



Liquor Corporation

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August 18, 2016

Dear licensees,

Today the Minister responsible for the Yukon Liquor Corporation, Stacey Hassard, announced improvements to Yukon's *Liquor Regulations*. These amendments are the result of feedback received last fall from the Yukon Liquor Board and business licensees.

"Our government made a commitment to modernize and streamline liquor regulations," Hassard said. "These changes reflect national practices, reduce unnecessary licensing requirements and support business, including the hospitality sector."

The 26 regulatory changes come into effect today. They improve consumer convenience and reduce administrative processes, while also clarifying business practices. Some of the regulatory changes include:

- allowing restaurants to introduce a corking service for patrons who wish to bring their own bottle of wine;
- providing the Yukon Liquor Board with authority to establish enforceable advertising standards;
- enabling most licensees to have standardized hours of operation from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m., subject to approval by the Yukon Liquor Board;
- providing greater flexibility for serving homemade wine and beer at weddings and other receptions;
- removing the limit on the number of beer or cider that can be sold at one time in a sports stadium;
- streamlining the number of licence fee categories;
- enabling biennial licence renewals;
- permitting greater flexibility for licensees to furnish and equip their business as they see fit;
- allowing liquor manufacturers to offer product training; and,
- addressing a number of housekeeping items such as updating imperial measures to metric.

To learn more about these liquor regulation changes, please see attached or visit www.ylc.yk.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MK", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Matt King
President
Yukon Liquor Corporation
Lotteries Yukon

Regulation amending the Liquor Regulations (2016) compared to previous regime

NOTICE: The following Yukon *Liquor Act* regulatory changes take effect August 18, 2016

	New Regulation Change	Previous Regulation Regime	New YLC Business Practices
Hours of Operation			
1.	Clarify that all licensees will have the opportunity to operate liquor service from 9 am to 2 am, with the exception of a club licensee as the <i>Act</i> restricts the hours of operation from 10 am to 2 am.	Liquor-primary can be open for 14 continuous hours any time between 9am and 2am; food-primary 10am to 2am; special licence 10am to 2am.	Process: Licensees will need to submit new application to extend hours of operation.
2.	Require that all liquor must be consumed or removed at liquor-primary and food-primary premises within one hour of stopping liquor service (i.e. 3 am) and require that liquor-primary premises close within one hour of stopping liquor service (i.e. 3 am).	Liquor-primary establishments are required to stop liquor service 30 minutes before closing, while food-primary establishments have no requirement.	
3.	Clarify that liquor may be sold under an off-sales licence until 2am - hours for this type of licence do not need to mirror hours established in main licence.	Off-sales must close at midnight and operate under the same hours as the main licence.	Process: Licensees will need to submit new application to extend hours of operation.
4.	Establish the Yukon Liquor Board (“board”) as the authority to establish hours of liquor service and operation for all types of premises and clarify that the board may impose conditions or limit hours of service as part of a licence.	President notified to establish hours of operation for liquor-primary licensees; the President or board may establish hours of liquor service for food-primary premises.	Even though licensees have the opportunity to operate from 9-2am, the board still has discretion to limit hours. All requests to extend hours require new application, public notice and approval by the Board.
5.	Allow the board, by order, to extend operating hours of liquor-primary premises to broadcast a public event, but do not permit extended hours for liquor consumption.	No process exists to amend hours of operation to accommodate a broadcasted public event.	Process: Licensee will need to provide notice of such an event.
Licenses			
6.	Correct a current licence amendment practice that is not authorized by the <i>Act</i> and ensure the licence amendment process is consistent for all licensees.	Liquor-primary licensees changing hours of operation with written approval of President (not authorized by <i>Act</i>) – other licensee have to make a new application.	Process: YLC will notify the public by advertisement all liquor licences that are due for renewal and inform the public how objections to such renewals may be made.
7.	Unless the board otherwise directs, licensees must apply to the board (in the manner and form required by the board) before making any structural alterations to a licensed premises.	Structural alterations to licensed premise require plans drawn to scale be approved by the President.	

8.	Provide a process for biennial licence renewals for licensees who keep their licence in good standing, and enable the board to determine what is “good standing”.	Licensees must apply to renew their licences annually.	Process: YLC will notify the public by advertisement all liquor licences that are due for renewal and inform the public how objections to such renewals may be made. Licensees will need to pay the annual fee each year; however, the renewal application will only be required biennially.
9.	Allow the board to grant a manufacturer’s licence with a “subject to” clause of obtaining Government of Canada licensing so as to be consistent with the federal process.	Federal manufacturing licence required prior to Territorial manufacturing licence; which is inconsistent / backwards to the Federal process.	
Advertising			
10.	Give the board authority to set enforceable standards for all forms of advertising liquor.	All advertising for liquor requires President approval.	
Fees			
11.	Reduce the categories of annual licence fees in order to simplify the licence fee process.	Annual licence fees depend upon licence type and seating capacity: currently 60 licence fees for 12 categories of licenses.	
12.	Amend the regulation to allow for a flat fee for licence transfers (\$150.00) and a non-refundable flat fee for licence applications (\$150.00).	Fee for the transfer of a licence is 10% of the annual fee for each and every licence to be transferred.	
13.	Clarify that alcohol may be provided and consumed free of charge at the premises of manufacturers without board prior approval, but subject to any terms and conditions imposed by the board (such as the amount that can be served).	Board approval required to provide liquor samples to customers at the premises of the liquor manufacturer.	
Miscellaneous Requirements			
14.	Remove a redundant soundproofing requirement that is addressed elsewhere in the regulations.	Section 4(3) requires soundproofing of licensed premises. Section 33(10) has similar requirements.	
15.	Repeal any requirement specifying type of container for serving liquor. As per the Act, the Liquor Corporation can still control the types and marking of glasses used for serving.	Containers, such as glass, transparent glass, carafe and polycarbonate plastic, are specified as well as the approval of the President for the container used in serving draught beer.	
16.	Replace imperial units with metric units.	Several sections refer to imperial measurements, e.g. section 44.	
17.	Remove the impractical requirement to display all brands	Licensees must display at the service bar, in the original	

	and types of liquor for sale in the premises.	packages, the brands and types of liquor for sale.	
18.	Repeal redundant and prescriptive equipment requirements for licensed premises that are enforced by the Department of Health and Social Services under other legislation.	Detailed equipment requirements for dishwashing and serving are outlined, that are enforced by Health and Social Services.	
19.	Repeal the requirement for separate storage for off sales.	Off-sales liquor is stored separately from liquor under the main licence.	
20.	Repeal the requirement that draught beer to be maintained at 38°–42° Fahrenheit (3.3°–5.5°Celsius). Licensees will continue to be subject to regulation by Environmental Health Services.	Requirement for thermometers on equipment used to store draught beer to ensure temperatures are between 38°–42° Fahrenheit (3.3°–5.5° Celsius).	
21.	Remove the limit on the number of beer or cider sold at one time in a sports stadium.	Sports stadium are limited to selling 2 cups of beer or cider to a person in a single sale.	
22.	Clarify that the maximum occupancy listed on the a licence or permit will be the lesser of the two maximum occupancy loads authorized by the Fire Service authority and Department of Health and Social Services – Environmental Health Services.	Section 9 maximum occupancy determined by the board or fire authority. Section 7 toilet and hand washing station requirements also impact maximum occupancy.	
23.	Provide more flexibility to how homemade wine and beer may be served and removed at receptions.	At a reception, only homemade liquor served can be produced by a family member and taken home by the person that brought the liquor.	
24.	Provide food-primary establishments the option to permit corking fees on wine that patrons bring into a restaurant.	There is no provision to permit corking, yet corking is common in other jurisdictions.	Process: Food-primary licensee may now offer a corking service (if they so choose), determine fee and post a notice.
25.	Permit greater flexibility for licensees to outfit their operations as they see fit, e.g. furniture, etc.	Section 4(4) requires suitable fixtures and furniture for the convenience of the public, as may be directed by the President.	
Training of YLC staff			
26.	Allow manufacturers' agents to provide product training to licensees and YLC store personnel, but subject to any terms and conditions imposed by the board.	Manufacturers cannot have dealing of a promotional nature with liquor personnel.	

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