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LCBO Product Packaging Standards

The LCBO Product Packaging Standards are designed to ensure the safe handling of beverage alcohol products throughout the end-to-end supply chain, including transportation to warehouses and to retail shops through Ontario. Compliance is mandatory and a condition of doing business with the LCBO.

Consignment Agents were recently informed that, effective January 1, 2024, the following Standards will be prioritized for active enforcement for all Consignment wines received into the province. Non-compliant product packaging will be subject to corrective action which may include corrective packaging and/or application of penalties for non-compliance:

- **Shipping container barcodes** will be required on all product shipping containers. The shipping container barcode (GTIN-14/SCC-14) is used at the warehouse to scan all shipments in and out of the inventory management system.

- A **GTIN barcode** (formerly called UPC or EAN) will be required on all consumer selling units
- It is a recommended industry practice that the **Lot Code** for the consumer selling unit be applied to the shipping container, together with the LCBO purchase order (PO) number. In the event of a recall or product inspection, the lot code and the PO number will help isolate the affected product as efficiently as possible.

Drinks Ontario - our Importer's Association - has challenged LCBO on the logic of requiring GTIN barcodes on Consignment stock, which can only be sold by the full case lot. We have been told, "off the record", that compliance with this Standard will not be enforced however are continuing to pursue this matter and will keep you apprised of any updates we obtain. We would encourage all wineries who have the capability to affix GTIN barcodes to their bottles to do so going forward, whenever possible.

LCBO Consignment Warehouse Fee Schedule

The LCBO has revised the Fee Schedule for Consignment Orders, which can be found [HERE](#).

LCBO Vintages Product Needs

Last week, the LCBO announced its most recent Vintages Product Needs. Applications will be accepted for the period October 25, 2023 to January 10, 2024. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of all opportunities for purchases as well as detailed product specifications and deadlines.



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