

Date: January 10, 2018

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

Re: **Special Event Permit Exemption**

---

## 1. Special Event Permit exemption

### Current Policy

A Special Event Permit (SEP) must not be issued for the primary purpose of making a profit unless the funds raised go to a charitable purpose.

### New Policy

The general manager may exempt SEP holders from donating event profits to charity if the event is of a municipal, provincial, national or international significance.

The general manager will consider exemption requests for events that are provincially, nationally and internationally significant. Qualifying events must meet the following criteria:

- A. Participants and performers at the event are primarily from around the province, Canada, or the world;
- B. The event attracts spectators from around the province, Canada, or the world;
- C. There is provincial, national, or international media coverage of the event.

Effective February 26, 2018, municipalities will be responsible for determining whether an event is municipally significant to their communities.

To apply:

Until Feb 26, 2018:

1. Submit an email to [lclb.sep@gov.bc.ca](mailto:lclb.sep@gov.bc.ca).
2. Describe the nature of the event and why it may be of provincial, national, or international significance.
3. The general manager will review the event and determine whether the event meets the exemption criteria.

Effective February 26, 2018, exemption applications will be part of the online SEP application process. Events of municipal significance will require a municipal resolution or letter from a delegated municipal official designating the event municipally significant. A copy of the designation must be kept at the event site for inspection.

**Explanation**

This policy change was made to support the music industry in BC.

**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*

Michelle Carr,  
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager