

EXPANDED DISTRIBUTION - 'G-

Government gives brew-pub SUs green light

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Times Colonist staff

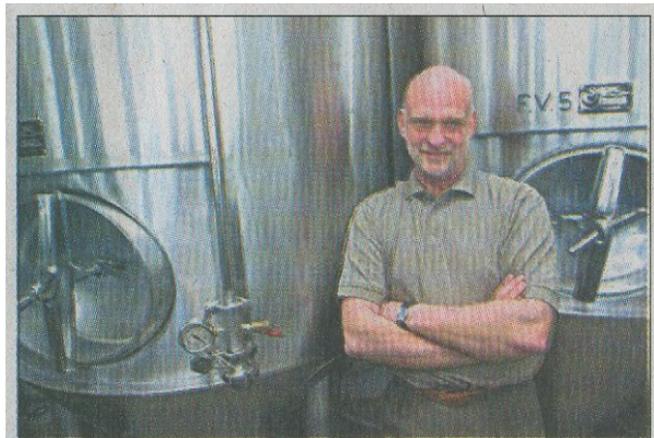
Getting a grip on a bottle of Pandora's or Doc Hadfield's Pale Ale may be as easy as walking into your local liquor store or cold beer and wine outlet this summer.

Small Business Minister Ian Waddell announced Monday that brew pubs -like Swans and Spinnakers, respective brewers of the aforementioned ales - will now be allowed to sell their beer in liquor stores, cold beer and wine stores and licensed establishments.

It was an announcement a decade in coming for brew pub pioneers Michael Williams and Paul Hadfield who have been lobbying government for the right to sell their wares off premises. "It's terrific," said Williams, "I just wonder why did they wait so long. But the main thing is we now have the right to do it."

Williams, owner of Swans, started the process in 1990. The mantle was picked up by Hadfield, owner of Spinnakers, in 1995. Hadfield took the issue to court and won a ruling at the Supreme Court in November. But it wasn't until a lengthy review of that decision, in order to provide a regulatory impact statement for the government, that Waddell opened the door for the brew pubs.

It has been a long time in coming," said a relieved



BRUCE STOTESBURY/TIMES COLONIST

Paul Hadfield of Spinnakers can now sell his products in liquor outlets, cold-beer stores.

Hadfield, who believes the regulation has been the cause of a lack of growth in the industry.

Waddell says the delay was necessary in order for his ministry to examine what the impact would be on the craft brewers and "big guys" like Labatt and Molson.

He suggested the brew pub market - 18 in the province producing 1.2 million litres of beer, about 0.5

per cent of the beer consumed - would have little impact on the large breweries, despite their vocal and incessant opposition to the decision.

"A lot of it was much ado about nothing," Waddell said. "I think this decision will benefit consumers because there will be more choice (on the market)."

He also said it could aid local tourism, pointing out the Ale Trail - a popular tour of local brew pubs and microbreweries tailored for beer lovers - as a prime candidate for expansion.

Waddell says he has heard the concerns of craft brewers and has instructed his officials to work with that industry to maintain its vibrancy.

"I don't want to put them out of business," he said.

Spinnakers already has seven applications for listing in front of the Liquor Distribution Branch, and Williams says his operation will soon follow suit. Both hope to have their products in stores by the summer.

Hadfield, who is a passionate believer in the brew pub industry, hopes this will open the door for new brew pubs in Victoria and the province as a whole. "This may encourage people," he said. "But I don't know who in Victoria may have been waiting for something like this. We'll have to wait and see who's out there."

Spinnakers adds a bed and breakfast

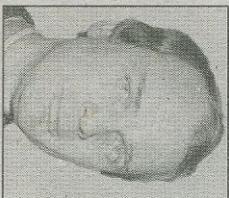
TE 12 July 1997 Pg B1

Spinnakers brew pub and restaurant is diversifying. The Victoria West waterfront establishment

is adding a B&B. It might provide a new definition for the term, say "beer and breakfast." It will be a five-room guest house a few doors up Catherine Street.

A \$500,000 refurbishing of a heritage house is underway, and Spinnakers has a July 24 public hearing at city council on rezoning for the small inn.

Paul Hadfield says Spinnakers will also run the microbrewery in the **Granville Island Hotel**, in what was the Pelican Bay Lounge. It's a partnership with the guys who run **Century Grill** in Vancouver's Yaletown. Another possible expansion for the pioneer brew pub is a second location on the Selkirk development.



NORMAN GIDNEY

Jeff Sawchuk is taking credit. The owner of **Adler Properties Ltd.**, a Victoria rental and property management firm, is starting a collections agency. It will be called **Credit Bureau of Victoria** and its main focus will be on debt collections. The name was well-known for years, until **Equifax Canada Inc.** bought the local agency, which provided credit information to businesses, and merged its files with Equifax.

But now Sawchuk has registered the name anew, as Equifax had let it lapse. "We're making application to become a debt collection agency," says Sawchuk, who figures it's a good fit, as "property managers accrue lots of bad debts because of deadbeat tenants." He's aiming to open the doors on CBV by the early fall.

Victoria Sports/Entertainment

Associates is the newest name in business here. It's a four-person office established last week as the beachhead in

developer **Jake Bergen's** Multiplex arena project. The key people are: **Kevin Gallant**, who's handling media and corporate relations; finance guy **Harry Stokes**; **Mark Timmis**, legal and operations and **Sue Griffin**, non-sports events. They're in the International House at 880 Douglas St., "because we want to bring an International Hockey league team to Victoria," says Gallant. Call 381-1996.

A small hotel is planned for the Toffino waterfront, with eight rooms and a restaurant. **Ona Vanderkley** and **Ron Gault** (better-known in the west coast town as "Crazy Ron"), are the owners. They now have **Tough City** fish market and clothing store on the site, and plan to start building before the end of the month. She says the as-yet-unnamed hotel will incorporate a lot of brick, stained glass and period architectural fixtures.

It's about a \$600,000 project, says **West Vancouver architect Leith Anderson**, who designed the project (he also

designed **Tofino's Middle Beach Lodge**).

Photographer **John Simpson** has added selling cars at **Honda City** to his job behind the camera. He'll carry on **Silverworks**, as his shift at the lot is six hours a day. . . . **Lori Eastman** is the new local rep for **Equifax Canada Inc.**, the national credit reporting service. . . . **Franco Scartone** of **Il Faro** restaurant is the new president of the **Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce**, succeeding **Kate Oliver** of the **Bank of Montreal**. **Marlyn Holder** and **Pat McAdams** of the **Royal Bank** are vice-presidents while **Arthur Schultz** of **Esquimalt Neighborhood House** is secretary.

Island Internet Inc. is back in Island hands, after founders **Herb Addison**, **Karen Addison**, **Dan Rogers** and **James Bourne** bought the Internet service provider back from **HookUp Communications Corp.** of Oakville, Ont., one of Canada's biggest ISPs.