

Date: August 4, 2020

To: All LCRB staff
All Licensees
All Industry Associations
All Local Government, First Nations, and police agencies

Re: **Cannabis Licensing Regulation amendment – Online Sales, Prepaid Purchase Cards (Gift Cards)**

1. Online Sales

Previous Policy

A Cannabis Retail Store (CRS) licensee is not permitted to sell cannabis online.

New Policy

A CRS licensee is permitted to sell cannabis through an online system, or by telephone, if transfer of personal possession of cannabis from the licensee to patrons takes place in the retail store of the licensee.

If a licensee sells cannabis through an online system, the online system must be administered or operated, in whole or in part, by the licensee, or a third party on behalf of the licensee. The online system must also be operated or administered, as applicable, in compliance with the applicable laws, rules and requirements that apply to the licensee. This includes, but is not limited to, age verification requirements as applicable under the federal *Cannabis Act*.

Explanation

Allowing CRS licensees to offer online sales will support the legal industry by opening new sales channels and provide increased convenience for customers.

2. Prepaid Purchase Cards (Gift Cards)

Previous Policy

A CRS licensee may sell prepaid purchase cards for use in the retail store where purchased for the future supply of cannabis, cannabis accessories or shopping bags.

New Policy

A CRS licensee may sell prepaid purchase cards for the future supply of cannabis, cannabis accessories or shopping bags.

Explanation

This amendment allows CRS licensees to sell prepaid purchase cards that may be used at any of their stores or on their online system.

Further Information

This communication contains general information about requirements under the *Cannabis 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>.

Disclaimer

This communication is intended to be used only for general informational purposes and may not apply to all situations. This communication does not constitute legal advice nor is it a comprehensive statement of the legal obligations that arise under the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act, regulations or any other applicable laws. When interpreting and applying the information contained in this communication, you are encouraged to seek specific advice from your professional advisors as appropriate in the circumstances.

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

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