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August 24, 2015

To: All LCLB staff  
All Industry Associations  
All Local Government, First Nations, and Police Agencies

**Re: Early Opening of Liquor-primary Establishments during the 2015 Rugby World Cup (taking place in the UK) Sept. 18 – Oct. 31.**

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### **Introduction**

This is to announce a temporary policy change to permit liquor-primary (including liquor-primary club) establishments greater flexibility in hosting televised games of the Rugby World Cup outside of normal liquor service hours. There is no change to the hours of liquor service.

### **Present Policy**

Existing Branch policy states that patrons must not be in a liquor-primary establishment from the time of closing to 6:00 a.m. If the establishment is open for non-liquor service activities after 6:00 a.m., all patrons must vacate the premises at least one half hour before the start of the liquor service hours as stated on the liquor licence, e.g. if the liquor service hours begin at 11:00 a.m. all patrons must leave by 10:30 a.m.

### **New Policy**

During the Rugby World Cup, taking place from September 18 to October 31, 2015, a temporary policy will be in place with the following terms and conditions:

- A liquor-primary establishment may open to the public for non-liquor service prior to 6:00 a.m. provided there is a minimum of 1 hour between the end of liquor service the preceding evening and the opening for the rugby game. For example: if the establishment's liquor service ends at 2:00 a.m. patrons may not re-enter the establishment until at least 3:00 a.m.
- The half hour interval described above under "Present Policy" is repealed so there is no requirement for patrons to vacate the premise a half hour prior to the start of liquor service as stated on the licence.
- Minors are not permitted in the establishment during the hours of liquor service unless specifically permitted under the terms and conditions of the liquor licence, but minors are permitted outside the hours of liquor service.
- Liquor must be securely stored or supervised by staff to ensure that it is not consumed during the hours when liquor service is not permitted.
- The person capacity for the establishment is in effect even outside liquor service hours. Licensees may not, at any time, have more persons in the establishment than the stated person capacity on the licence.

- As always, patrons may not bring liquor into the establishment at any time and intoxicated persons are not permitted in the establishment at any time.
- This policy is in place only for the 2015 Rugby World Cup games between September 18 to October 31, 2015.
- Licensees are not required to apply to the LCLB for approval but it is recommended licensees check with their local government regarding any restrictions on hours of operation.

Please be advised that licensed establishments are subject to inspection by branch staff and police at all times.

### **Further Information**

Further information regarding liquor control and licensing in British Columbia is available on the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch website at <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/liquor-regulation-licensing>. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch toll free in Canada at 1-866-209-2111 or 250 952-7049 if calling from the Victoria area.

Original signed by

Doug Scott  
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager  
Liquor Control and Licensing Branch