

# MINUTES

## OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF LIQUOR LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**DATE:** Thursday, June 13, 2013

**LOCATION:** Meeting Room Piccolo, Municipal Hall

**TIME:** 8:45 A.M.

### ATTENDANCE

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ian Lowe, Accommodation Sector Representative, Vice Chair  
Davin Moore, Whistler Community Services Society Representative  
Edward Dangerfield, Restaurant Sector Representative  
Sheila Kirkwood, Whistler Fire Rescue Service Representative  
John Grills, Councilor  
Steve LeClair, Public Safety Representative RCMP  
Rob Knapton, Public Safety Representative RCMP  
Holly Glenn, LCLB Inspector

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeff Cockle, Food & Beverage Sector Representative – Nightclubs  
Mike Varrin, Food & Beverage Sector Representative – Pubs/Bars, Chair

#### MUNICIPAL STAFF:

Frank Savage, Planner, LLAC Secretary  
Wanda Bradbury, Recording Secretary

### ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

#### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Motion by Steve LeClair  
Seconded by Frank Savage  
**That** the agenda for the Liquor License Advisory Committee Meeting of June 13, 2013 be adopted as read.



CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:**

Motion by Steve LeClair

Seconded by Frank Savage

**That** the minutes of the Liquor License Advisory Committee (LLAC) Meeting of March 14, 2013 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL UPDATE:**

- It was noted that when Councillor Grills is not able to attend LLAC meetings, a substitute Councillor would not be available.
- The Mayor is considering the creation of a task force focusing on the May Long Weekend, with the aim of addressing vandalism issues.
- The Economic Partnership Initiative (EPI) Task Force Open House is taking place at the Delta Whistler Village Suites, June 26 commencing at 4:30 p.m.
- Whistler's first Ironman event will be held on August 25, 2013 with a five year commitment. Next year's event is scheduled for July 2014.
- Whistler will host the Union of BC Municipalities Conference in September 2014.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Proposed Changes to Municipal Process and Fees for Liquor License Applications**

Frank presented a staff report on recent changes to liquor legislation and Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) policies. Changes potentially affecting Whistler are:

- Special Occasion License site licensing and minors – pilot project
- Catering license/Catering endorsements – catering licensed events
- Brewery/distillery lounge endorsement and special event area

**SOL Licensed Events**

The municipal involvement with Special Occasion Licensed (SOL) events is not fully defined in Council Policy G-17 *Municipal Liquor Licensing Policy*. Since the new catering license category now provides another option for liquor service at events, it is timely to also clarify the municipal process and fees for SOL events. Currently, SOL events past 2:00 am or very large SOL events (i.e. over 850 people) require Council approval. The staff report presented a proposed municipal review process and fee structure for SOL licensed events.

LCLB Special Occasion License policy does not permit minors to be present in a public SOL licensed beer garden. The LCLB is proposing a 2013 pilot project where up to two SOL licensed public events with minors accompanied by a parent or guardian would be considered in Whistler and a few other municipalities. Appropriate events are being investigated for the pilot program. If the pilot program is successful, the LCLB may consider a future policy change.



### Catering Licensed Events

Since the catering liquor license/endorsement is new, there is currently no municipal process or fee structure for municipal review and approval of catering licensed events. “Low risk” catered events do not require municipal review, though all licensed venues will need a Whistler Fire Services department approved occupant load. For outdoor catered events past 10:00 pm, public events and events with more than 500 people the LCLB will seek explicit approval of the RMOW. The staff report presented a proposed municipal review process and fee structure for catering licensed events where municipal approval is required. Consistency with the review process for similar SOL licensed events is an objective.

### Brewery/distillery lounge endorsement and special event area

Breweries and distilleries can now apply for a lounge area and/or a special event area where patrons may consume liquor manufactured under the license. There is currently no municipal review process and fee for this type of license application. The staff report proposed that the review process and fee structure be the same as for a new liquor primary license.

### Member Comments:

#### Accommodation Sector Representative

- Q: Are we looking to make a motion for this or is this for discussion only?
- A: An amendment to Council Policy G-17 will be required, which must be approved by Council. It is expected that the LLAC will make a recommendation regarding this proposed policy change.

#### Restaurant Sector Representative

- In keeping consistent with LCLB policy, it would be advantageous to have a maximum of 500 people for a “low risk” catered event, resulting in less confusion for applicants.

#### Whistler Fire Rescue Service Representative

- Important for Whistler Fire Services department to review the occupant load of venues due to the possibility of being over capacity. Additional fire safety features may be required.
- Q: When is health department approval required?
- A: All qualifying licensed establishments and catering companies would be subject to review by Vancouver Coastal Health.
- We also need to look at and consider the number of facilities in Whistler that could have an occupant load of 500 guests and/or greater.

#### Public Safety Representative RCMP

- Q: Why does Council Policy G-17 set a capacity of 850 persons for an event requiring Council approval and not use the LCLB’s 500 person threshold for a site security plan?
- A: In the past it was felt that requiring Council approval for 500+ person events could be onerous, so the threshold for approval was set at 850. In fact, there have been few events with capacities between 500 and 850.



- RCMP prefers to have a ceiling of 500 people for low risk events.

#### LCLB Inspector

- There is a significant difference between SOL licensed events and catering licensed events: SOL events can have a focus on liquor service with a limited food requirement, whereas liquor service at a catering licensed event must be secondary to food service.

#### LLAC Recommendation

- Frank will incorporate the agreed upon changes to the SOL and catered event review process and submit to LLAC members for a vote by e-mail.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### LCLB Policy Change

The LCLB Inspector advised that the recent provincial policy limiting an establishment to only 4 - 6 temporary license changes per year resulted in a lot of feedback. In April 2013 LCLB policy was revised giving the LCLB general manager more discretion when multiple temporary changes are applied for as part of a single festival or event.

#### May Long Weekend

- Vandalism during the May Long Weekend received a lot of media attention.
- The RCMP reported that there were fewer calls for service and fewer arrests than in previous years. In future years the RCMP will continue with the roadblocks, education in the Lower Mainland and work with the accommodation sector regarding room rates.
- Whistler Fire Services department had an increase in calls for medical aid with alcohol being a factor.
- The bar and restaurant sectors did not report problems within their establishments.
- LLAC members agreed that the LLAC would not have a formal role in the Mayor's task force on the May Long Weekend.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Rob Knapton

Seconded by Ian Lowe

That the Liquor License Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2013

### **CERTIFIED CORRECT**



---

IAN LOWE, LLAC VICE CHAIR

---

FRANK SAVAGE, LLAC SECRETARY

cc: original to vault  
E-copy to council minutes