



REPORT

Report Date: November 4, 2022
Contact: Sarah Hicks
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RTS No.: 15413
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: November 15, 2022
[Submit comments to Council](#)

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Chief Licence Inspector
SUBJECT: Extended Hours for Liquor Establishments and Restaurants During the 2022 FIFA World Cup

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve, in principle amendments to the Business Premises Regulation of Hours By-law to align Liquor Establishment hours of operation with the Liquor Primary extended hours of LCRB Policy Directive 22-15 for the duration of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, and to allow Restaurants in the Downtown Eastside to remain open between 2 am and 6 am for the duration of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, generally as shown in Appendix A;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment a by-law generally in accordance with Appendix A.

REPORT SUMMARY

The BC Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) will allow bars and pubs (provincial Liquor Primary licence holders) to extend their hours during the 2022 FIFA World Cup being held in Qatar from November 20 to December 18. Although liquor service hours will be unchanged, patrons will be able to watch games and be served non-alcoholic beverages and food during extended hours. The hours have been extended to accommodate game broadcast times: Qatar has an 11 hour time difference from British Columbia.

The 2022 FIFA World Cup is an opportunity for fans to come together and for Vancouver businesses to host them. To enable Vancouver's bars and pubs to take advantage of the Provincial extension of hours, staff recommend that Council amend the Business Premises Regulation of Hours By-law to align hours for bars and pubs (Liquor Establishment license holders) with the Provincial hours for the duration of the 2022 FIFA World Cup. In addition, staff

recommend an amendment to the Business Premises Hours of Regulation By-law to allow restaurants in the Downtown Eastside to remain open between 2:00am and 6:00am for the duration of the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Council enacted the Business Premises Regulation of Hours By-law (the “By-law”) in 1999. It established the Downtown Eastside as a business premises regulation area, and established operating hours for 14 types of business including Restaurant Class 1 and Restaurant Class 2. The By-law prohibits these businesses from operating between 2:00am and 6:00am.

In 2006, Council amended the By-law to establish different closing hours for Standard and Extended Hours Liquor Establishments in different areas of the city, and to expand the regulation areas beyond Downtown Eastside to categorize all areas of the City as either Downtown or Non-Downtown, and DTES and Downtown Eastside Oppenheimer District, and by use (residential, commercial, industrial, mixed use).

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

On October 31, 2022 the BC Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) released [Policy Directive 22-15](#) that allows Liquor Primary licensees (bars and pubs) to extend their operating hours during the 2022 FIFA World Cup (Appendix B). Liquor service hours will not be extended, but patrons will be able to watch games, and businesses can serve non-alcoholic drinks and food during the extended opening hours. The World Cup is being held in Qatar between November 20 and December 18. Given the 11 hour time difference between Qatar and British Columbia many games will be broadcast outside of regular business hours.

The By-law sets operating hours for certain types of businesses including Liquor Establishments (provincial Liquor Primary licence holders) (Appendix C). The hours allowed under the By-law do not align with the extended hours allowed by the Province’s October 31, 2022 Policy Directive. This means that under the existing By-law, Liquor Establishments cannot take advantage of the temporary extended hours granted by the Province for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

Additionally, the By-law requires Restaurants in the Downtown Eastside to be closed between 2:00am and 6:00am, hours during which some 2022 FIFA World Cup games will be broadcast. In the rest of the City, restaurant hours are not regulated and restaurants can be open for 24 hours a day.

Staff recommend that Council amend the By-law to enable Liquor Establishments to take advantage of the Province’s temporary extended hours under Policy Directive 22-15, and to extend hours for Restaurants in the Downtown Eastside during the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

Strategic Analysis

The 2022 FIFA World Cup is a popular spectator event and an opportunity for the City's businesses to host soccer fans. The proposed amendment to the By-law would allow businesses to host patrons for games broadcast outside of regular business hours, and would align with the Provincial policy to extend hours for Liquor Primary establishments for the duration of the event.

The purpose of the By-law is to mitigate neighbourhood impacts such as late night noise and nuisance. While there is some risk of neighbourhood impacts if Liquor Establishment and Downtown Eastside Restaurant hours are amended for the 2022 FIFA World Cup, there could be financial benefits to businesses, and public benefits as fans and communities come together to watch and support this international event.

Should Council approve the proposed By-law amendments, the extended hours would apply for the duration of the event only (November 20 to December 18) and regular hours for Liquor Establishments and for Restaurants in the Downtown Eastside would be in effect on December 19, 2022.

