

March 16, 2007

AGLC Board says no to kids working in bar kitchens

Edmonton... Albertans won't see 12 year olds working in bar kitchens. The Alberta Gaming & Liquor Commission (AGLC) Board is reviewing a policy that would allow bar owners to apply for special permission to have youth under 18 work as kitchen help at their establishments.

The existing policy has been used in the past to allow under-age musicians to perform in bars with parental permission.

"I'm hearing from Albertans that they think it's a far different issue to have kids in a band play in a bar once in a while than to have underage kids working in bar kitchens on a regular basis," said Julian Nowicki, Chair of the AGLC Board. "Based on this concern, the Board needs to reconsider this."

The AGLC was approached by restaurants and other liquor licensees to consider expanding the existing policy to help cover labour shortages in their kitchens.

- 30 -

Media enquiries may be directed to:

Marilyn Carlyle-Helms
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission,
Communications
(780) 447-8719

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.