



Mayor Alto and Council
City of Victoria
No.1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC, V8W 1P6

23 August 2023

**Re: Notice of Application for a Structural Change to Liquor Service –
919 Douglas – Strathcona Hotel**

Dear Mayor Alto and Council,

We understand that the Strathcona Hotel at 919 Douglas has applied for a structural change to their existing food primary liquor license. Our understanding is that the application is to change the food primary nature of the license to liquor primary with no change to hours of operation of load.

In absence of the long-anticipated Municipal Alcohol Policy, the LUC developed and the DRA ratified the DRA Policy for Liquor Primary & Late Night Food Primary Liquor Licences on 02 Feb 2020. All relevant liquor applications are reviewed on the basis of this policy and our assessment of the application's performance is included below.

Feedback from the Committee is:

- The Strathcona is a long operating business on the busiest thoroughfare in Victoria
- It is located next to a large residential building "The Falls"
- Residents of the "The Falls" were contacted, and issues with noise were discussed
- This change could create a noisier environment, although the timing of the noise isn't expected to change
- The Strathcona hotel, and neighbouring residents, are in an area with many entertainment options, including Sticky Wicket, Distrikt, Smith's pub and Brown's Social House.

Additionally the Committee heard from the residents of the "The Falls" building and the Land Use Committee would like to reiterate their concern over this venue being a consistent noise nuisance for them, and the proposed change will likely exacerbate the noise concerns.

Considering the above the Land Use Committee cannot endorse this application.

Sincerely,

Jordan Royer
Co-Chair Land Use Committee, Downtown Residents Association