

On-Reserve Liquor Tax Agreements Signed

Tuesday, 09 March 2010

Last Updated Monday, 15 March 2010

Several First Nations have entered into an agreement with the Government of Saskatchewan with regards to on-reserve liquor fees.

The Liquor Consumption Tax Administration agreement allows proceeds from liquor fees to remain on-reserve to fund local priorities.

It will replace provincial taxes formerly collected on-reserve from alcohol purchases.

The fees will stay the same as the tax collected off-reserve by the province, and must apply to all consumers.

The Ministry of Finance developed a pilot project involving liquor taxes over two years ago at the request of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation, host of the Dakota Dunes Casino.

The latest First Nations to sign this agreement are the Mosquito Grizzly Bear's Head Lean Man First Nation, the Kahkewistahaw First Nation, Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation and the White Bear First Nation.

Finance Minister Rod Gantfoer says the ministry has experienced a high level of success with the pilot project with Whitecap Dakota First Nation, and is pleased with the opportunity to expand it to four more First Nations.

(ct/mar9/10)