



Manitoba Liquor Control Commission

News Release

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, December 2, 2009

MLCC TO STRENGTHEN TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR STAFF OF LICENSED PREMISES

The MLCC will be strengthening its training requirements for staff of licensed premises to make them better aware of the use of restraint of patrons. This was one recommendation made by Justice Giesbrecht in her Inquest Report on the death of Russell Cook under *The Fatality Inquiries Act*.

Ken Hildahl, MLCC President & CEO, said the MLCC is aware of the report and that there are a number of recommendations pertaining to education and training of security personnel in licensed premises.

“We take the recommendations made by Justice Giesbrecht very seriously. The MLCC will make changes to training to further protect staff and patrons on a timely basis.”

Hildahl said the *It's Good Business Responsible Service & Safety Program for Licensed Establishments* currently provides education and training for all serving and security personnel working in licensed premises and covers such things as reasonable force, body language and positioning as well as cooperative communication skills. He noted that the program is reviewed continually with multiple stakeholders, including the hospitality industry, police services and the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba. Although the inquest did not find fault with staff of the premises, it made recommendations that would further improve the training required by MLCC.

Manitoba was the first jurisdiction in Canada to integrate a security component into the required responsible liquor service training and the first to make the program mandatory, and is considered a leader in this area.