

Date: June 29, 2020

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

Re: Dormant liquor licences, prescribed circumstances for extension to dormancy

Current Policy

Under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and *Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation* (LCLR), the general manager must cancel a licence if, in the general manager's opinion, a licence is dormant because a licensee has not operated the establishment that is the subject of the licensee's licence for a period of two years.

The requirement to cancel a licence that has been dormant for two years is subject to certain circumstances prescribed in the LCLR, s. 92.1.

New Policy

A new prescribed circumstance has been added to the LCLR. The general manager is not required to cancel a licence that has been dormant for 2 years or more if the general manager is satisfied that:

- 1) The licensee was prevented from operating the establishment at the beginning of or during the dormancy period for reasons beyond the licensee's control,
- 2) The reasons are not described by other prescribed circumstances, and
- 3) the operations in the establishment restart as soon as practicable after the licensee is no longer prevented from operating the establishment because of those reasons.

All other existing prescribed circumstances remain unchanged.

Further Information

This communication contains general information about requirements under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and is not a replacement for the statute or regulations. It does not contain or constitute legal advice.

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