Date: August 26, 2020

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

Re: **Extension of temporary hours of sale and delivery**

Current Temporary Terms & Conditions

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Manager (GM) of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB), by term and condition, temporarily extended the hours of liquor service for Licensee Retail Stores, Wine Stores and Special Wine Stores, and Manufacturer Onsite Store endorsements to no earlier than 7a.m. and end no later than 11 p.m.

These extended hours were intended to assist retailers in implementing the Provincial Health Officer's (PHO) orders and recommendations, including in relation to physical distancing and protecting vulnerable populations.

Associated with the extension of hours of liquor service, the GM also authorized delivery services to purchase liquor on behalf of a customer from a liquor store or from any licensee authorized to sell in unopened containers, and deliver and sell that liquor to a customer, provided the delivery does not take place between 11:30 p.m. and 7 a.m.

These terms and conditions came into effect on April 3, 2020 and were set to expire on July 15, 2020. For more information, see Policy Directive 20-11.

Subsequently, the terms & conditions were further extended to August 31, 2020. For more information, see Policy Directive 20-18.

Extension of Temporary Terms & Conditions

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Province's March 2020 declaration of a state of emergency and the PHO's March 2020 declaration of a public health

emergency, and to continue to support licensees while assisting the public and vulnerable populations in complying with requirements under PHO orders and recommendations, the GM is, by term and condition, extending the authorizations described in Policy Directive 20-11.

Whereas these authorizations were to expire on August 31, 2020, they will now expire January 31, 2021.

The change is made at the GM's initiative; licensees do not need to submit an application to change their hours of sale.

Note: This change does not override any additional requirements or limitations placed on a business's hours of liquor service by a local government or First Nation.

The GM is satisfied that the present circumstances are exceptional, and that it is not contrary to the public interest to extend hours or liquor service for the impacted licences and endorsements. In the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of emergency and the public health emergency, the GM considers that it is in the public interest to put in place measures that assist in implementation of the PHO orders and recommendations.

The new policy will be reviewed as the provincial health context changes.

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor and cannabis regulation 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.

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 *Liquor 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.

Original signed by

Mary Sue Maloughney
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager