

## Jones encouraged by inclusion of craft ciders in new markets

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones stated last Thursday she's pleased with the announcement by the government to allow cider to be sold at some grocery stores and farmers' markets across the province.

Following the day's announcement, cider will be available for purchase in grocery stores across the province wherever beer is sold. In addition, Ontario craft cider and fruit wines will be included in the program that allows VQA wines to be sold at farmers' markets. "Today's announcement is a good start recognizing our province's craft cider industry," Jones said. "Ontario craft cider has rapidly expanded in a short period of time but we can do more to support Ontario craft cider growers and producers."

"I look forward to continuing working with the government to adopt my private member's bill, Bill 110, the Growing Ontario's Craft Cider Industry Act, 2015," Jones commented.

"Bill 110 will ensure that the tax or mark-up imposed on Ontario cider does not exceed the mark-up or tax imposed on beer in Ontario," she added. "This will help ensure Ontario cider producers will receive the same incentives that Ontario craft beer producers receive, and allow for the further development of this home-grown product."