

Date: September 8, 2016

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

Re: Allow food primary and liquor primary licences to have no interior licensed area for patrons

Introduction

Current policy requires that outdoor patios are only permitted if there is also a licensed interior area.

New Policy

Effective September 8, 2016, eligibility for food primaries and liquor primaries has been expanded to allow applicants to apply for a food primary or liquor primary with no interior licensed area for patrons. The licensed area for patrons may be contained in the outdoor patio area only.

The patio(s) must adjoin a permanent structure that is affixed to a foundation, plumbed and wired which is associated with the licence, in which the licensee has valid interest. The patio perimeter must be suitably defined and bounded in order to control patron entry and exit.

There are no other changes to the application process and operating requirements for these two types of licences:

- Food primaries with an outdoor patio only must continue to ensure that food is the primary focus of the establishment during all hours of operation and must offer a varied menu of appetizers and main courses. The kitchen equipment used to prepare the required menu offerings must be housed in the permanent structure.
- Liquor primaries with an outdoor patio area only must continue to comply with the requirement to focus on beverage service, entertainment or hospitality while making a reasonable variety of hot or cold snacks and non-alcoholic beverages available to patrons, and must continue to obtain local government input as part of the application process for this licence class.
- All licensees must comply with local building and zoning requirements, and with noise and other applicable local government and health bylaws.

This policy does not apply to manufacturer lounges.

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.gov.bc.ca/liquorregulationandlicensing>. 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
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager