

Date: February 25, 2022

To: Manufacturer Licensees  
LCRB Staff  
Industry Associations  
Local governments, Indigenous Nations and Police agencies

**Re: Manufacturer picnic area endorsements**

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### **Current Policy**

Manufacturer licensees may apply for a picnic area endorsement on their licence. The sale and service of liquor is not permitted within a picnic area; however, patrons may consume liquor purchased or received from other service areas under the licence, including a sampling area, in the endorsed picnic area.

The Liquor Policy Manual (LPM) indicates the factors the General Manager (GM) of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) may consider in determining whether to approve a picnic area endorsement application, including structural features and adjacency to other licences and service areas.

For example, picnic areas must not be located on municipal land, must be located away from other services areas and other licensed premises, must have line of sight from the interior of the establishment, must be open to the elements, and must be located on level ground of a specified nature.

### **New Policy**

Picnic areas may now be located adjacent to other service areas under the same licence. They also may now be located on municipal land, such as a sidewalk, providing other regulatory authorities allow for this (e.g., through zoning). Additionally, picnic areas are no longer required to be:

- open to the elements;
- in direct line of sight from the interior of the establishment; or
- located on ground level on a specified surface material.

The Liquor Policy Manual has been revised to reflect these changes.

The [Manufacturer Terms and Conditions Handbook](#) has also been updated and further clarifies restrictions on amplified sound in a picnic area.

When applying for a Picnic Area endorsement, licensees will continue to be required to have all necessary approvals and permissions from other authorities (e.g., local government or First Nation).

### **Explanation**

These changes have been made to support the implementation of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General's [mandate letter commitment](#) to make Temporary Expanded Service Areas (TESA) permanent. See [Policy Directive 21-09](#) for further information.

### **Further Information**

Further information regarding liquor and cannabis regulation and licensing in British Columbia is available on the LCRB website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/lcrb](http://www.gov.bc.ca/lcrb)

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact the LCRB at: [LCRBLiquorPolicy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:LCRBLiquorPolicy@gov.bc.ca)

### **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*  
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Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch