

B.3

MOTION ON NOTICE

3. Wine Stores - Aligning City of Vancouver Liquor Store Guidelines with New Provincial Regulations

MOVER: Councillor Affleck

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver Liquor Store Guidelines were adopted by City Council on November 2, 2004;
2. The Provincial Government's Liquor Policy Review report 2014 recommended that liquor sales be permitted in grocery stores in response to consumer demands for greater convenience;
3. Liquor Control and Licensing Branch POLICY DIRECTIVE No: 15 - 01 states that, effective April 1, 2015, grocery stores may sell liquor either in a store-within-a-store or 100% BC wine on the shelf, but not both at the same location;
4. Liquor Control and Licensing Branch POLICY DIRECTIVE No: 15 - 01 states that, effective April 1, 2015, wine store licences, other than winery-owned or sacramental wine stores, may be relocated to a grocery store, either in a separate store or on shelf, and further states that there is no restriction on the distance between a Wine Store and other liquor retail or wine store outlets;
5. A proposed Wine Store compliant with Liquor Control and Licensing Branch POLICY DIRECTIVE No: 15 - 01, namely Urban Fare grocery store on Alberni Street in downtown Vancouver, was rejected by the City of Vancouver and denied a licence to operate - reportedly due to its proximity to an existing B.C. government liquor store as per the City's outdated 2004 Liquor Store Guidelines;
6. The City of Vancouver Liquor Store guidelines and policies, as they relate to Wine Store locations, are inconsistent with, and are more restrictive than, the current Provincial Government and Liquor Control and Licensing Branch regulations;
7. There is great public demand for locally-produced B.C. products, including B.C. wines, and public demand for greater consumer convenience.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council establish a new policy relating to the location of Wine Stores in grocery stores, consistent with Liquor Control and Licensing Branch POLICY DIRECTIVE No: 15 - 01, and direct staff to amend the City of Vancouver Liquor Store Guidelines accordingly to align with recently implemented Liquor Control and Licensing Branch regulations related to the location of Wine Stores in grocery stores;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to immediately process all outstanding applications for Wine Stores in grocery stores.

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