening of wine and cheese pairings hosted by Julia Rogers) -- Leslieville Cheese Market, 416/465-7143; info@leslievillecheese.com
- 22 **Vintages Presents Muga: A Splash of Spain** (6:30-7:15 p.m., Reception; 7:15 p.m., Dinner; George Restaurant, 111c Queen Street East, Toronto; A reception and dinner with Proprietor Juan Muga) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764
- 25 **Drinks Ontario Members’ Meeting** (8:30 Breakfast, 9 a.m. Meeting; Boulevard Club, 1491 Lakeshore Boulevard West, Toronto; Guest speaker t.b.a.) -- Ian Campbell, Drinks Ontario (formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA), 416/699-9535, ian.campbell@oiwsba.com
- 25 **Vintages Presents Gaja: Structured tasting & Dinner with the King of Piedmont** (6:15-7:15 p.m., Structured Tasting; 7:15-7:45 p.m., Reception; 7:45 p.m., Dinner; Centro Restaurant & Lounge, 2472 Yonge Street, Toronto; Featuring Italian legend Angelo Gaja and his groundbreaking ultra-premium wines) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764 (SOLD OUT)
- 30 **ViniPortugal Annual Trade Tasting** (2:30-6 p.m.; Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas Street West, Toronto) -- William Delgado, Portuguese Trade and Tourism Commission, 416/921-0259, william.delgado@portugalglobal.pt
- April** 3 **Ontario Wine Awards** (First day of judging; Crush Wine Bar, 455 King Street West, Toronto; Time t.b.a.) -- Tony Aspler, 416/488-8597, tony.aspler@rogers.com
- 10 **Ontario Wine Awards** (Second day of judging; Crush Wine Bar, 455 King Street West, Toronto; Time t.b.a.) -- Tony Aspler, 416/488-8597, tony.aspler@rogers.com
- 19 **California Wine Fair** (12 noon-2:15 p.m., Luncheon; 2:30-5 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; The Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front Street West, Toronto) – Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 20 **LCBO Vintages “Green Evolution” Eco-Friendly Wine Tasting & Dinner** (Time t.b.a.; Globe Earth, 1055 Yonge Street, Toronto; A five-course dinner featuring eight wineries from across the globe all united with an environmental message) -- Alexander Gaunt, Calibrium International, agaunt@calibrium.com and Craig de Blois, Lifford Wine Agency, craig@liffordwine.com
- 20 **California Wine Fair** (2:30-4:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; The Westin Ottawa, 11 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa) – Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 20 **Argentinean Wine Tasting** (1:30-5:30 p.m., Venue t.b.a., Toronto; A trade tasting showcasing Argentinean wineries new to the Ontario marketplace) -- Monica Ralphs, 647/338-4105, monica.ralphs@winespeak.ca

- April**
- 21 **LCBO Vintages “Green Evolution” Eco-Friendly Wine Tasting & Dinner** (Time t.b.a.; The Arc Hotel, 140 Slater Street, Ottawa; A five-course dinner featuring eight wineries from across the globe all united with an environmental message) -- Alexander Gaunt, Calibrium International, agaunt@calibrium.com and Craig de Blois, Lifford Wine Agency, craig@liffordwine.com
- 21 **Best of Belgium** (7 p.m.; Leslieville Cheese Market, 891 Queen Street East, Toronto; An evening of beer and cheese pairings hosted by brewmaster Sam Corbeil) -- Leslieville Cheese Market, 416/465-7143; info@leslievillecheese.com
- 22 **Vintages Presents The Return of Bruichladdich; A Structured Tasting with Jim McEwan** (6:30 p.m., Reception; 7-8:30 p.m., Structured Tasting; The National Club, 303 Bay Street, Toronto; Featuring Bruichladdich’s Production Director Jim McEwan, proud *Ileach* and three-time winner of Distiller of the Year) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764
- 23-25 **BioVino** (Direct Energy Centre, 100 Princes Boulevard, Toronto; Featuring 50-100 organic and biodynamic wineries from around the world at the Green Living Show) -- Christina McKenzie, 416/360-0044, Ext. 327, cmckenzie@green-living.ca
- 26 **Vintages Classics Taste & Buy Event** (6:30-9 p.m.; Peter F. Bronfman Hall, Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park Crescent, Toronto) -- LCBO Vintages Sales and Service Centre, 416/365-5767, 1-800/266-4764
- 27 **New Zealand Wine Fair** (2:30-5:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Public Tasting; The Westin Hotel, 11 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa) -- Robert Ketchin, New Zealand Winegrowers, 705/444- 0195, rketchin@ketchin.com, www.nzwine-events.ca
- 27 **Austrian-Ontario Wine Experience** (6 p.m., University of Toronto Faculty Club, 25 King’s College Circle, Toronto; Featuring Rudolf Rabl from Weingut Rabl and Karl Kaiser from Vincor Canada; Presented by the Ontario Wine Society and the Consulate General of Austria, Commercial Section) -- Birgitta Samavarchian, 416/967-3348, Toronto@advantageaustria.org
- 28 **Annual Austrian Wine Fair** (12-4 p.m.; Rosehill Event Lounge, 1365 Yonge Street, Toronto) -- Birgitta Samavarchian, 416/967-3348, Toronto@advantageaustria.org
- 29 **New Zealand Wine Fair** (2:30-5:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Public Tasting; Design Exchange, 234 Bay Street, Toronto) -- Robert Ketchin, New Zealand Winegrowers, 705/444- 0195, rketchin@ketchin.com, www.nzwine-events.ca
- May**
- 4 **French Wine Connection 2010 – North America** (Time t.b.a.; Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe Street, Toronto; Featuring approximately 50 French wine producer; Events also being held in Los Angeles and Miami) -- Aude Guivarch, French Trade Commission, 416/977-1257, Ext. 220, aude.guivarch@ubifrance.fr
- 13 **Wines from Greece** (11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Seminar; 1-5 p.m., Reception/Walk-Around Tasting; Venue t.b.a., Toronto) -- George Athanas, 404/545-2323, gathanas@allaboutgreekwine.com
- 17 **Italian Wine "Incontri"** (Time t.b.a.; Music Room, Hart House; 7 Hart House Circle; Toronto; A wine tasting event open to wine agencies interested in representing Italian wineries) -- Piero Titone, p.titone@ice.it, or Benedetta Marassi, b.marassi@ice.it, Italian Trade Commission
- June**
- 11 **Drinks Ontario Summer Luncheon** (12:15 p.m., Royal Canadian Yacht Club, Toronto; An informal and fun summer social for Drinks Ontario Members and their non-Member guests) -- Ian Campbell, Drinks Ontario (*formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA*), 416/699-9535, ian.campbell@oiwsba.com
- 17 **sip & Savour Ontario: Ontario’s Finest VQA Wine & Food Pairings** (3-5:30 p.m. Trade Tasting by invitation only / 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Pantages Hotel Toronto Centre, 200 Victoria Street, Toronto) -- Sandy Kurbis, 416/398-3335, Ext. 2#, tickets@forefrontcom.com, www.ontariowineawards.ca
- 12-27 **Niagara New Vintage Festival** (Various locations, Niagara region) -- Kimberly Hundertmark, 905/688-0212, Ext. 117, www.newvintagefestival.com
- July**
- 6 **Drinks Ontario Golf Tournament & Dinner** (11:30 a.m., Registration & Lunch; 1 p.m. Tee-Off; 6 p.m. Reception & Dinner; Glen Eagle Golf Club, 15731 Highway 50, Bolton) -- Ian Campbell, Drinks Ontario (*formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA*), 416/699-9535, ian.campbell@oiwsba.com
- September**
- 17-26 **Niagara Wine Festival** (Various locations, Niagara region) -- Kimberly Hundertmark, 905/688-0212, Ext. 117, www.newvintagefestival.com
- 23 **Drinks Ontario Members’ Meeting** (8:30 Breakfast, 9 a.m. Meeting; Boulevard Club, 1491 Lakeshore Boulevard West, Toronto; Guest speaker t.b.a.) -- Ian Campbell, Drinks Ontario (*formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA*), 416/699-9535, ian.campbell@oiwsba.com
- October**
- 7 **Grapes for Humanity Live Auction** (Royal Conservatory of Music, 273 Bloor Street West, Toronto) -- Tony Aspler, 416/488-8597, grapesforhumanity.com
- November**
- 1 **A Tasting of Wines From Italy** (Venue/time t.b.a., Toronto; The premier Italian wine annual tasting) -- Piero Titone, p.titone@ice.it, or Benedetta Marassi, b.marassi@ice.it, Italian Trade Commission
- 4 **A Tasting of Wines From Italy** (Venue/time t.b.a., Ottawa; The premier Italian wine annual tasting) -- Piero Titone, p.titone@ice.it, or Benedetta Marassi, b.marassi@ice.it, Italian Trade Commission
- 5-7 **25th Annual Ottawa Wine & Food Show** (Civic Centre, Lansdowne Park, 1015 Bank Street, Ottawa) -- Joan Culliton, 613/523-9463, joan@ottawawineandfoodshow.com
- 25 **Drinks Ontario Members’ Meeting** (8:30 Breakfast, 9 a.m. Meeting; Boulevard Club, 1491 Lakeshore Boulevard West, Toronto; Guest speaker t.b.a.) -- Ian Campbell, Drinks Ontario (*formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA*), 416/699-9535, ian.campbell@oiwsba.com

- December** 16 **Drinks Ontario Holiday Luncheon** (The Albany Club, 91 King Street East, Toronto; Open to Drinks Ontario Members and industry guests) -- Ian Campbell, Drinks Ontario (*formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA*), 416/699-9535, ian.campbell@oiwsba.com

2010 -- Events Outside of Ontario

- February** 22-24 **Vinisud** (Parc des Expositions, Montpellier, France; The international exhibition of Mediterranean wines and spirits) -- Vinisud, +33 (0)1 41 86 41 29, vinisud@adhes.com, www.vinisud.com
- 24 **Mission Emp-Possible** (6:30 p.m.; The Fairmont Empress, Victoria -- Featuring Fairmont Empress Executive Chef Takashi Ito vs. Mission Hill Executive Winery Chef Matthew Batey in a "battle-of-the-chefs" competition; A five-course tasting menu paired with five wines personally selected and presented by Mission Hill's chief winemaker John Simes) -- Janelle Donn, 250/389-2727, jdonn@markanthony.com
- March** 1 **FENADEGAS Winemaker's Lunch and Trade Tasting** (12-2 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.; Opus Hotel Montreal, 10 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal) -- William Delgado, Portuguese Trade & Tourism Commission, 416-921-0259, william.delgado@portugalglobal.pt
- 3 **FENADEGAS Winemaker's Lunch and Trade Tasting** (12-2 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.; Diva @ the MET/Metropolitan Hotel, 645 Howe Street, Vancouver) -- William Delgado, Portuguese Trade & Tourism Commission, 416-921-0259, william.delgado@portugalglobal.pt
- 21-23 **Prowein 2010** (Dusseldorf Exhibition Centre, Dusseldorf, Germany) -- Christiane Schorn, Prowein, +49(0)211-4560-991, SchornC@messe-duesseldorf.de
- 24-28 **Intervitis Interfructa** (New Stuttgart Trade Fair Centre, Stuttgart, Germany) -- Susanne Bürkle, German Winegrowers' Association, +49 228-949325-16, sbuerkle@dwv-online.de
- April** 7 **California Wine Fair** (2-5 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Vancouver Convention Centre, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver) -- Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 8 **California Wine Fair** (2-4:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Shaw Conference Centre, 9797 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton) -- Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 8-12 **Vinitaly 2010** (Verona, Italy; The largest wine show in the world, featuring 4,300 exhibitors from 30 countries and 150,000 visitors from 100 countries) -- www.vinitaly.com
- 9 **California Wine Fair** (2-4:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Hotel Arts, 119 - 12th Avenue SW, Calgary) -- Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 14 **Festival des vins de Californie** (12 noon-2:15 p.m., Luncheon; 2:30-5 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Le Windsor, 1170 rue Peel, Montréal, QC) -- Nicole Paradis, 514/768-0071, nicoparadis@sympatico.ca
- 16 **Festival des vins de Californie** (2:30-4:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Espaces Dalhousie, 84 Dalhousie, Québec) - Nicole Paradis, 514/768-0071, nicoparadis@sympatico.ca
- 19-25 **32nd Vancouver Playhouse International Wine Festival** (Trade Days Conference, April 21-24; Vancouver Convention Centre, 1055 Canada Place, Vancouver; Featuring more than 1700 wines from 14 countries and a record 197 wineries) -- info@playhousewinefest.com
- 29 **Austrian Wine Fair** (Venue/time t.b.a.; Calgary) -- Birgitta Samavarchian, 416/967-3348, Toronto@advantageaustria.org
- May** 11 **California Wine Fair** (2:30-4:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Venue, t.b.a.; St. John's Newfoundland) -- Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 13 **California Wine Fair** (2:30-4:30 p.m., Trade Tasting; 7-9:30 p.m., Consumer Tasting; Pier 21, 1055 Marginal Road, Halifax) Brianne Cunningham, 905/336-8932, calwine@sympatico.ca
- 18-20 **London International Wine Fair 2010** (ExCel Exhibition Centre Royal Victoria Dock, London, England) -- Brintex, +44 (0) 20 7973 6401, wine@hgluk.com
- 19-30 **The Wines of Northern Spain** (A wine-and-food tour through northern Spain, from the Basque country via Rioja to Catalonia, hosted by Tony Aspler and featuring VIP wine tastings at top estates, including Muga, CVNE, Vina Tondonia, Codorniu, Torres and others) -- Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd., 519/753-2695, tours@pauwelstravel.com
- 25-27 **Vinexpo Asia-Pacific 2010** (Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong, China) -- www.vinexpo.com
- June** 2-6 **Mondial de la bière** (Windsor Station & Courtyard, 1160 De la Gauchetière Street West, Montreal) -- festivalmondialbiere.qc.ca

If you have information concerning other upcoming industry events not mentioned here, please forward it to Ian Campbell, Executive Director, Drinks Ontario (formerly the Ontario Imported Wine-Spirit-Beer Association, OIWSBA), tel 416/699-9535, fax 416/699-3907 or ian.campbell@oiwsba.com.

Updated Calendars are distributed on a bi-weekly basis to Drinks Ontario Members, trade media, government/LCBO/AGCO representatives, industry stakeholders and other interested parties.

If you did not receive this issue directly, please contact Ian Campbell to have you name added to our distribution list.