



Royal Canadian Legion #127
Public Service Branch
c/o Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Tel: (250) 386-3325
Email: rcl127@shaw.ca
Website: <http://www.br127.ca>

November 24, 2015

Mary Chudley
Policy Analyst
Legislative and Regulatory Services
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mary Chudley:

Re: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 127, 514 Government St – Liquor Licence Review Concerns

This is to confirm my earlier email response to the concerns raised by City Staff to our application.

Parking spaces for 100 guests/attendees:

- Our application requested a permit for 100 only to cover our Remembrance Day reception which takes place after the Cenotaph Service, from noon to 3:00 pm. For the past two years and since we moved to this location, we have a verbal understanding with Robbins Parking that our guests may park in the Government Parking Lot at Menzies and Kingston Sts and they will not monitor that lot all day. Our members are told via email and our newsletter that they can park there.
- Our regular attendance ranges between 20-25 at our Friday Socials during Standard Time and 35-40 in the summer months. Because our members are aware of the public service parking situation, many with vehicles come between 4:45-5:00 pm. Ones who walk over come around 4:15.
- In the winter months, the club usually closes before 7:00; in the summer, by 7:30 or 8:00. There is the odd occasion when someone may be celebrating an event and stays until 10:00. We have asked for the closing time to be 11:00 pm just to cover the odd exception.
- Events where we expect a large number of attendees like an AGM or an Open House are scheduled on a Sunday afternoon so that people can walk over and go home in daylight or use metered parking on Superior St.
- Attendance at meetings ranges from 11-15 and is on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm so does not interfere with others requiring parking during daytime. If it would help, we could change our meetings to Sundays as well.

- We subsidize 3 members to provide rides for those who do not want to drive or are disabled. We also have a couple of members who use scooters. The scooters are parked on the property or in the hall.
- Parking on Government St between Michigan and Superior Sts in front has been adequate for our normal needs but there is the odd occasion where a couple of spots on Michigan St have been used. With people staggering their time for coming in, the parking situation has worked so far. Several people leave around 6:15 or 6:30 to go to dinner at the James Bay Inn and drive their vehicles to it, leaving spaces for others to use.

Rezoning

Public Service Branch 127 of the Royal Canadian Legion has existed as a private club with the Province of BC as its landlord and in this precinct since 1934. Originally, to be a member of this branch, the member had to be a veteran and a civil servant. As a result of these conditions, premises were made available to the Branch in the precinct since 1934. Its first home was at 539 Superior, then at 521 Superior and for the past 2 years at 514 Government St. We still have several members with over 55 year memberships who joined with these requirements.

Since we do not own the property, we cannot apply for the rezoning.

You might be interested to know that this building housed Crown Publications several years ago and sold books as well as gifts so there was retail activity taking place openly. Also, the Legislative Dining Room is a popular restaurant that serves the public and there is also a gift shop in the Legislative Building. If their zoning covers these activities, maybe the existing one will cover this branch too.

James Bay Neighbourhood Association/James Bay Inn

We are aware of the James Bay Neighbourhood Association and will contact them before the public consultation gets underway. They are one of the local organizations we donate to annually.

Several of our members go to the James Bay Inn for dinner after they leave our premises on Fridays. We are not competing with them and often we have to wait for some time before they are able to find space to serve us.

Noise

So far, we have not been approached by any neighbours regarding noise and disruptive activities. As mentioned in the Letter of Intent, we do have some members who are retired policemen and they are there should they be needed.

If you have any other concerns or would like further explanation, please contact us.

Sincerely,
Bal Sekha
Branch Secretary