
Date: June 20, 2014

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

Re: Liquor Policy Review recommendation #61: Transferring of small amounts of liquor between licensees

Introduction

The recent Liquor Policy Review (LPR) recommendation 61 is intended to increase flexibility for licensees.

61. Individual establishments that are part of a larger company (e.g. chain outlets) should be able to transfer small amounts of liquor between locations.

Previous policy

Licensees must purchase all liquor from the Liquor Distribution Branch and may not share stock.

New policy

Liquor Control and Licensing Branch policy and the Liquor Control and Licensing Act section 38 are amended to permit a licensee to occasionally transfer a small amount of liquor to another licensee to balance stock if products run out unexpectedly. A licensee cannot transfer or receive more than \$10,000 a year of liquor in this manner and both the seller and the purchaser must keep records within their liquor registers indicating what quantity, brand and type of liquor (sku #) was transferred, its value, date of transfer and the licence numbers of both parties.

Although the original recommendation was that this privilege be available only to chains, government decided not to limit it to establishments with ownership ties. However, the following limitations do apply:

- LP and FP licensees may transfer to each other (FP to LP and vice versa; and, FPs and LPs amongst themselves).
- LRS's may transfer amongst themselves but may not transfer to LPs/ FPs or vice versa.
- Wine stores may only transfer to those other wine stores within their own subcategories (e.g. BCVQA stores can transfer to each other but not to an independent wine store).

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor control and licensing in British Columbia is available on the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch website at <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/lclb/>. 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 250 952-5787 if calling from the Victoria area.

Original signed by:

Douglas Scott
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