Financial

There are no financial implications.

Legal

The *Vancouver Charter* authorizes Council to regulate business hours.

CONCLUSION

The Province has approved extended hours for Liquor Establishments during the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Staff recommend amendments to the By-law to enable Vancouver's bars and pubs to take advantage of these extended hours, and to remove the requirement for restaurants in the Downtown Eastside to close between 2:00am and 6:00am during the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

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Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch
POLICY DIRECTIVE
No: 22-15

Date: October 31, 2022

To: LCRB staff
Liquor Primary licensees and hospitality industry associations
Local Governments, Indigenous Nations and Police agencies

Re: **Temporary authorization for Liquor Primary establishments to open early during the 2022 FIFA World Cup, November 20-December 18, 2022**

Introduction

This Policy Directive announces temporary terms and conditions to permit liquor primary (LP) establishments greater flexibility in hosting televised games of the 2022 FIFA World Cup outside of normal liquor service hours. There is no change to the hours of liquor sale and service.

Current Terms and Conditions

LP establishments are required to clear all patrons from the service area and close within a half-hour after liquor service ends. They are prohibited from using their service area for any other purpose between closing time and 6:00 a.m.

If the establishment is open for non-liquor service activities after 6:00 a.m., all patrons must vacate the premises at least one half-hour before the start of liquor service hours as stated on the liquor licence. For example, if liquor service hours begin at 11:00 a.m., all patrons must be cleared by 10:30 a.m.

Temporary Terms and Conditions

During the 2022 FIFA World Cup, taking place from November 20 to December 18, 2022, the following temporary terms and conditions will apply:

- A liquor primary establishment may open to the public for non-liquor service prior to 6:00 a.m. provided there is a minimum of one hour between the end of liquor service the preceding evening and the opening for the soccer game. For example, if the establishment's liquor service ends at 2:00 a.m. patrons may not

re-enter the establishment until 3:00 a.m. at the earliest.

- While these terms and conditions are in effect, the requirement for patrons to vacate the premise a half-hour prior to the start of liquor service, as stated on the licence, is repealed.
- Minors are not permitted in the establishment during the hours of liquor service unless specifically permitted under the terms and conditions of the liquor licence, but minors are permitted outside the hours of liquor service.
- Liquor must be securely stored or supervised by staff to ensure that it is not consumed during the hours when liquor service is not permitted.
- The person capacity for the establishment is in effect even outside liquor service hours. Licensees may not, at any time, have more persons in the establishment than the stated person capacity on the licence.
- As always, patrons may not bring liquor into the establishment at any time and intoxicated persons are not permitted in the establishment at any time.
- These terms and conditions are in place only for 2022 FIFA World Cup games between November 20 and December 18, 2022.
- Licensees are not required to apply to the LCRB for approval, but it is recommended licensees check with their local government regarding any restrictions on hours of operation.

Please be advised that licensed establishments are subject to inspection by branch staff and police at all times.

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.

Further Information

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

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please email the LCRB at LCRBLiquorPolicy@gov.bc.ca.

Original signed by

David Hume
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager
Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch

Table 1 Liquor Establishment hours of operation as regulated by the Business Premises Regulation of Hours By-law

Location	Weekday	Standard Hours Liquor Establishment	Extended Hours Liquor Establishment
Downtown Eastside Oppenheimer District	Sunday - Thursday	11 am to 12 midnight	11 am to 12 midnight
	Friday and Sat	11 am to 1:00 am	11 am to 1:00 am
Downtown - Primarily Commercial	Monday to Sunday	11 am to 2 am	9 am to 3 am
Non-Downtown Primarily Commercial and Industrial	Monday to Sunday	11 am to 2 am	9 am to 3 am
Downtown - Primarily Mixed Use	Sunday to Thursday	11 am to 1:00 am	9 am to 2 am
	Friday and Sat	11 am to 2 am	9 am to 3 am
Downtown - Primarily Residential	Sunday to Thursday	11 am to 12 midnight	9 am to 1 am
Non-Downtown - Primarily Residential			
Non-Downtown - Primarily Mixed Use	Friday and Sat	11 am to 1:00 am	9 am to 2 am

Table 2 Restaurant hours of operation as regulated by the Business Premises Regulation of Hours By-law

Location	Weekday	Restaurant
Downtown Eastside	Monday to Sunday	6:00 am - 2:00 am