



## Clerk's Department

595 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Owen Sound Ontario N4K 3E3  
519-372-0219 x 1223 / 1-800-567-GREY / Fax: 519-376-8998

March 16, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
By email only: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister:

**Re: Grey County Council Resolution Supporting 100% Canadian Wines Excise Exemption**

At the March 12, 2020 session of Grey County Committee of the Whole, resolution CW60-20 was passed by Grey County Council as follows:

**Whereas, Canada's federal excise tax currently exempts 100% Canadian wines; and**

**Whereas, Australia has asked the World Trade Organization (WTO) to rule that this exemption is discriminatory; and**

**Whereas, if the WTO were to rule with Australia, Canadian wineries making 100% Canadian wine would no longer be exempt; and**

**Whereas, the present value of the excise exemption is \$39 million annually across Canada; and**

**Whereas, in the 13 years since this exemption was created, the production of 100% Canadian wine has increased by almost 30 million litres, representing an additional annual contribution of \$2.7 billion to the Canadian economy; and**

**Whereas, Grey County, specifically the municipalities of Meaford and Town of Blue Mountains, is home to a number of successful, award winning, boutique wineries;**

**Now Therefore, Be It Resolved That, the County of Grey supports the excise exemption for 100% Canadian wines; and**

**That, the County of Grey appeals to the Federal government to ensure the exemption remains in place by reaching an agreement**

**with Australia prior to the WTO ruling; and**

**That, this motion be forwarded to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; The Honourable Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition; Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois; Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada; Jo-Ann Roberts, Interim Leader of the Green Party of Canada; The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion, and International Trade; Alex Ruff, Member of Parliament for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; AMO Member Municipalities; FCM Member Municipalities; Vintner's Quality Alliance; Ontario Craft Wineries; Ontario Craft Cider Association; and**

**That this resolution be forwarded prior to County Council approval as per Section 25.6 of Procedural By-law 5003-18.**

Yours truly,



Heather Morrison

Clerk

(519) 372-0219 x 1227

[heather.morrison@grey.ca](mailto:heather.morrison@grey.ca)

[www.grey.ca](http://www.grey.ca)

/kn

cc.

The Honourable Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition: [Andrew.scheer@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Andrew.scheer@parl.gc.ca)

Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois: [yves-francois.blachet@parl.gc.ca](mailto:yves-francois.blachet@parl.gc.ca)

Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada: [jagmeet.singh@parl.gc.ca](mailto:jagmeet.singh@parl.gc.ca)

Jo-Ann Roberts, Interim Leader of the Green Party of Canada: [leader@greenparty.ca](mailto:leader@greenparty.ca)

The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion, and International Trade: [mary.ng@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mary.ng@parl.gc.ca)

Alex Ruff, Member of Parliament for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound: [alex.ruff@parl.gc.ca](mailto:alex.ruff@parl.gc.ca)

AMO Member Municipalities

FCM Member Municipalities

Vintner's Quality Alliance: [info@canadianvintners.com](mailto:info@canadianvintners.com)

Ontario Craft Wineries: [info@winecouncilofontario.ca](mailto:info@winecouncilofontario.ca); [info@ontariocraftwineries.ca](mailto:info@ontariocraftwineries.ca)

Ontario Craft Cider Association: [info@ontariocraftcider.com](mailto:info@ontariocraftcider.com)