



Liquor Licencing Policy

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SUBJECT:	Liquor Licencing Policy	
PREPARED BY:	Sustainable Planning and Community Development	
AUTHORIZED BY:	City Council	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	August 1, 2017	
REVIEW FREQUENCY:	Every three years	REVISION DATE:

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of the City of Victoria's Liquor Licensing Policy is to provide direction to the following parties:

1. Liquor licence applicants on the process and fees associated with City of Victoria review of applications;
2. Liquor Control and Licencing Board (LCBC) on the types of applications that the City will opt-out of providing comment on; and
3. City staff on application review and public notification criteria for those types of liquor licence applications that require review by Council and opportunity for the public to comment.

B. POLICY STATEMENTS

1. The *Liquor Licensing Fee Bylaw* applies to those things to which this policy applies and vice versa:
2. City of Victoria provides direction through Council approved policy that the City will "opt out" of the review and comment requirements for the following types of liquor applications;
 - a. Liquor Primary with licensed service up to 10:00 pm and having an occupant load less than 31 persons.
 - b. Manufacturer with Lounge Endorsement, Special Event Area, or Picnic Area with licensed service up to 10:00 pm and having an occupant load less than 31 persons.
 - c. A temporary extension to hours of licensed service for all licence types up to 3:00 am on New Year's Eve.
 - d. The addition of an Entertainment Endorsement to any Food Primary with licensed service up to 12:00 am.
3. The City of Victoria generally does not approve the extension of liquor service past 2:00 am, with the exception of New Year's Eve, which allows for service up to 3:00 am. In extraordinary cases, the City may consider short term or one time provisions for allowing liquor service between 2:00 am and 9:00 am to accommodate international sporting or significant cultural events.

C. PROCEDURES

A business engaging in the manufacture, sale or service of liquor must have a City of Victoria Business License to lawfully conduct its businesses.

The provincial government, through the Liquor Control and Licencing Branch, is the first and last point of contact for businesses interested in applying for a liquor licence.

The application process and related fees will be made available to any business or member of the public through the internet or by request.

For any liquor applications where the City of Victoria has not opted out of providing comment, the following provisions apply:

1. Public notification for comment will be placed at the site for a period no less than 30 days.
2. The City will provide public notification through mailed notice to all residents and businesses within a 100 metre radius.
3. The City will provide notification to the community association.
4. When providing comment on an application, the City will include comments on those aspects within the parameters set by LCLB which currently include:
 - a. Noise impacts in the immediate vicinity of the establishment;
 - b. Impact on the community if approved (including the location of the establishment and person capacity and hour of liquor service of the establishment)
 - c. Confirm that the establishment is being operated in a manner that is consistent with its primary purpose (only for food primary)

D. ENFORCEMENT POLICY

Businesses that have a history of non-compliance with local and provincial government bylaws and legislation or re-occurring nuisance issues may be subject to a Good Neighbour Agreement that will be reviewed along with the annual renewal of a business licence. Lack of adherence to this agreement may result in a business licence being revoked. This will be assessed by staff on a case by case basis.

E. REFERENCES

Business License Bylaw (89-071)
Land Use Procedures Bylaw (16-028)
Noise Bylaw (03-012)
Liquor Licensing Fee Bylaw (01-06)

F. REVISION HISTORY

None