

July 12, 2016

ATTENTION DEPOT OPERATORS AND STAFF:

In August 2015, the BCMB sent the attached notice to Depots to provide some clarity regarding the advertising and labeling of fluid ounce versus millilitre volumes on beverage containers.

The BCMB has recently received a number of complaints from public as well as from manufacturers/distributors claiming that some Depots are not accepting their products for refund. We narrowed these complaints to be related to products that are imported by distributors and sold in smaller speciality stores. The products are properly registered and should be accepted for refund. The Depots tend to be refusing the products based on the markings on the containers.

Please remember to use due diligence when determining the origin of containers with fluid ounce markings, as outlined in the earlier notice. You also have access to the new online Beverage Container Database, which was made public in June. Employees should not be refusing to refund containers without asking the customer questions or checking the product in the online database.

All beverage containers registered for sale or distribution in Alberta can now be found online in a new searchable database. This database can be accessed using the following link - <http://portal.bcmb.ab.ca/Product>. Over 130,000 containers are currently registered for sale in the province. Registration ensures the container is recyclable and can be returned to a Depot for a refund of the deposit paid when purchased.

The following product information can be found in the database:

- Brand/name
- Flavor (if applicable)
- Alcoholic or non-alcoholic
- Container material (ie. glass, plastic, aluminum)
- Container size
- UPC
- an image of the container (images are available for many, but not all containers – more will be added as they become available)
- container recycling fee (CRF)
- refundable deposit amount

Please review this information with your staff and ensure they are following proper procedures. If you have any questions regarding this database or regarding particular containers, please contact Cheryle Busat, Manager, Registrations/ Accounting Technician at 1-888-424-7671 ext. 224 or at cbusat@bcmb.ab.ca.