



Governance and Priorities Committee Report

For the June 12, 2014 Meeting

To: Governance and Priorities Committee **Date:** June 5, 2014

From: Robert Woodland, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Services

Subject: Council's request for information regarding the number of Liquor Primary and Patron Participation seats that have been approved in the City since January 1, 2012

Purpose

On May 15, 2014 the Planning and Land Use Committee passed a motion requesting that staff provide information to Council on the number of Liquor Primary and Patron Participation seats have been approved over the past two to three years in the City. This Report responds to that motion.

Background

The provision of liquor service in the province is managed and licensed by the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB). Local governments provide input on a number of licensing decisions made by the LCLB in accordance with the regulations established under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and Regulations. While there are many specific types of licenses issued by the LCLB, the provision of liquor service to the public is generally captured under one of 2 categories: Food Primary Liquor Licenses or Liquor Primary Liquor Licenses. The general distinction is the focus of the specific business, Food Primary Liquor licensees must be focused on providing food service to their customers while Liquor Primary licensees are focused on the provision of alcoholic beverages to their customers.

Patron participation endorsements are issued to Food Primary Liquor Licenses that wish to allow some form of "patron participation" to take place in their business. This could include activities such as interactive (audience participation) live entertainment, karaoke, dancing, etc. The LCLB seeks input from local governments before approving a patron participation endorsement being added to a Food Primary Liquor Licence.

Issues & Analysis

As stated above, all Liquor Licenses are issued by the LCLB and as a result, the information sought by Council has been provided by the LCLB. All information is current to June 4, 2014.

Since January 1, 2012 the LCLB have approved the addition of Patron Participation endorsements to 5 Food Primary Liquor Licensees in the City. This involved a total of 670 seats with the largest establishment having 200 seats and the smallest having 83 seats.

Since January 1, 2012 the LCLB has approved one new Liquor Primary Liquor Licence in the City that has 40 seats (The Polo Lounge). During the same period, the LCLB approved occupant load increases to 8 Liquor Primary Licensees for a total of 3313 seats. It should be noted that of this total, 2575 seats were for the Royal BC Museum which only provides service to invited guests at special functions and 200 seats were for a theatre Liquor Primary Licensee that has specific conditions attached. As a result, the net gain in liquor primary licensed seats in the City that are accessible to the general public totals 568 during the reporting period.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee receive this Report for information.

Respectfully submitted,



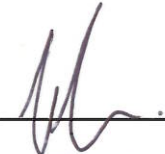
Mark Hayden
Manager, Bylaw and
Licensing Services



Robert Woodland
Director Legislative and
Regulatory Services

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:



June 6, 2014
