

# british columbia private liquor store association

4-1609 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2J5  
T 778.350.5800 E [bcprivateliqorstores@gmail.com](mailto:bcprivateliqorstores@gmail.com)

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February 6, 2015

Mayor and Council, City of Victoria  
re: Retail liquor store zoning and provincial policy changes

Dear Mayor Helps and members of Council:

Council has directed its staff to provide more information on the Province's changes to liquor policy. We respectfully suggest that a committee of key stakeholders be struck to assist the City in gathering information and in developing policy.

Our Association would be eager to be part of that committee, providing the perspective of the private liquor store industry. As small, independent, and largely family-owned and operated ventures, our members are a key part of the business community in Victoria.

We would recommend that the committee also be comprised of representatives from the Liquor Distribution Branch, Island Health, Victoria Police Department, Centre for Addictions Research, Victoria Chamber of Commerce, and Neighbourhood Association representatives for each of the neighbourhoods with a Village Centre within the City of Victoria.

Given the breadth and scope of liquor policy changes that are currently being enacted or considered by the Provincial Government, our Association feels it is prudent for the City to gather as much relevant information as possible before making policy that will have long-term impacts on the business community, neighbourhood culture, and more.

A consultative approach, seeking input from key stakeholders, will assist Council in developing a policy that responds to the current Provincial liquor policy direction in a way that meets the interests of all segments of the Victoria community

Please feel free to contact me at any time for more information.

Regards,



Stephen Harris  
Executive Director,  
BC Private Liquor Store Association

cc: City Manager; Director of Legislative and Regulatory Services; BCPLSA Board of Directors