

## A new voice in late-night hospitality

The City of Edmonton welcomes the arrival of the Responsible Hospitality Industry Association. This new association consists of licensed venues owners and operators who are committed to a safe, viable and vibrant industry that works with stakeholders to address challenges for the late-night industry.

"Formation of this association provides further proof of industry's commitment to be responsible business owners and operators," said Chris Round, President of the Responsible Hospitality Industry Association. "We hope to become a united voice and resource for regulatory agencies and stakeholders to come to for advice and consultation."

The association was formed to address the gap between regulatory bodies and industry, and to address the problems that exist in the late night industry by finding a balance that supports this vibrant part of the economy and safety for patrons and workers. The association will bring a city-wide perspective and a stronger voice in advocacy, economic interest and developing ideas to strengthen social spaces.

"We see the Responsible Hospitality Industry Association as an important new development that demonstrates the health, strength and vibrancy of Edmonton's late-night economy," said Miki Stricker-Talbot with Responsible Hospitality Edmonton (RHE). "A safe and vibrant nightlife is crucial for attracting business, tourism and external investment dollars to cities and we are proud that this association has formed to present a unified voice for industry."

RHE, with its combined expertise in the late-night economy and community development, has been an ally to the founding members of the organization. Internationally, only a handful of cities have similar late-night alliances. Edmonton continues to be a leader in its commitment to responsible hospitality.

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