

Local Breweries to Celebrate BC Craft Beer Month

Okanagan, BC: Breweries in the Central Okanagan are preparing to celebrate all things beer as part of the upcoming BC Craft Beer Month, taking place October 1st-31st. The annual festivities highlight the province's extensive network of around 200 independent breweries. 19 of those breweries are located in Kelowna and its surrounding area, and are members of the Central Okanagan Brewers Association (COBrA). Alongside a plethora of individual brewery events, the association is also bringing back the beloved COBrA Open. The city-wide mini golf tournament sees space at a number of the breweries transformed into creative putting holes. This year, participants have the whole month of October to play each of the holes, record their scores, and enter to win prizes. "It's just a really fun and engaging way to get folks through our doors, maybe visit a brewery they haven't been to before, and get out and about in the community after a busy summer season," says Gary Brucker, one of COBrA's board members and Co-Owner of Barn Owl Brewing.

Beyond the COBrA Open, there are many mainstay weekly events like live music and trivia nights, as well as some special happenings just for Craft Beer Month, like a Fresh Hop Release Party at Buffalo Rouge and Kelowna Beer Institute's "Brewphoria" cask event. "We're very excited about the number of events taking place at our member breweries this year," says Melanie Raby, another board member and Co-Owner of Three Lakes Brewing. "There are so many opportunities for people to support their local spots this season, and really something for everyone."

The BC Craft Brewers Conference also takes place in Vancouver next month, an industry event that includes educational sessions, networking, and the distinguished BC Beer Awards. Local breweries will be well represented at the conference, with Adam Semeniuk of Red Bird Brewing as one of the speakers, and likely some hardware collected at the ceremony. Last year COBrA members made the podium in 5 categories, including Copper Brewing with two top-three finishes (one a gold).

Locals and tourists alike are encouraged to support the region's independent breweries throughout the month of October – and beyond. The full calendar of events, as well as details about the COBrA Open can be found at [their website](#).

Photos

About COBrA: The Central Okanagan Brewers Association (COBrA) is a collective of breweries who aim to provide educational opportunities, plan fun events, and showcase the region's breweries to the world! With 19 current members from West Kelowna to Lake Country, the group works together on various initiatives to craft local beer and strong communities.