

## VQA News and Tips — March 2018

### REMINDER – IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR VQA ONTARIO MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your winery's VQA membership by March 31 by logging into VQA Services <https://office.vqaontario.ca/vqaservices>. Once logged in, you will see a notification indicating VQA Membership registration renewals are now being accepted for 2018/2019. Click on the specified link to navigate to the "Renewal" tab under the Organization Profile section for your winery and follow the renewal instructions. Please make sure you follow up with a copy of your current manufacturer's licence and a cheque dated April 1, 2018 for the fee payment. Your online renewal must be completed by March 31 but fee payment can be deferred to as late as June 30 as long as you notify us.

#### **Special note for those that operate more than one manufacturer's licence issued by AGCO:**

Effective January 1, 2016, each manufacturer that uses VQA-regulated terms must have an individual membership in VQA Ontario. Please remember to renew all of your memberships if you are a winery operating with more than one AGCO manufacturer's license.

### PÉTILLANT NATUREL

Pétillant Naturel is seeing renewed interest in Ontario. Are you making this wine style? Here are two things to consider when submitting your Pet Nats for VQA approval. First, many of these wines best fit in the Effervescent Wine category, for wines with pressure not less than 200kPa and not more than 300kPA, (pressure between 2 and 3 bars). Second, for unfiltered Pet Nats, please be sure to select either "unfiltered" or "bottled with lees," and make that declaration on the label, to ensure the wine is assessed without a limit on turbidity.

Several Pet Nats have already received VQA approval and we look forward to seeing how this style develops. For questions, please don't hesitate to contact Katherina at [katherina.radcliffe@vqaontario.ca](mailto:katherina.radcliffe@vqaontario.ca).

### PROUD TO BE A VQA WINERY? WHY NOT POST IT ON YOUR WEBSITE?



Proud producer of VQA wines

For more information about VQA please visit [www.vqaontario.ca](http://www.vqaontario.ca)

### VQA TURNS 30! SAVE THE DATE – VQA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JULY 19 AT NIAGARA COLLEGE

VQA Ontario's 2018 Annual General Meeting will be held on July 19 at the Niagara Campus of Niagara College in the Benchmark Restaurant. We invite all of our winery members and

stakeholders to attend. Come and celebrate 30 years since the creation of VQA in Ontario (and 18 years of our regulated system).

## RESOURCES –

*Appellation tastings – an insider’s riposte* available at

<https://www.jancisrobinson.com/articles/appellation-tastings-an-insiders-riposte>

VQA Ontario continues to engage in conversations about the value of VQA certification and, in particular the benefit of using a trained tasting panel to screen out faulty wines. Please visit [JancisRobinson.com](http://JancisRobinson.com) for a compelling guest post on this topic. As always, if you have any feedback, please don’t hesitate to contact Katherina at [katherina.radcliffe@vqaontario.ca](mailto:katherina.radcliffe@vqaontario.ca).

## *What about the “Q” in VQA?*

In November 2017, Laurie Macdonald presented a compelling slideshow at the Wine Council Town Hall and discussed the tasting panel assessment as an integral part of the VQA certification program. If you missed this, please click here to view the slideshow.

## CCOVI’S VQA PROMOTERS AWARDS – Nominations are OPEN

DEADLINE for your nomination – March 29, 2018

To nominate go to: <https://brocku.ca/ccovi/outreach/vqa-promoters-award/>

## TIPS OF THE MONTH

### **LABEL CHECKLIST**

Need help making sure your labels are compliant? Download the label checklist at <http://www.vqaontario.ca/Regulations/Packaging>. We encourage you to pass this along to your colleagues in design and marketing to keep the design process efficient.

### **CHANGES TO OUR ONLINE PLATFORM – WHERE DID THE INVOICE INFORMATION GO?**

Recent changes to VQA Services included moving invoicing information from the wine approval shipping form to a separate invoice. All of your invoices are accessible under the "Invoice History" link on the Member Services menu, once you login.

We appreciate your patience as we integrate new enhancements to VQA Services. Please don’t hesitate to call or email our IT administrator, Susan at [susan.piovesan@vqaontario.ca](mailto:susan.piovesan@vqaontario.ca), if you have any issues to report.