

Date: July 13, 2021

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

Re: Liquor Retail Store sales to Special Event Permit (SEP) holders

Current Policy

Special Event Permit holders may only purchase liquor for their event from one of the following:

- BC LiquorStores (government liquor store)
- B.C. winery, brewery or on-site distillery store
- Rural Licensee Retail Store if authorized by the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) to sell to SEP holders

You must not purchase your liquor from a private liquor store, offsite or private wine store*, or an agent.

*Note: The one exception to this prohibition is that you may purchase wine from wine stores that are permitted to sell all types of wine (classified by government as independent wine stores) if your event is a private special event.

New Policy

SEP holders may only purchase liquor for their event from one of the following approved outlets:

- BC LiquorStores location (government liquor store);
- B.C. winery with an on-site store;
- B.C. brewery with an on-site store;
- B.C. distillery with an on-site store;
- Licensee Retail Store (private liquor store);

- Wine Store (excluding sacramental wine store);
- Special Wine Store; or
- Rural Licensee Retail Store.

Liquor sold or served at a special event may not be purchased from any of the following:

- Directly from a manufacturer without an onsite store;
- Liquor Primary or Food Primary establishments;
- Agents; or
- UBrew and/or UVin (Ferment-on-Premises) stores.

Explanation

The inclusion of Licensee Retail Stores, Wine Stores (excluding Sacramental Wine Stores), Specialty Wine Stores and Rural Licensee Retail Stores will provide additional support to liquor retailers and provide SEP holders with more choice in liquor selection and where they can purchase their liquor.

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor and cannabis regulation and licensing in British Columbia is available on the LCRB website at <http://www.gov.bc.ca/liquorregulationandlicensing>.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the LCRB 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

Jillian Rousselle
A/Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager
Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch