



For immediate release: May 27, 2005

Vancouver American Wine Society Presents First Ever Award of Excellence

ROBSON STREET – As part of their 25th anniversary celebration the prestigious Vancouver Wine Society has presented its first ever “Award of Excellence” to O’Doul’s Restaurant & Bar on Robson.

“We have introduced this award to recognize excellence of American wine lists throughout the Lower Mainland,” says Doug Russell, President and Cellar Master of the Society. “We will present this award on an annual basis, but wanted to acknowledge one of your favorite Vancouver dining establishments – O’Doul’s Restaurant & Bar as the first recipient of this award.”

“We are honoured to – not only receive this award from this incredibly dedicated and knowledgeable Society, but – to receive the first one!” states Calvin DesChene, O’Doul’s Sommelier and Assistant Manager of the hotel and restaurant operation. “It helps us justify the hundreds of hours we commit to our wine program each year.” O’Doul’s staff attend tastings every week at pre-shift meetings as well as O’Doul’s wine seminars each year. The emphasis is on pairings and on, as DesChene states enthusiastically, “Having fun!”

The Vancouver American Wine Society is the largest and most active independent wine appreciation society in North America and generally schedules a function every other week. The Society is supported by the United States Consulate General and is corporate sponsor of room 11 in Ronald McDonald House, donation proceeds from every event to the Children’s House Society of British Columbia.

Since its inception in 1981, the Society has favourably impacted wine appreciation in general and the popularity of American wine in particular throughout British Columbia. The Society is currently celebrating its 25th anniversary of operation.

O’Doul’s Restaurant & Bar has been a tradition on the Vancouver dining scene for over 30 years and in the words of Mia Stainsby, restaurant critic for the Vancouver Sun “...it’s never been better.” In its most recent incarnation the focus is on West Coast cuisine, an extensive and user-friendly wine list and on presenting the best of the vibrant local jazz scene, 7 nights a week!

O’Doul’s wine list offers over 350 selections and boasts a cellar of almost 5000 bottles. The restaurant’s goal is to offer premium quality, exceptionally priced wines to accompany every guest’s meal. Motivated by the belief that regional ingredients and recipes are the best paired with regional beverages, O’Doul’s offers a proportionally large selection of wines from British Columbia and from further down the Coast into Washington State, Oregon and California.

The O’Doul’s wine list is designed to be user-friendly. The list is presented in the order most guests proceed through their dining experience: wines by-the-glass, sparkling wines and half bottles for

cocktails or to accompany appetizers and then red or white table wines, by the bottle or magnum, to accompany main courses. Dessert wines are presented and listed on our separate dessert menu.

O'Doul's Restaurant & Bar is located in The Listel Hotel, recently dubbed "A cultural tourist's dream*". The Listel Hotel boasts a perfect location on the city's most eclectic shopping and dining street and has a reputation for creative partnerships with some of the city's most significant cultural organizations, including the Buschlen Mowatt Gallery and the Museum of Anthropology.

For additional information on O'Doul's Restaurant & Bar please view the website at www.odoulsrestaurant.com. For reservations or consumer information please call 604.661.1400.

For more information contact moreinfo@thelistelhotel.com or visit www.thelistelhotel.com or www.odoulsrestaurant.com

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* Georgia Straight's "Best of Vancouver" issue, September 2002.
To view O'Doul's Restaurant & Bar's wine list, go to
http://odoulsrestaurant.com/wine_list.htm