

Thank you for your note regarding the application for a new liquor primary licence for The Downbeat Event Centre at the above address. We reside at 595 Pandora Avenue and have an interest in this application. I am opposed to the application for the following reasons:

1. A new liquor licence in a downtown area flooded with liquor establishments should be rejected. Enough. In view of the now established health risks of alcohol consumption, plus the surplus availability, the City of Victoria — if it is to grant this new licence — would be complicit in the health risks associated with alcohol.
2. Hours 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.: This is absurd. Is there anyone who should be drinking alcohol at 9 a.m.? And at 2 a.m. there are more than enough problems in the downtown streets at bar close and afterwards. Maximum 12 midnight and at least don't allow an opening until the late afternoon. What is the "Event Centre"? With alcohol consumption, it is obvious this means loud music and drinking. Why? STOP.
3. I can't argue with the 210 people if the event centre is truly hosting culturally significant events that will benefit all ages in Victoria. My suspicion is that the object of the centre (from the hours set out and ALL DAYS opening) is to make money off the sale of alcohol.

Above all, I ask why? Aren't there enough problems for the police and paramedics to deal with in the downtown? And for residents with shouting and disturbances in the streets late at night and early morning? Or are my views worthless?

Thanks for your attention,
Donald Niedermayer
301-595 Pandora Avenue

Hello,

I'm writing in support of the downbeats application. Given the rolling closures of most of the smaller independent venues over the past year (Quadratic, VEC, Hermans upstairs, etc.) it's vital Vic has an event space for emerging acts to perform, especially ones who might not be able to sell enough tickets to book Capitol (700 ish capacity) or Upstairs (400 ish capacity).

Additionally, given that Paperazzi now wanders a line between being unpleasant and flat out unsafe for queer patrons, it's refreshing to see downbeat hosting queer events like the openended shows and making sure queer patrons are safe there.

Daniel (downbeat's owner) runs a good outfit and has a long history in town. He hires good people who will make this space positive and who will make sure no-one gets hurt. Lets help him out by making it so he doesn't need to apply for temp licences every weekend.

Cheers,

Desmond Roessingh

520 Cook St, Victoria BC

My name is Alexander Rossignol and have a business called Ads for Targeting and used to own Studio 549.

I just wanted to give my letter of recommendation for the Downbeat Event Centre, which I saw has a notice of application for primary liquor license. They really bring a wonderful and very positive influence to dance culture in Victoria, which has been suffering under all the recent event space closures. They fill a gap that is in line with safety and positive public protocol and culture building in the city, as they support a lot of various groups that can make use of the dance space.

Their history of leadership and the various people that have already organized events there successfully without any form of complaint, as far as I know, are evidence of Downbeat's ability to have a responsible and controlled adult space. So I really hope that everybody sees that and will give them the permit that they need in order to operate long term in a profitable and community-oriented way.

Thank you very much.

Alexander Rossignol

588 Pandora Ave

Hello,

I saw the liquor license application notice on the front door of The Downbeat Event Centre and I would like to provide my unwavering support for the approval of their license.

I have been to The Downbeat four times now and have found it exceeded my expectations and FAR surpassed the previous establishment at this address, Hush, in every conceivable area. Thus far, The Downbeat has provided a legitimate, safe, quality, well-operated venue for underground music in the city of Victoria, and I know their continued success hinges on their ability to acquire a liquor primary. This will expand their capabilities significantly and, with some luck, provide an important cultural touchstone for years to come.

If there is anything I can do to voice my support further, I would be happy to do so.

Sincerely,

Matt Saunders

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the application submitted by Downbeat Event Centre for a new Liquor Primary Licence for their venue at 1325 Government Street.

As an event producer and promoter, I have had the privilege of hosting sold-out events at various venues around Victoria over the past five years. The majority of these events were held at the Victoria Event Centre, which is no longer available. The Downbeat Event Centre offers an ideal alternative, providing a venue where I can continue to host events for the residents of Victoria who have become regular attendees, forming a close-knit and supportive community.

Victoria residents deserve a diverse range of vibrant nightlife options, and the Downbeat Event Centre offers a unique opportunity to enhance the city's cultural landscape. Its location in the heart of downtown, a space that has been vacant for several years, will help revitalize the area and bring much-needed energy back to this important part of the city.

I respectfully urge you to support and approve this application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hepburn

Hello,

I realize that I missed the deadline of February 17th to comment on Downbeat's application for a liquor license, but I wanted to submit this email anyway.

I take no issue with Downbeat having their license, however I have concerns about the volume of their bar. Prior to receiving this notice in the mail, the bar was operating very loudly every weekend, leaving their doors open to the street so their music could be heard loudly in my apartment bedroom. (I have lived downtown in cities for 15 years, and I sleep with earplugs and white noise, so I am not generally bothered by downtown noise, and have never submitted a noise complaint against anyone before, but I ended up needing to get the police there at one point because bylaw does not operate in the evenings).

The noise continued throughout December/January until I received the notice of application in the mail. At that point, they were much quieter for several weekends. Now that the deadline has passed, I notice the music was much louder again on the street/in my apartment again.

This may have been coincidence, but I do worry they are not respectful of the surrounding neighbourhood. I also live near Paparazzi and Friends of Dorothy, and I have never heard music from either of these bars carry through the neighbourhood like it does coming from Downbeat.

Obviously they will need to open their doors to let customers in, but I think they should be required to otherwise keep the doors shut when they are playing music, and make efforts toward sound control as these other bars have done successfully in the neighbourhood.

Thank you for accepting my email. Take care.

Kirsten Roche and Chris Warner

319- 599 Pandora Ave

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the application submitted by Downbeat Event Centre for a new Liquor Primary Licence for their venue located at 1325 Government Street.

The residents of Victoria deserve a diverse range of vibrant nightlife options to enjoy. Recently, we have seen the closure of several venues that hosted nightclub-style events and other performance arts, leaving a gap in our city's entertainment offerings.

As a resident of Victoria for over 40 years, I have always looked forward to engaging with the dynamic nightlife scene in the downtown core. The Downbeat Event Centre represents a promising opportunity to revitalize a space in the heart of downtown that has been vacant and, unfortunately, underused for several years.

I strongly encourage you to support and approve this application, as it will significantly contribute to the cultural and social vibrancy of our city.

Sincerely,
Terry Ahern