Date: April, 3, 2020

To: All LCRB Staff  
    All Licensees  
    All Industry Associations  
    All local government, First Nations and police agencies

Re: Distilleries, Breweries & Wineries, manufacture, packaging and sale of alcohol-based sanitizer

General Manager Authority

Under Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation (LCLR), s. 30, the General Manager of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch may authorize licensed manufacturing establishments to be used for activities not otherwise authorized under the licence or LCLR.

New Policy

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Province’s March 2020 declaration of a state of emergency and the Public Health Officer’s March 2020 declaration of a public health emergency, the General Manager is putting in place time-limited measures to support the production of essential health and safety products.

Accordingly, the General Manager is authorizing brewery licence holders, winery licence holders, and distillery licensees to use their establishments to manufacture and/or package alcohol-based sanitizer. This authorization is limited to July 15, 2020.

Policy Directives 20-08 and 20-09 authorize the use of the licensed manufacturing facility for the manufacturing and/or packaging, selling or donating of hand sanitizer, specifically. This additional policy directive authorizes the use of the licensed manufacturing facility for the manufacturing of sanitizer.

Licensees are able to donate or sell the sanitizer they have manufactured.

Licensees who manufacture and/or package alcohol-based sanitizer are responsible for ensuring that they have satisfied all applicable requirements, including those imposed by Health Canada for the manufacture and/or packaging of alcohol-based sanitizer.

This directive does not permit the holder of a brewery or winery licence to distill spirits.
This new policy will be in effect until July 15, 2020

Explanation

This authorization is provided in the context of the provincial public health emergency related to COVID-19.

The authorization will be reviewed as the provincial health context changes.

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor and cannabis control and licensing in British Columbia is available on the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch website at http://www.gov.bc.ca/liquorregulationandlicensing

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch toll free in Canada at 1-866-209-2111 or 250 952-5787 if calling from the Victoria area.

Original signed by

Mary Sue Maloughney,
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager