

Date: August 22, 2013

**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
LIQUOR DISTRIBUTION BRANCH
BRIEFING NOTE**

PREPARED FOR: John Yap, Parliamentary Secretary
FOR INFORMATION

ISSUE: Background on ContainerWorld

BACKGROUND:

A significant element of the current liquor distribution system in British Columbia is the Liquor Warehouse Program, formerly known as the Agent Stocking Program. Under this program, the Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) requires agents of foreign wine and spirit products to store their products in private warehouses upon entry into the province.

The LDB orders imported wine and spirits from Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses into its own two warehouses (Vancouver and Kamloops) for distribution to government liquor stores, private liquor stores and licensed establishments. Most imported beer is distributed directly by agents, not by the LDB. (Note: The three large national breweries – Labatt, Molson and Sleeman are the agents for most imported beer products). Some BC breweries and wineries also distribute their products through Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses.

The LDB implemented the Liquor Warehouse Program in the early 1980s because the LDB's Vancouver warehouse did not have the space to accommodate the increasing demand for liquor products. The Liquor Warehouse Program provided the LDB with a ready local supply of imported products and obviated the need to replace its Vancouver warehouse with a much larger facility.

A single private BC-based company (ContainerWorld) accounts for more than 95 per cent of Liquor Warehouse Program warehousing business. ContainerWorld operates a 486,000 sq. ft. warehouse in Richmond, BC. In addition to imported liquor products ContainerWorld also provides warehouse and distribution services to BC wineries, smaller BC breweries and import beer agents (excluding the major companies). ContainerWorld distributes beer and BC wine throughout the province. It also handles other commodities compatible to the beverage market, such as juices and water.

ContainerWorld claims that it has 300 employees at the combination of its Richmond warehouse, trucking division (which is a wholly owned subsidiary) and other facilities in

Kelowna, Kamloops and the Cariboo.

DISCUSSION:

In 2012, government announced that the LDB's warehouse in Vancouver and Kamloops would be sold and that government would contract with a single private sector company to provide liquor distribution services. As part of this change it was also decided that the new company would assume the services provided by the private Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses. ContainerWorld was one of the companies bidding on this contract. Later in 2012, government announced that it was cancelling this initiative.

In early 2013, government announced that it would sell the LDB's Vancouver warehouse and that the LDB would relocate to a more modern and efficient facility somewhere in Metro Vancouver. The LDB is currently in the process of engaging a consultant to assist in the relocation, which is expected to take approximately two years to complete. It has not been determined how, or if, this initiative would affect the private Liquor Warehouse Program.

ContainerWorld will be extremely interested in the LDB Vancouver warehouse relocation and how it may affect their business.

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Liquor Policy Review Briefing Binder

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August 27, 2013

Section 1

Liquor 101

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Control and Licensing Branch Overview

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch regulates and monitors the liquor industry in this province to protect the public from the harm that may be caused by making and selling liquor or products that contain liquor.

Through the Liquor Control and Licensing Act and its Regulations - and by requiring anyone who holds a liquor licence to meet strict terms and conditions - the government works to prevent such problems as under-age drinking, the over-consumption of alcohol, and overcrowding or unsafe conditions in restaurants, bars and pubs, and to minimize the potentially negative impact of liquor sales on neighbourhoods and communities.

Branch Goals:

- To provide effective licensing and enforcement of liquor licensees
- To focus branch resources on matters of public safety and community impact
- To ensure high public confidence, awareness and trust in the branch
- To foster an excellent work environment

Branch Priorities:

- Improve public safety within and around licensed establishments.
- Ensure services are accessible and client focused in their delivery.
- Ensure regulations, policies and resources are directed at protecting public safety and public interest.
- Enhance and promote internal and external communications about branch activities.
- Provide for increased employee satisfaction, training, and workplace flexibility.

LCLB Responsibilities

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is responsible for issuing licences to:

- pubs, bars, lounges, stadiums, caterers, nightclubs and restaurants to sell liquor by the glass for on-premises consumption, and private liquor stores to sell liquor by the bottle for off-premises consumption;
- breweries, distilleries and wineries to manufacture liquor, and agents to represent domestic and international manufacturers in selling their products in BC; and
- UBrews/UVins to sell their customers the ingredients, equipment and advice they need to make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers.

Additionally, the Branch:

- issues permits to non-beverage alcohol importers (companies bringing in culinary, medicinal and industrial products)
- regulates Serving It Right: The Responsible Beverage Service Program
- regulates Special Occasion Licences for events such as community celebrations, weddings or banquets (licences are issued through BC Liquor Stores);

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- educates those who hold liquor licences (called licensees) about the laws and rules that may affect them;
- inspects licensed establishments;
- takes enforcement action when licensees do not follow the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*, Regulations and/or the specific terms and conditions of their licences; and
- provides advice to government concerning decisions related to liquor policy.

Branch Financing

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is a cost recovery branch and receives a \$1000 government funding allocation annually. Recoveries (dollars) are received from licensing fees and permit charges. The collected funds and \$1000 vote provide for overall policy development, administration, licensing and inspections in support of the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and Regulations. The branch has 111.5 employees, and estimated expenditures of \$11.5 million for 2013/2014.

Branch operating principles:

1. While moderate alcohol consumption may have some modest health benefits, long term excessive drinking has adverse health effects.
2. Alcohol is a drug that, if taken in sufficient quantities, will affect short-term mental judgment and physical dexterity.
3. Although generally seen as a pleasant complement or accompaniment to social occasions, alcohol has addictive properties and can lead to socially unacceptable behaviour when abused.
4. Minors should be protected from the negative effects of alcohol consumption.
5. Neighbourhoods and communities are impacted by the sale and manufacture of liquor and their opinions are considered in licensing decisions falling within the statutory framework set down by government.
6. Control of the number and location of liquor primary licensed establishments prevents a proliferation of licensed establishments that may lead to the sale of liquor to minors and intoxicated persons, overcrowding, or other actions that may be harmful to the community.
7. It is in the best interests of the liquor and hospitality industries to encourage responsible drinking behaviours that contribute to the well being of their customers and the public.
8. Licence holders are responsible for designing their operations and conducting their business in such a way as to realize the outcomes and principles articulated in liquor licensing statutes and regulations.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Distribution Branch Overview

Background:

In British Columbia, the Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) is one of two branches of government responsible for the beverage alcohol industry. The *Liquor Distribution Act* gives the LDB the sole right to purchase beverage alcohol both within BC and from outside the province, in accordance with the federal Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act.

Reporting to the Minister of Justice, the LDB:

- handles importation and distribution of beverage alcohol in BC;
- operates the BC Liquor Stores (BCLS) retail chain and distribution centres; and
- has a General Manager and CEO who is responsible for administering the Liquor Distribution Act, which includes the oversight of BCLSs, subject to direction from the minister.

The *Liquor Distribution Act* clarifies:

- LDB administration;
- BCLS operation; and
- The role and powers of the LDB General Manager.

The LDB follows the Crown Agencies Resource Office guidelines for service plans and annual reports, and is reported out in public accounts in a manner similar to a commercial Crown corporation, on a modified equity basis.

The LDB operates a province-wide, retail/wholesale beverage alcohol business, within a mixed public-private model.

As of March 31, 2013, the LDB:

- has a workforce of approximately 3,500 full- and part-time employees;
- operates 195 BCLSs throughout the province;
- operates two wholesale customer centres;
- operates two distribution centres, in Vancouver and Kamloops and;
- has a Head Office facility in Vancouver.

As part of BC's mixed-model retail system, the LDB is committed to providing customers with an enhanced shopping environment, an expansive product selection and a high level of service.

The LDB purchases beverage alcohol from more than 400 suppliers and manufacturers within the province, across the country and around the world. Licensed manufacturers in BC include 247 wineries, 63 breweries, and 19 distilleries.

The wholesale beverage alcohol distribution model in BC includes the two government distribution centres, BCLSs and a number of manufacturers and private distributors that are authorized to distribute beverage alcohol as agents of the LDB.

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The LDB and LCLB have a shared responsibility to encourage the responsible consumption of beverage alcohol and work closely together to coordinate policies and programs to this end.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Types of Licences Issued by the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch issues the following types of licences and endorsements:

Liquor primary: A liquor primary licence may be issued to an establishment that is primarily in the hospitality, entertainment or beverage service business. This may include establishments commonly known as bars, lounges, pubs, and cabarets, as well as convention centres, stadiums, concert halls and recreation centres, airports, trains and motor vessels. With some limited exceptions, minors are not permitted. Some establishments are authorized to sell off-sales of beer, wine, cider and coolers.

Liquor primary club: Private clubs are a subcategory within the liquor-primary class of licence. Liquor primary clubs are distinct from other liquor primary licences as liquor may only be served to members and the guests of members. A club must have at least 50 members who pay annual membership fees of at least \$10.00. The main focus of a club must be social, athletic, recreational, fraternal, benevolent or patriotic in nature, but this does not preclude profit-making. A club has its own facilities and does not sublet food or liquor service.

Food primary: These licences allow businesses (restaurants) to sell liquor for on-premises consumption, where the business' primary purpose is the service food at all hours of operation. Minors are permitted at food primary establishments. Establishments are eligible for a small on-site lounge with a liquor focus. There are limits on entertainment and liquor service hours to help ensure the primary focus does not stray from food service.

Catering Licence/Endorsement: Catering businesses may be issued a catering licence, and food primary and liquor primary licensees may be issued a catering endorsement, if their catering services are focused on the preparation and service of food at other people's events. A catering licence or catering endorsement allows licensees to provide full food and beverage services to their customers at events that have been authorized by the branch. Minors may be permitted at catered events.

Private special occasion: Private special occasion licences may be issued for family events, members-only events, or events where tickets are sold in advance. Special occasion licences are not for the prime purpose of making a profit, unless the purpose of the event is to raise funds for a genuine charitable purpose. Minors may be permitted at events.

Public special occasion: A public special occasion license may be issued to an event for a community or public celebration or for a public liquor tasting event. Special occasion licences are not for the prime purpose of making a profit, unless the purpose of the event is to raise funds for a genuine charitable purpose. Minors may be permitted at events, except in beer gardens.

Licensee retail store: This licence is for selling liquor by the bottle at retail stores (often called Private Liquor Stores). Government is not issuing any further LRS licences at this time.

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Wine store: This licence are for wine stores including winery-operated stores, independent wine stores, VQA stores and tourist wine stores. Government is not issuing any further Wine Store licences at this time.

UBrew/Uvin: These licences are for businesses that sell their customers the ingredients, equipment and advice they need to make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers.

Manufacturer: A manufacturer licence (winery, brewery, distillery) allows the licensee to manufacture, sell and store liquor and provide samples of products to the public in a designated sampling area at the manufacturing site. Manufacturers may also operate one onsite retail store.

- **Manufacturer lounge endorsement:** A lounge endorsement allows for consumption in a designated lounge area (which may be an indoor area or outdoor patio, or both) on the manufacturing site. Winery lounges may serve all B.C. wines; brewery and distillery lounges may only serve the manufacturer's product.
- **Manufacturer special event area endorsement:** A special event area endorsement allows for consumption at special events such as weddings, concerts or promotional events within a designated area on the manufacturing site. Winery special event areas may serve all B.C. wines; brewery and distillery special event areas may only serve the manufacturer's product.
- **Manufacturer picnic area:** A picnic endorsement is an outdoor area on the manufacturing site where patrons may consume products by the glass, bottle (in the case of a winery) or single-serving bottle (in the case of a brewery or distillery) that are purchased from the manufacturer or obtained from the sampling room. This is a consumption area only and so no sale or service is permitted.
- **Manufacturer tour area:** A tour area endorsement allows patrons to consume the manufacturer's product samples or purchased product by the glass (or other single serving) while on an indoor or outdoor tour.

Agents: LCLB issues licences for independent liquor agents who market products from a variety of liquor manufacturers, and BC liquor manufacturers who want to sell their products off-site.

Agency Stores: In addition to the above licence classes, the LDB issues appointments to duty free stores at international border crossings and to rural agency stores, i.e. grocery or general stores in smaller communities where it is not financially viable to operate a standalone liquor store. There are plans to transition these stores to licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act.

Licensing Statistics

Licence Type*	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Restaurants (food-primary establishments)	5,601	5,641	5,687
Bars, pubs, night clubs (liquor-primary establishments)	2,373	2,354	2,317
Caterers	n/a	n/a	5
Private liquor stores (licensee retail stores)	672	672	670
Wine stores**(includes Vintners' Quality Alliance (VQA) Stores, winery operated stores, independent wine stores, tourist wine stores, and sacramental wine stores)	61	61	61
Wineries	218	238	247
Breweries	57	62	63
Distilleries	16	17	19
BC Manufacturer Agents	266	296	311
Agents (other than BC Manufacturer Agents)	232	256	255
UBrew/UVin establishments	292	277	264
Total	9,788	9,874	9,899

*As of March 31 each year. Does not include manufacturer endorsements for on-site stores, lounges, SEAs, tour areas, picnic areas or catering endorsements on FPs.

**Prior to 2012-2013 Wine stores were operated as appointments under the Liquor Distribution Act.

All Liquor Retail Outlets	2012-2013
Government Liquor Stores (GLS)*	195
Rural agency stores (RAS)*	222
Duty-free Stores*	11
LDB Wholesale customer centres (sales to licensees only)*	2
Licensee Retail Stores (private liquor stores)	670
Wine stores (includes Vintners' Quality Alliance (VQA) Stores, winery operated stores, independent wine stores, tourist wine stores, and sacramental wine stores)	61
Manufacturer On-site stores	279
Total	1,440

* Operated by Liquor Distribution Branch or by appointment under the Liquor Distribution Act

Licensing Transactions

- New applications received: **605**
- New applications completed: **559***
- New applications in progress at end of fiscal: **239***
- Change applications received: **3,920**
- Change applications approved: **3,841***
- Change applications in progress at end of fiscal: **904***

*Some applications were received in previous years.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Recent and Current Initiatives

Background:

Recent Changes - LCLB

During the past year a number of significant changes were made to the LCLB regulatory scheme. These include:

Caterers

Regulations were implemented to licence caterers to provide full food and liquor service at events in locations not otherwise licensed. Food primary and liquor primary licensees are also eligible to apply for an endorsement on their licence to similarly cater off-site.

Tied House

Rules respecting ownership ties between liquor manufacturers and licensed establishments were relaxed to permit small and medium sized manufacturers to own or operate up to three establishments located away from the manufacturing site. The rules were also relaxed to permit all manufacturers to have licensed establishments at the manufacturing site. Previously, distillers were not eligible.

Brewery and Distillery Licensing Privileges

Brewers and distillers are now eligible for endorsements on their licence for patron on-premise consumption, e.g. a lounge or picnic area. These privileges had been available to wineries only for many years.

Wine Store Licensing

Private wine stores are no longer appointees under the Liquor Distribution Act but are now wine store licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act. This ensures all retailers are subject to the same regulatory and enforcement regime. Plans are underway to similarly transition rural agency stores and duty free stores to licensee status.

Bring Your Own Wine

Subject to approval by the licensee, patrons may now bring their own bottle of commercially produced wine to a restaurant for consumption on the premise.

Sponsorships

Licensees may now sponsor events, activities and organizations, in the same way that liquor manufacturers can. Sponsoring events aimed at minors is still generally prohibited, although establishments in which unaccompanied minors are permitted (such as restaurants) may sponsor minors' activities, events and organizations without having to apply.

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Recent Changes - LDB

Interprovincial Wine Shipping & Personal Importation

In July 2012, the Province made it possible for British Columbians to buy 100 per cent Canadian wine directly from a recognized winery in another province for personal consumption and have it shipped to their residence. The Province also made it possible for individuals to bring limited quantities of beer, wine or spirits with them into the province for personal consumption.

Craft Distillers

In March 2013 the Province introduced a new craft distillery policy. B.C. distilleries that ferment and distill all of their products on-site using 100 per cent British Columbian agricultural raw materials, using traditional distilling techniques and have an annual production level of less than 50,000 litres are eligible for mark-up exempt direct sales to bars, restaurants, private retail liquor stores and the public.

Current Initiatives - LCLB

Special Occasion Licensing

To improve public safety a liquor inspector notification program has been introduced where the inspector is notified and given details in advance of every SOL event occurring in their area allowing them to intervene where necessary. An enforceable terms and conditions guide for major events has been developed and put into use clearly describing the licensee's obligations ensuring public safety is maximized. To increase compliance with statutory requirements an easy-to-use policy and procedures guide to assist government liquor store managers in issuing special occasion licences has been developed and is in test at five stores. Proposals are being developed for streamlining the licence application process including those to position the SOL program for moving online.

Auctioning Liquor

The Act was amended earlier this year to provide for the auctioning of liquor by charitable or non-profit groups raising funds for a charitable purpose. The amendments provide the authority to implement a permitting scheme for the auctions and to allow liquor auctions without a permit if the volume of liquor auctioned is below a prescribed amount. The Branch is working on the regulatory scheme that would be placed in the regulations. This is expected to be in place this fall.

Manufacturing Requirements

The number of BC liquor manufacturers has risen sharply in recent years and shows no sign of levelling. Through LDB markup strategies, many manufacturers receive considerable markup relief compared to imported products. In exchange for this benefit the government expects manufacturers to invest in a manufacturing facility and actually manufacture the product. However, we are increasingly finding manufacturers who primarily purchase product from other suppliers with little in-house production. These companies are eligible for an on-site store and other endorsements for on-premise consumption, e.g. a lounge.

The Branch is reviewing the minimum requirements for manufacturer licensing.

Section 2

Liquor Retailing

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Retailing

Background:

There are a number of different types of liquor stores and these models have been introduced at different times for varying historical reasons. Government liquor stores were the original stores and had a monopoly on retailing until the 1970s with the exception of off-premise sales of beer and cider (later extended to wine) from pubs and hotels.

BC Liquor Stores (Government Liquor Stores)

- Operated by the Liquor Distribution Branch.
- May sell all types of liquor.
- Most stores are not open on Sundays and most do not have refrigerated product.
- Also wholesale liquor to licensed establishments and other private retailers.
- Issue Special Occasion Licences.
- 195 stores and they hold a 48% share of the retail store market (based on dollar sales).
- Maximum hours of liquor service are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. but the majority of stores close earlier most evenings.

Licensee Retail Stores

- First introduced in 1985 to sell beer and wine. Spirits were added as an approved product in 2002.
- Stores originally were tied physically and legally to an adjoining pub or hotel but this is no longer required.
- Most if not all stores offer refrigerated product.
- LRSs purchase liquor from the LDB at a 16% discount from the LDB retail price and may sell it at any price above their purchase price.
- 670 stores and they hold a 41% share of the retail store market.
- Licensed and regulated by the LCLB .
- The regulations prohibit the issuance of new licences.
- Stores may not relocate to within 1 km of another LRS except in prescribed circumstances. Subject to the 1 km rule an LRS may relocate anywhere in the local government /First Nation jurisdiction it is located or up to 5 km away if relocating outside that jurisdiction.
- Maximum hours of liquor service are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Rural Agency Stores

- Introduced in the 1970s to grocery stores and general stores in small communities or resort areas where it is not economically viable to operate a standalone store.
- Most offer refrigerated product.
- RASs purchase liquor from the LDB at a 12% discount (raised earlier this year from 10%) and may sell up to 10% higher or lower than LDB store prices.
- Appointed and regulated by the LDB, but with plans to transition to licensee status under the LCLB.
- There are 221 stores and they hold a 4% share of the entire market

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- New stores may be approved only if they meet specified criteria including a minimum distance from other liquor stores
- Maximum hours of liquor sales are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Wine Stores (excluding stores at wineries)

- There are 61 wine stores, consisting of a number of different store types including 21 VQA stores selling VQA wine, 12 independent wine stores selling all types of wine, sacramental wine stores and stores issued to wineries to sell the winery's products.
- Licensed and regulated by the LCLB.
- The regulations prohibit the issuance of new licences and with the exception of VQA stores no new licences have been issued for over 20 years.
- Stores may relocate anywhere in the province subject to zoning.
- Maximum hours of liquor sales are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Duty Free Stores

- There are 11 stores located at border crossing and airports.
- May sell all types of liquor to patrons leaving the country.
- Licensed by the federal government and appointed by LDB (there are plans to transition these stores to licensee status under the LCLB).
- LDB sells liquor to the stores at a reduced mark-up that varies by liquor type.
- Stores may sell liquor at any price.
- Maximum hours of liquor sales are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Current issues:

1. Liquor in grocery stores

Liquor sales in grocery stores or any mixed retail outlet (e.g. convenience stores, Walmart, Costco) would have very significant impacts on all aspects of the liquor industry including:

- Provides greater consumer convenience.

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- Government revenue impacts cannot be estimated without further analysis.
- Research clearly indicates increased access to liquor leads to increased consumption and associated harms.
- Many local governments and social and health advocates would oppose a significant increase in liquor availability.

BC's mixed model has one of the highest percentages of private liquor retail sales in the country with the exception of Alberta which is totally privatized (although liquor is sold only in dedicated standalone stores).

2. Moratorium on new liquor store licences

Since the introduction of the LRS model in 1985, it has been subject to two longstanding moratoria. The first from 1992 – 2002 followed by a 3 month window of opportunity for new applications and the reinstatement of the moratorium since November 2002. Prior to 2002 there were 290 LRSs. Presently there are 670.

Government's rationale for the moratorium was that the industry needed time to stabilize after 2002. It later stated that it felt that the present number and mix of store types met consumer needs and was concerned about the negative impact of unlimited store licensing.

Applicant eligibility for LRS's has until recently been restricted to owners of pubs and hotels. In 2009 the regulations were amended to permit the sale of these establishments to other parties. This reflected the fact that many store licensees had effectively "sold" their establishments to third party operators who ran the stores.

Other than purchasing an existing store there is no opportunity for the public or other licensees to obtain a licence to operate an LRS. The LCLB receives many queries from the public about how to obtain a liquor store licence.

The moratorium on new wine stores is also in regulation. The VQA wine store licenses are issued to the BC Wine Institute and cannot be sold or transferred to another entity nor can the wine store licenses issued to specific wineries. The 12 independent wine stores licenses can be sold.

Section 3

Establishments

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Overview of establishments licensed for on-premises consumption

Background:

Currently there are two licence classes for on-premises consumption of liquor – liquor primary and food primary.

Food primary licences are for establishments that focus on the service of food at all times (restaurants).

Liquor primary licences are for establishments that primarily focus on beverage service, entertainment or hospitality (bars, golf courses, theatres, trains). Liquor primary club licences are a sub-class of liquor primary licence that restricts the service of liquor to members and guests (legions, yacht clubs).

FOOD: Food primary establishments must have a varied selection of food items available at all times, and liquor primary establishments must have food and non-alcoholic beverages available at reasonable prices.

HOURS: Establishments may apply for liquor service hours between 9AM and 4AM the following day. Liquor primary establishments require local government comment for their hours of service. Food primary establishments require local government comment on hours after midnight. Very few municipalities support hours after 2AM. The general manager may limit an establishment's liquor service hours if it is in the public interest to do so.

MINORS: Minors are allowed in food primary establishments, but are generally not permitted in liquor primary establishments. The general manager may make exceptions when it would be in the public interest (e.g. airports, ski hills or military messes), and for establishments that do not primarily serve liquor, such as stadiums, theatres, and public conveyances. (see Tab 3 for additional information about minors).

ENTERTAINMENT: Licensees may provide entertainment that is authorized by the general manager. There are restrictions on the types of entertainment permitted in food primary establishments to ensure that the focus of the establishment is on food service. Local governments may also restrict the type of entertainment provided. There are restrictions on the alternate use of an establishment (see Tab 3).

LIQUOR SERVICE: There are limitations on drink sizes, and the general manager may restrict the types of liquor that may be served (for example, spirits are not permitted in stadiums). There are restrictions on drink specials (see Tab 3).

OTHER: Special conditions apply to some establishments to accommodate unique circumstances, for example: consumption on the playing area of a golf course, room service and mini-bars at hotels, and liquor service during events at theatres, stadiums, conference centres, and movie theatres.

For information on the history of the licensing model, see appendix 1.

Other Jurisdictions:

See appendix 2 for details about licensing models in other jurisdictions.

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Current issues:

1. “Non-traditional” businesses are not eligible for a liquor licence

The existing licensing system is rigid, and does not allow businesses to be licensed if their primary purpose is not food service, beverage service, entertainment or hospitality. This excludes businesses like spas, salons, museums, cooking schools, and wine education classes from serving liquor.

In contrast, Ontario does not restrict the type of business that may apply, and Saskatchewan and Manitoba recently announced changes to allow customer service environments like spas and salons to be licensed.

As well, BC does not licence motor vehicles, which includes inter-city buses, chartered bus tours or limousines. These may be licensed in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

The existing system also doesn’t acknowledge that people do not go to different types of places to eat, socialize, and be entertained. Licensees want to provide establishments that blur these lines, but they run into difficulties around operating outside class. For example, a restaurant that provides entertainment, such as video games or pool tables, that is considered inconsistent with a restaurant, or a restaurant that offers a venue for patrons who wish to primarily socialize and enjoy entertainment later at night (see Issue #2 for further discussion). Some of these businesses could obtain a liquor primary licence, but then they would be unable to permit minors in their facility. For example, some community centres want a food primary licence for spaces they would rent to the community (and permit minors), but the space does not meet eligibility requirements (e.g. it lacks tables and chairs).

Potential Opportunities:

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2. Food primary licensees are operating their establishment as liquor primary establishments in the evening

The current regulations prevent a liquor primary and food primary licence being issued for the same location. However, food primary establishments may request hours after midnight, and may obtain endorsements that expand their operating conditions.

Entertainment endorsements allow establishments to provide live music or performances, or permit patrons to dance or participate in karaoke.

Establishments with seating for 50 or more may obtain a lounge endorsement (without local government comment) which lets the licensee serve liquor without food in a lounge area that would accommodate 20 per cent of the capacity of the restaurant, to a maximum of 40 people.

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Some restaurants appear to operate more like pubs, especially later in the evening: patrons are there primarily to drink and to enjoy entertainment.

Existing liquor primary licensees complain that food primary establishments that operate like pubs have an unfair competitive advantage, because they did not have to make the same initial investment (application cost, time, local government consultation), and do not have restrictions on minors.

Potential Opportunities:

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Appendix 1 - History

Prior to the two-licence class system implemented in 2002, there were 7 categories of licences, with 17 classes of establishments. These included hotels, recreation centres (golf courses, curling clubs, ski hills, bowling alley, etc.), clubs, cultural centres, planes, trains and boats, restaurants, cabarets, neighbourhood and marine pubs, stadiums and concert halls.

To be eligible for a licence, a business had to have characteristics of one of these classes. For example, a hotel had to have at least 40 rooms, banquet facilities and a restaurant; a marine pub had to have moorage, laundry, showers and sell fishing tackle.

Each class of licence had a maximum capacity that was distinct from the occupant load for the building. For example, neighbourhood pubs had a maximum capacity of 65 persons inside plus 20 on a patio.

Additionally, each class of licence had different operating conditions (e.g. hours, type of entertainment permitted, admissibility of minors, off-sales, dual licence).

The eligibility requirements unnecessarily limited business opportunities, and the differences in operating conditions made enforcement challenging.

In contrast, the current licence system focuses on the primary nature of the business (is it food service, or is it beverage service, entertainment or hospitality), rather than on the characteristics of the establishment (i.e. other non-licensed services or facilities).

The move to two licence classes was intended to reduce variation in terms and conditions that applied to different types of establishment. Many requirements were eliminated – for example, there are no longer rules regarding the size of televisions in restaurants, restaurants may serve spirits, and nightclubs aren't prevented from opening prior to 7pm. Other requirements that were unrelated to public safety were also removed, such as requirements around server attire, vending machines and the height of walls.

However, there continue to be distinctions made in policy for some liquor primary establishments that previously had a separate class or category (e.g. hotels, golf courses, theatres, concert halls, stadiums). In order to be eligible for certain terms and conditions, these liquor primary establishments still must have specific characteristics (e.g. a multi-purpose venue is too small to be considered a conference centre; an establishment isn't considered a theatre if it has a dance floor).

Additionally, as a result of the reduction in variation in terms and conditions and licence types, establishments were able to keep terms and conditions on their licence that are no longer offered to new applicants. For example, theatres licensed prior to 2002 may serve liquor in any area of their theatre and minors are permitted; theatres licensed after 2002 may only serve liquor in the lobby (minors permitted) or in the auditorium (minors prohibited).

Appendix 2: Licensing Frameworks in Select Canadian Jurisdictions

British Columbia

<p>Food Primaries: Primary purpose is service of food; minors permitted Endorsements – lounge, patio, extended hours, entertainment, catering</p>	<p>Manufacturer: Production of beer, wine, spirits Separate licences for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winery • Brewery (includes brewpub) • Distillery
<p>Liquor Primaries: Primary purpose is beverage service, hospitality or entertainment; minors typically not permitted Sub categories (special terms and conditions apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotels (room service / mini bars) • Event driven (liquor only sold during events): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stadiums/arenas (box seats; hawking; family seating, etc) ○ Movie theatres ○ Convention/conference Centres ○ Live event theatres • Rec centres (extending licensed area) • Golf Courses (playing area) • Ski hills (minors) • Bowling halls (minors) • Motor Vessels • Airports • Military messes <p>Endorsements – patio; catering; off-sales</p>	<p>Ubrew/Uvin: for businesses that sell their customers the ingredients, equipment and advice they need to make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers</p>
<p>Liquor Primary Clubs: Service to members and guests only; minors typically not permitted</p>	<p>Agents: Allows independent liquor agents and BC liquor manufacturers to market their products</p>
<p>Catering Licence: Service of food and liquor at events hosted by other people; minors may be permitted</p>	<p>Other: Permits for non-beverage use (medicinal) Delivery Services (unlicensed) Remote fishing lodges (unlicensed)</p>
<p>Special Occasion License: Temporary permit to serve liquor at an event, not for profit; minors may be permitted</p>	<p>Auctioning Permits (development in progress) Sale of liquor by auction for fundraising purposes</p>
<p>Retail stores: For sale of packaged liquor. Separate licences for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensee Retail Store • Retail Wine Store • Rural Agency Stores & Duty Free Stores (will be transitioned from LDB) 	

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Alberta

<p>Class A</p> <p>Minors Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where food is the primary source of business May apply for permission to operate as “Minors Prohibited” in evening <p>Minors Prohibited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where liquor is the primary source of business or a licensed gaming facility 	<p>Class D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retail General Off-sales Manufacturer off-sales Delivery services Sacramental wine resale Commercial caterer
<p>Class B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rec facilities, tourist facilities, race tracks, sports stadium, convention centres, theatres or vehicles/vessels; must pay an entrance or user fee or buy a ticket Sub-classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational Facilities Billiard (pool) halls Bingo hall Tourist facilities (museums, art galleries and guest ranches) Race Tracks Sports Stadiums Theatres (movies and live theatres) Public Conveyances (planes, trains, buses and limos) 	<p>Class E</p> <p>Manufacturer</p> <p>Sub-classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brewery Commercial Winery Cottage Winery Distillery Brew Pub
<p>Class C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs and adult residences. Members and guests only; or residents and guests. Sub classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club Travellers' lounges (airports, trains etc) Canteens (military, police) Education Institutions (school board; post-secondary institute) Adult residence 	<p>Other policies:</p> <p>Duty free stores</p> <p>Guest rooms, banquet rooms and meeting rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room service Self-service Banquet and meeting rooms <p>Patios</p>
<p>A, B and C extensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-service bars in guest rooms, room service, banquet halls/meeting rooms, patio, caterer 	

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Saskatchewan

<p>Restaurants: establishments where the primary source of revenue comes from the preparation and sale of food.</p> <p>Endorsements – Banquet, catering, lounge endorsements, patio, room service, off-sales (wine), sidewalk cafe, minors</p>	<p>Manufacturers: Beer, wine and liquor producers.</p> <p>Sub-classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brew pub • cottage winery • brewery • distillery • winery
<p>Taverns: Establishments where alcohol sales are the main source of revenue.</p> <p>Sub-classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brew pub, • tavern-nightclub* • beverage room in hotel/motel 	<p>U-Brew/U-Vin: for businesses that provide beer-making or wine-making equipment and supplies on the premises, for the production of beer and wine consumed in private places.</p>
<p>Special-Use Permits: A catch-all liquor licence governing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private clubs, • sports facilities, • rail cars, limousines, airplanes, buses, • theatres, • concert halls, • airport lounges, • universities, • military canteens, • stadiums, • remote fishing and hunting lodges, fairgrounds, • special care facilities, • casinos, • bingo halls, and • alcohol home-delivery services. 	

* As a result of its liquor review, the tavern-nightclub category is being eliminated.

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Manitoba*

Dining Rooms: service of liquor with a meal	Private Clubs: Private clubs for veterans, sports organizations or "fraternal organizations" may sell alcohol to members of the club and signed-in guests. Only members and their guests can be on the premises.
Cocktail Lounges: Restaurants with dining-room licences may apply for an additional licence allowing alcohol sales without food at a lounge at the same address.	Transportation: Inner-city bus lines, cruise ships, railway operators and international airports, with hours dependent on the type of transportation.
Beverage Rooms: Hotels with "a sufficient number of guest rooms" as determined by the MLCC, an MLCC hotel-registration certificate and a dining-room licence may obtain a licence to sell alcohol in a beverage room.	Canteens: military or police
Cabarets: Venues offering live entertainment	Retailers: Beer vendors on the property of an MLCC-registered hotel and retailers attached to a brewery, wine manufacturer, distiller or sacramental wine producer
Sports Facilities: Golf courses, bowling alleys, rinks, racquet-sports courts, athletic fields, billiard rooms, ski hills, hunting or fishing lodges and facilities offering simulated sports may apply for a \$300-a-year licence to sell alcohol during the same hours as dining rooms — but only when the sports activity in question is taking place.	Manufacturers: Beer, wine and liquor producers.
Spectator Activities: Theatres, concert halls, convention centres and fairgrounds — but only when an event relating to that venue is taking place.	Brew Pubs: A licence is available for brew pubs, though as of December 2012, none existed in Manitoba.

* As a result of its liquor review, Manitoba is changing to have 3 licence classes: sales, service and manufacturing

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Ontario

Liquor Sales: A uniform set of rules applies to all businesses and non-profit organizations that sell alcohol. As of 2011, there are no longer any restrictions governing what sort of establishments can sell liquor. Endorsements: Brew pub, catering, mini-bar, room service, golf course, wine pub, BYOW (restaurants and hotel banquet halls only)	Manufacturers: Beer, wine and liquor producers.
Mini Bar License: allows licensee to have a mini bar if they don't have another liquor licence	Manufacturer's Representative's Licence: A licence to represent a manufacturer allows for agent representatives for non-domestic manufacturers and those under contract with domestic manufacturers, to take, canvass for, receive or solicit orders for beverage alcohol.
Special Occasion Permits	Ferment on Premises Facility (Ubrew)
Tied-house licence: for manufacturer to operate establishment at the manufacturing site	Liquor Delivery Service License

Risk-Based Licensing:

- Risks assessed regarding the operator and the premises (type, location, occupancy, activities, hours)
- Risk level is independent from conditions
- Conditions for each licence are chosen from a list of conditions; they are assessed for each location individually (not one size fits all)

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Restrictions on Happy Hours

Background:

Licensees are currently subject to several pricing restrictions. For example, they may not:

- sell liquor for less than the price for which they purchased it from LDB
- engage in sales strategies which promote overconsumption (e.g. “two for one”), or
- alter the price of liquor throughout the day (e.g. “happy hours” where liquor is discounted for a short period of time -typically just prior to the dinner hour).

The restriction on “Happy hours” is often criticized as a policy that inherently distrusts the ability of BC’s adults to make their own choices about liquor consumption. This regulation has been in place in BC for many years and was created as happy hours were considered a sales strategy that may promote overconsumption. No other Canadian jurisdiction restricts Happy Hours in this way.

Current issue: Happy hours and price floors

The Branch receives continual attention around this rule as it is often used as an example in critiques of BC’s restrictive or “archaic” liquor laws. Proponents of happy hours point out that almost all other provinces permit happy hours but tend to mitigate the risks of overconsumption by using minimum prices.

Removing restrictions around shifting pricing throughout the day will create flexibility for businesses. However, without proper monitoring for intoxication by licensees it may negatively affect public safety by increasing intoxication related issues. Many BC municipalities already mitigate the overconsumption risks of cheap drink specials by enacting price floor bylaws. If the restriction on happy hours was removed, government could consider raising provincial price floors to mitigate overconsumption risks. Price floors for on premises service establishments are generally supported by licensees and the World Health Organization for this purpose.

Maintaining restrictions on happy hour pricing reduces flexibility for restaurant and hospitality businesses who seek strategies to attract customers during slow times of the day. However, even if the restriction is maintained, restaurants and bars will still be able to discount prices for the entire day as long as they do not go below the LDB purchase price.

The pricing restrictions are less in regard to liquor stores. These stores may alter their prices through the day but may not sell below the price they paid for the product. The increased pricing flexibility for the stores is based on the fact that the product is bought for later consumption so concerns related to overconsumption are less.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Presence of minors in establishments

Background:

Alcohol consumption by minors is associated with unwanted pregnancies, smoking, youth violence, poor school performance, youth suicide rates, and death and injury from driving accidents. It is also believed to have negative developmental impacts on the part of the brain responsible for higher-level thinking.

Minors (those under age 19) are not permitted to possess or consume liquor, unless it is given to them by their parent or guardian at their residence.

Minors are permitted in restaurants, and may be permitted at special occasion licensed events and catered events. Minors are not permitted in beer gardens at outdoor festivals.

Minors may enter a restaurant lounge, a liquor store, or a manufacturers lounge or special event area if they are accompanied by their parent or guardian.

Minors are generally not permitted in liquor primary establishments. The general manager may make exceptions when it would be in the public interest (e.g. airports, ski hills or military messes), and for establishments that do not primarily serve liquor, such as stadiums, theatres, and public conveyances.

Other Jurisdictions:

Alberta and Saskatchewan allow restaurants to prohibit minors later in the evening. Alberta has 'minors prohibited' establishments (bars), and may set a term and condition on other licences that prohibits minors (minors are generally permitted in theatres, stadiums, etc.). Minors may accompany a parent or guardian to a liquor store. Saskatchewan allows "Daily Family Dining" and "Sunday Family Dining" in taverns, which allows minors to be present from 9:30am to 9pm.

In Manitoba, a minor may enter an area licensed under a dining room, sports facility, spectator activities, private club or transportation licence. A minor may enter a licensed cocktail lounge or cabaret only when accompanied by a parent, spouse, or guardian. A minor may not enter a beverage room unless written authorization has been obtained for a family oriented event. Minors may consume liquor as part of a meal at a licensed establishment if the liquor is purchased by their parent or guardian.

Ontario has risk-based licensing; the licence may have a condition that minors be prohibited entry. This would be added based on the nature/characteristics of the establishment and the compliance history of the licensee.

Current issues:

1. Requests have been received to expand the circumstances when minors may be permitted in liquor primary establishments.

One of the strategies to reduce the risk of minors consuming liquor is to prohibit minors in areas where the consumption of liquor is a primary activity. This is mainly because the ability to monitor patrons is reduced in

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dimly lit establishments, and in establishments where people move around with their drinks rather than remain seated at a table.

Additionally, the conduct that occurs at some liquor primary establishments may not be suitable for minors (e.g. adult entertainment or gambling), may expose minors to predatory behavior (teen girls being taken advantage of at nightclubs), or may provide a poor example for impressionable youth (overconsumption, offensive language, adult situations).

However, the line between a pub and a restaurant with extended hours and an entertainment endorsement is blurred. Often patrons may not be able to distinguish them, yet minors are permitted in the former and not the latter.

For liquor primaries that are permitted minors, the circumstances and conditions associated with each exception are slightly different (e.g. minors may be in an LP at a ski hill until 8pm if accompanied by a parent, but may be in a LP at a golf club unaccompanied until 10pm), making it confusing for licensees and the public to understand.

Potential Opportunities:

Rather than a prohibition on minors for most liquor-primaries, strategies could be employed to mitigate the risk of underage drinking and exposure to adult situations.

Opportunities to allow more flexibility include:

- minors may be permitted on certain days of the week (“all-ages” night), with additional strategies employed by the licensee on those nights to safeguard minors (additional security, minors are identified by wrist bands, etc.)
- allow minors to be present when accompanied by their parent or guardian during the daytime and early evening (for example, minors may have lunch at the pub with their parents, when the focus is on food, but are not permitted after 9pm, when the focus shifts to drinking)
- allow minors in liquor primary establishments that provide meals (e.g. pubs) and do not have higher risk characteristics (e.g. no dance floor, not dimly lit, no adult entertainment)
- allow minors to be present in all recreation and sporting facilities, stadiums, theatres, etc.
- standardize the terms and conditions that apply when minors are present in liquor primary establishments

2. Other Issues:

- Some restaurants would like the ability to prohibit minors because children disturb other patrons’ dining experience.
- Drinking at outdoor festivals must be done in 19+ beer gardens, rather than patrons being able to walk around the festival with liquor. A pilot project allowing ‘site-licensing’ is currently underway. – see Tab 5
- Minors may be employed as servers or other employees at food primary establishments (e.g. as dishwashers), but not at liquor primary establishments.
- All-ages events (alternate use) – see Tab 3

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Restricting all ages events in Liquor Primary (LP) establishments

Background:

As of January 15, 2013 LCLB policy restricts the number of times a year (4-6) that an LP may apply to host an all ages event in the licensed premise. Further to this, even upon application, an LP may not conduct the same type of business as they are licensed for but with all ages present (e.g. bands or DJ's). Prior to these changes LP's could host all ages events as long as no liquor was available and the liquor on premises was securely stored. The change was partially driven by Branch workload issues as licensees must apply to the branch to host an all ages event and the amount of requests to do so was rising significantly. The other rationale for the change was public safety concerns that some minors may have been consuming liquor prior to entering the venues and causing a disturbance inside putting themselves and others at risk. There was also concern about minors becoming familiarized with nightclubs and similar facilities at a young age.

Current issue: Loss of all ages venues

Several live music organizations and advocates have indicated that this restriction seriously reduces the number of venues where smaller all-ages shows can be held. Advocates of all ages music venues state this change negatively impacts the music and cultural experiences of youth and reduces the amount and type of activities available to them to participate in. This impact is likely magnified in smaller communities where there are fewer venues. Research shows that youth who are offered numerous meaningful ways to participate in the arts spend more time doing so and less time engaging in risky behaviours. Towns and regions with fewer entertainment/engagement options for youth tend to have higher rates of youth alcohol and substance use and earlier ages of initiation.

Some parents and schools in some regions in the province have complained that these gatherings have been problematic in their communities as some minors choose to consume alcohol prior or during the show (outside). Maintaining these restrictions will reduce these gathering places and events. This may then either reduce consumption by minors, or drive those who choose to drink to other locations (e.g. bush parties).

Eliminating the restrictions encourages flexibility by creating opportunities to support supervised all ages venues that provide a place for new or independent musicians/bands to perform that is both community-oriented and affordable. Permitting different types of usage for LP establishments may also diversify the type of entertainment available in smaller towns by attracting more performers and allowing the local marketplace and the characteristics of the community to determine what types of venues meet their needs.

Section 4

Licensing Process

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Licensing process and the role of local government

Background:

It takes approximately 4-6 weeks to receive a food primary (restaurant) licence.

It takes approximately 7-12 months to receive a liquor primary (bar/nightclub) licence.

Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the criteria for the licence type – for example, video-arcades cannot obtain a liquor primary licence, and take-out only restaurants do not qualify for a food-primary licence. Applicants must own their business and own or lease the premises.

All applicants undergo an eligibility assessment. The branch reviews factors such as age and residency requirements and whether an applicant has an association with a liquor manufacturer or agent that may lead to its products being favoured. The branch also conducts a criminal record check and reviews the applicant's compliance history if they have held or been involved with other liquor licences.

Certain types of licence applications require local government consultation in order to assess community standards and determine whether it is in the public interest to issue the licence. Local government consultation is required for liquor primary licences, manufacturer lounges and special event areas, and food primary establishments that are open after midnight or have patron participation entertainment (e.g. dancing). The local government is responsible for carrying out public consultation. Local governments have 90 days to provide a resolution, and can request an extension.

For further information on the licensing process, see appendix 1.

Other Jurisdictions:

BC is the only Canadian jurisdiction that has the local government carry-out public consultations, and is the only jurisdiction that prescribes what criteria local governments must comment on. BC has the longest time frame for licensing bars/nightclubs.

See appendix 2 for details about the licensing process in other jurisdictions.

Current issues:

1. The application process for liquor primary establishments takes too long

The current process takes 7 - 12 months for an applicant to obtain a liquor primary licence. Most Canadian jurisdictions licence bars in 1.5 - 3 months. In some cases, jurisdictions require the applicant to obtain local government approval and public input prior to submitting their application to the liquor authority, which shortens the licensing time considerably.

This delay creates a financial barrier to entry for applicants, because they must own or lease the location in order for their application to be processed.

Some of the delay is due to the local government consultation process. Local governments have 90 days to provide a council resolution, and may request an extension. The City of Vancouver often requests extensions.

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The Act and regulations have very specific criteria that local governments must comment on, as well as specific requirements for conducting public consultation. If these are not done correctly, the branch is obligated to request additional information or carry out the consultation itself.

As well, construction of the establishment is usually delayed until the floor plans are approved, so that the applicant does not need to carry out alterations if changes to the plans are required. The branch does not approve floor plans until after the local government consultation is complete.

Existing licensees are unlikely to raise the length of time it takes to obtain a licence, because the long licensing process reduces competition from new entrants.

Potential Opportunities:

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2. Applicants apply for a food primary licence but operate the establishment as a liquor primary establishment.

Restaurants are expected to primarily serve food during all hours of operation, and minors are permitted. However, some restaurants operate more like pubs, especially later in the evening: patrons are there primarily to drink and to enjoy entertainment.

Applicants obtain food primary licences because the applicant fee is cheaper (\$475 vs. \$2200), the process is faster, and local government or public consultation is typically not required (unless the hours are past midnight, or patron participation entertainment is requested). If consultation is required, local governments may charge fees to applicants.

Restaurants are not required to consult with local government because their operation is unlikely to disturb residents. However, when the focus shifts to liquor service rather than food service, there is a higher likelihood of community disturbance. If these establishments obtain a food primary licence, the local government is denied the opportunity to comment on the potential impact to local residents.

Existing liquor primary licensees complain that food primary establishments that operate out of class have an unfair competitive advantage, because they did not have to make the same initial investment (application cost, time, local government consultation), and do not have restrictions on minors.

Potential Opportunities:

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Appendix 1 – Licensing Process

Prior to issuing a liquor licence, the branch assesses the suitability of the applicant and the proposed establishment, and in some cases, considers community impact.

The general manager considers the public interest when issuing a licence. “Public interest” has two elements: public safety and regard for community standards. Public safety issues include concerns about service to minors, over-consumption, over-service and illicit liquor. Regard for community standards encompasses issues related to the impact of a liquor establishment on the local community including effects on other nearby businesses and public institutions, and the preferences of local residents regarding the presence of liquor establishments in their neighbourhood.

The branch is responsible for establishing and maintaining a province wide liquor control policy that addresses issues from a provincial perspective. Local governments and First Nations are responsible for addressing issues at the local or community level and often regulate areas such as noise, parking and fire safety surrounding licensed establishments. As they address issues at the local level, local governments and First Nations are able to understand the potential impact of a licensed establishment on a community. The local government or First Nation resolution provides the branch with the information necessary to complete its assessment of an application.

The Act requires the branch to notify and provide opportunity for local government and First Nations input on certain types of new licences, manufacturer licence endorsements and some changes to existing licences.

If a local government or first nation does not support an application, the general manager must deny the application. If the local government or first nation supports an application, the general manager may issue the licence.

For those licences that do not require local government or First Nation input, a local government or First Nation may restrict the locations of licensed establishments by adopting zoning bylaws which do not allow for that type of business in a particular location. The zoning bylaws deal with the community standards aspect of the public interest, and the general manager only considers the public interest in relation to public safety concerns.

When local government notification and opportunity for input is required

LCLB must notify and provide an opportunity for comments and recommendations into the licensing process for the following applications:

New licences:

- all new liquor primary applications
- all new liquor primary club applications

Amendments to a licence:

- liquor primary relocation where site and community assessment factors are impacted; (where not impacted, local government and First Nations input is still required in the form of objection/no objection);
- liquor primary licence applications for an extension of the hours of liquor service (earlier or later);
- an increase in the person capacity of a liquor primary;
- the addition of a patio to a liquor primary;
- food primary patron participation entertainment (e.g. dine and dance or karaoke);

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- food primary liquor service past midnight;
- manufacturer lounge and special event area endorsements;
- an increase in the size of a manufacturer special event area;
- an increase in the person capacity of a manufacturer lounge; and
- a live event theatre with a liquor primary licence applying for liquor service at films and broadcasts (input is required in the form of objection/no objection).

Notification and opportunity for input is not required for basic food primary licence applications, catering licence, catering endorsement, winery, brewery, distillery, U-Vin or U-Brew applications.

Resolution Criteria

The local government or First Nation must provide a resolution to the branch within 90 days (unless an extension has been granted) after receiving notification. The local government or First Nation must provide a resolution that includes:

- comments on each point in the regulatory criteria;
- indication of whether or not the views of residents were gathered (and why, if not gathered);
- the views of residents, if they were gathered;
- the method used to gather the views of residents;
- comments and recommendations with respect to the views of residents;
- recommendations as to whether the application should be approved; and
- the reasons for its recommendations.

The regulations list the regulatory criteria that the local government or First Nation must comment on. The branch uses this information to make a complete assessment of an application.

Liquor primary applications

- the location of the establishment;
- the proximity of the establishment to other social or recreational facilities and public buildings;
- the person capacity and hours of liquor service of the establishment;
- the number and market focus or clientele of liquor primary establishments within a reasonable distance of the proposed location;
- the impact of noise on the community in the immediate vicinity of the establishment; and
- the impact on the community if the application is approved.

Manufacturer lounge and special event area endorsements

- the location of the lounge and/or special event area;
- the proximity of the lounge or special event area to other social or recreational facilities and public buildings;
- in the case of a lounge, the person capacity of that lounge;
- hours of liquor service of the lounge or special event area;
- the impact of noise on the community in the immediate vicinity of the establishment; and
- the impact on the community if the application is approved.

Licence amendments

- the potential for noise if the application is approved; and
- the impact on the community if the application is approved.

Licence amendments for food primaries (extension of hours and patron participation entertainment)

- the potential for noise;

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- the impact on the community; and
- if the amendment may result in the establishment being operated in a manner that is contrary to its primary purpose (i.e. if the focus would shift from the service of food to the service of liquor).

Licensing Process

Application review

The branch checks that the application is complete, and assesses whether the proposed establishment meets the requirements for the type of licence applied for.

Applicant eligibility

The branch assesses whether the applicant is eligible to hold a liquor licence. This includes an assessment of factors such as age and residency requirements and whether an applicant has an association with a liquor manufacturer or agent that may lead to its products being favoured.

The branch also conducts a criminal record check and reviews the applicant's compliance history if they have held or been involved with other liquor licences. The branch may consider any driving infractions involving alcohol, involvement or association with organized crime groups, assess whether funding sources are legitimate, and determine whether the applicant is of good reputation and character.

Local government consultation

Only some food primary establishments require local government comment. The local government consultation process for food primary establishments is less detailed than the process for liquor primary establishments.

Liquor primary establishments:

[Note: manufacturer lounges and special events areas also follow this process]

- The branch conducts a site visit to verify information on the location and surrounding establishments provided by the applicant and to identify any potential issues with the proposed establishment.
- The branch prepares a summary report to send to local government.
- Where residents may be impacted by a proposed establishment, the local government or First Nation collects the views of residents. The local government or First Nation reviews the regulatory criteria and provides a resolution to the branch recommending whether the licence should be issued. The local government or First Nation may also request in writing an extension to the 90 day prescribed timeframe in providing a resolution.
- The branch reviews the resolution to make sure it is consistent with the regulation and is not contrary to the public interest. If the local government or First Nation has provided the general manager with a letter indicating they do not wish to provide input, the branch reviews the regulatory criteria and gathers the views of residents.
- The branch considers the entire application, including any resolution received from the local government or First Nation, and decides whether issuing a licence would be contrary to the public interest.

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Food primary establishments (if applicable):

- If the applicant has requested hours after midnight or patron participation entertainment, the applicant must ask the local government or first nation to provide a resolution.
- Where residents may be impacted by a proposed establishment, the local government or First Nation collects the views of residents. The local government or First Nation reviews the regulatory criteria and provides a resolution to the branch recommending whether the licence should be issued. The local government or First Nation may request in writing an extension to the 90 day prescribed timeframe in providing a resolution.
- The branch reviews the resolution to make sure it is consistent with the regulation and is not contrary to the public interest. If the local government or First Nation has provided the general manager with a letter indicating they do not wish to provide input, the branch reviews the regulatory criteria and gathers the views of residents.
- The branch considers the entire application, including any resolution received from the local government or First Nation, and decides whether issuing a licence would be contrary to the public interest.

Building assessment

For food primary establishments this is done as part of the initial application review. For liquor primary establishments, this is done after the site and community assessment is complete.

The branch reviews floor plans submitted by the applicant and determines whether they comply with policy. The plans must be stamped with an occupancy load and the occupant load indicated on the plans must be equal to, or less than, the requested person capacity of the licence.

Final inspection

Once construction is complete, the applicant attends an information session and a liquor inspector visits the site to confirm that the premises complies with requirements and that information presented in the application is a true representation of the business.

If the results of the final inspection are satisfactory, the branch grants a liquor licence.

Appendix 2 – Comparison of Canadian Jurisdictions

Province	Application timeframe	Notice	Public Consultation	Local government Consultation	Other local government options	Hearing
BC	Restaurants: 4-6 weeks bars/clubs: 7-12 months	Restaurants: none. Bars/Clubs: Local government determines process.	Local government determines process (if applicable).	Restaurants: only required for hours after midnight and patron-participation entertainment. Bars/clubs: have 90 days to provide a resolution on prescribed criteria.	Zoning, by-laws, business licence.	Local government may hold a public hearing. Branch does not hold licensing hearings.
Alberta	6-8 weeks	Notice posted on ALGC website.	Anyone may comment. Objections must be received within 21 days from date of posting.	None. Municipal business licence or written approval from municipality required as part of application.	By-laws.	Board is consulted if there are objections. Applicant may request a hearing if the application is rejected.
Sask.	Most within 60 days	Must advertise in paper once/wk for two weeks. Must post notice at the site if no establishment has been there for 60 days.	Anyone may comment. Public may object within 2 wks of the last published date.	Notice given if there has been no establishment in community for 1 year, because municipalities may prohibit sale of liquor. For restaurants that want to operate as bar at night, council resolution required.	Zoning, business licenses, by-laws prohibiting the sale of liquor in the municipality	If an objection is raised, Commission may hold a hearing.
Manitoba	6-8 wks	In newspaper, and posted at the site	Anyone may comment. Reasonable	May be required to obtain statement that	zoning	Board reviews applications. If objections,

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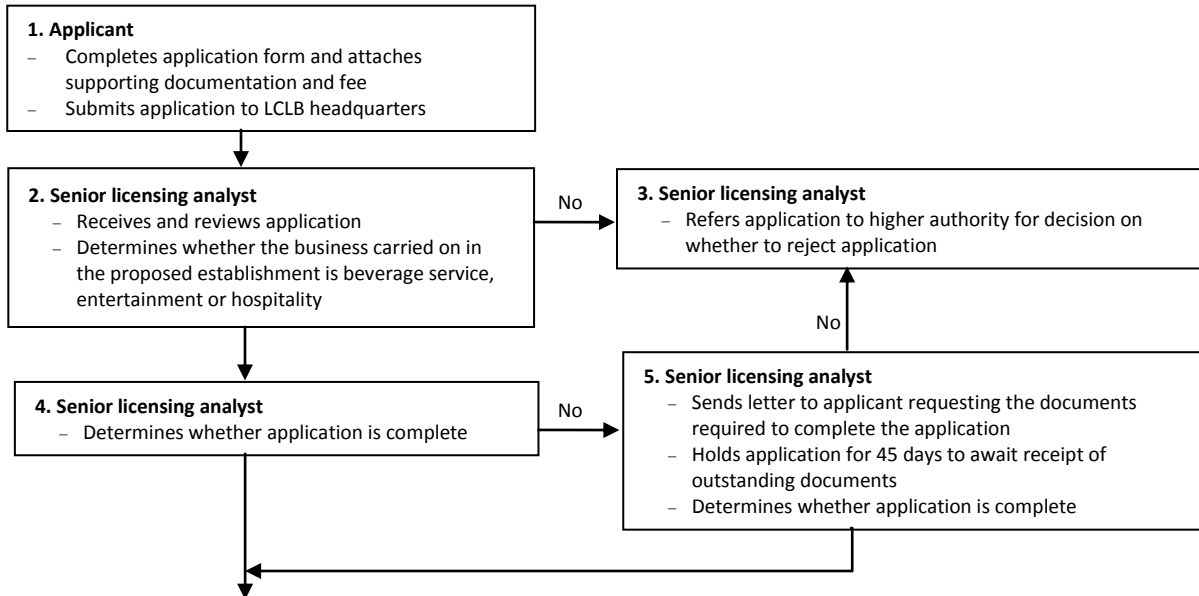
Province	Application timeframe	Notice	Public Consultation	Local government Consultation	Other local government options	Hearing
			amount of time to comment.	conforms to fire, health, building or zoning requirements of the municipality		applicant and objector may attend hearing. If no objections, board may consider application without a hearing.
Ontario	8-12 wks, longer if objections raised.	AGCO advertises in local English and French papers. Must post notice at site as well.	Residents of municipality may object. Consultation is conducted for 7 or 30 days, depending on proximity to schools, places of worship or areas of concern.	Municipality is sent notice. Have 30 days to identify zoning concerns, by-law non-compliance, or general objections regarding public interest.	By-laws, zoning, municipal codes (health and food safety), business licences. May declare municipality to be "dry" or "damp".	If objections unresolved, AGCO will schedule conference call. If still unresolved, public hearing before Tribunal.
Quebec	Restaurant: 67 days Bar: 82 days	Regie advertises in local newspaper.	Anyone may comment. Have 30 days to file objection.	Regie notifies municipality and police. Have 30 days to comment.	zoning	Board will hold meeting if objections are submitted; applicant, objectors given notice.
Nova Scotia	Restaurant: 1-2 days Bars 8-12 days.	Bars: depends on circumstances. Usually place 1 day add in paper. May require notice posted at site for 5 days.	Public consultation only necessary for bars. Have 5 business days to file objection. Only consider comments from those nearby who may be affected by noise/patrons exiting.	No formal notification. Zoning confirmation letter is required (all licences).	By-laws, zoning, development agreements.	

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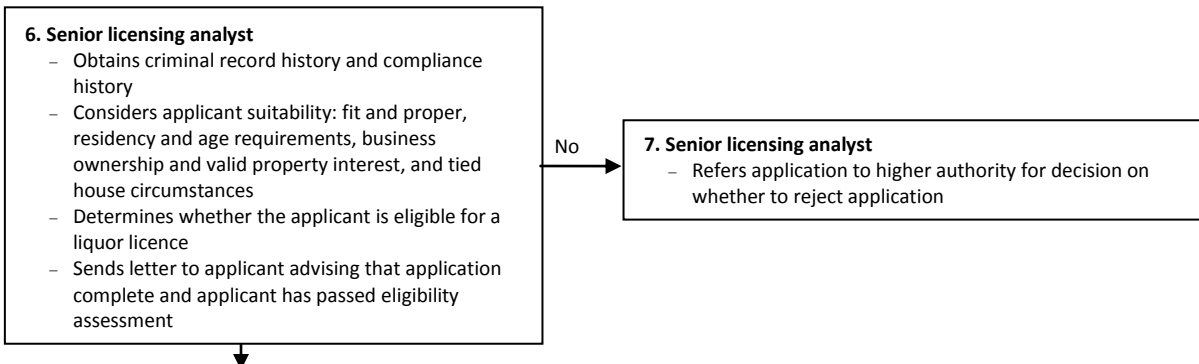
Province	Application timeframe	Notice	Public Consultation	Local government Consultation	Other local government options	Hearing
PEI	1-2 days. (does not include consultation process)	Up to the local government. If no local government, then applicant must poll property owners in area.	Up to the local government. If no local government, then applicant must poll property owners in area.	Applicant must submit written support from the community.	By-laws regarding hours, and zoning pertaining to the operation of such an establishment.	
Nfld.	7-14 days (does not include consultation process)	Advertise in newspaper for 3 consecutive weeks. Place notices in 3 prominent locations in community for 3 weeks.	Anyone may comment. Objections may be submitted for the duration of the application process (min. 3 weeks).	Applicant must submit written Municipal approval.	By-laws.	Hearings must be advertised 2-4 weeks prior to hearing date
Yukon	6-8 weeks	Advertise in newspaper for 3 consecutive Fridays.	Anyone may comment. Must submit objection within 5 days of the last date of publication.	Must have approval of business licence with liquor service, building code, health and fire.	Zoning and business licence.	If objection filed, board will have hearing at least 10 days after last date of publication. Objectors may attend hearing.
NWT	6 weeks. If objections received, it adds 2 months to timeline.	2 notices in local paper, at least 6 days apart and at least 21 days prior to board hearing date. Board may waive this requirement for restaurants.	Anyone who resides in the community may comment. Must submit objection within 2 weeks of the last notice.	Applicant must send letter to community government. The community government has 21 days to reply to the notice.	Business licence may have restrictions.	Board reviews applications. If there are objections, a public hearing is held.

LIQUOR PRIMARY LICENCE APPROVAL PROCESS

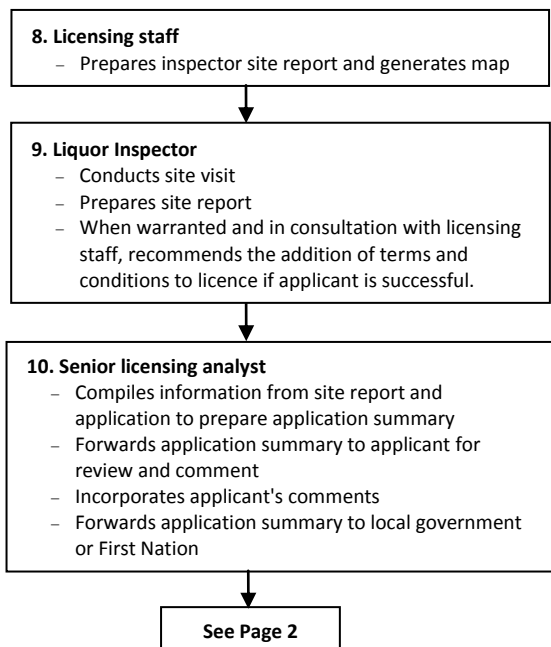
Stage one: Application for a new licence

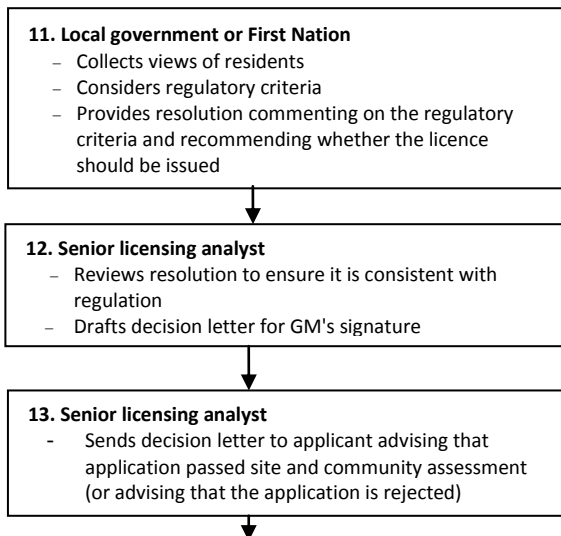


Stage two: Applicant eligibility assessment

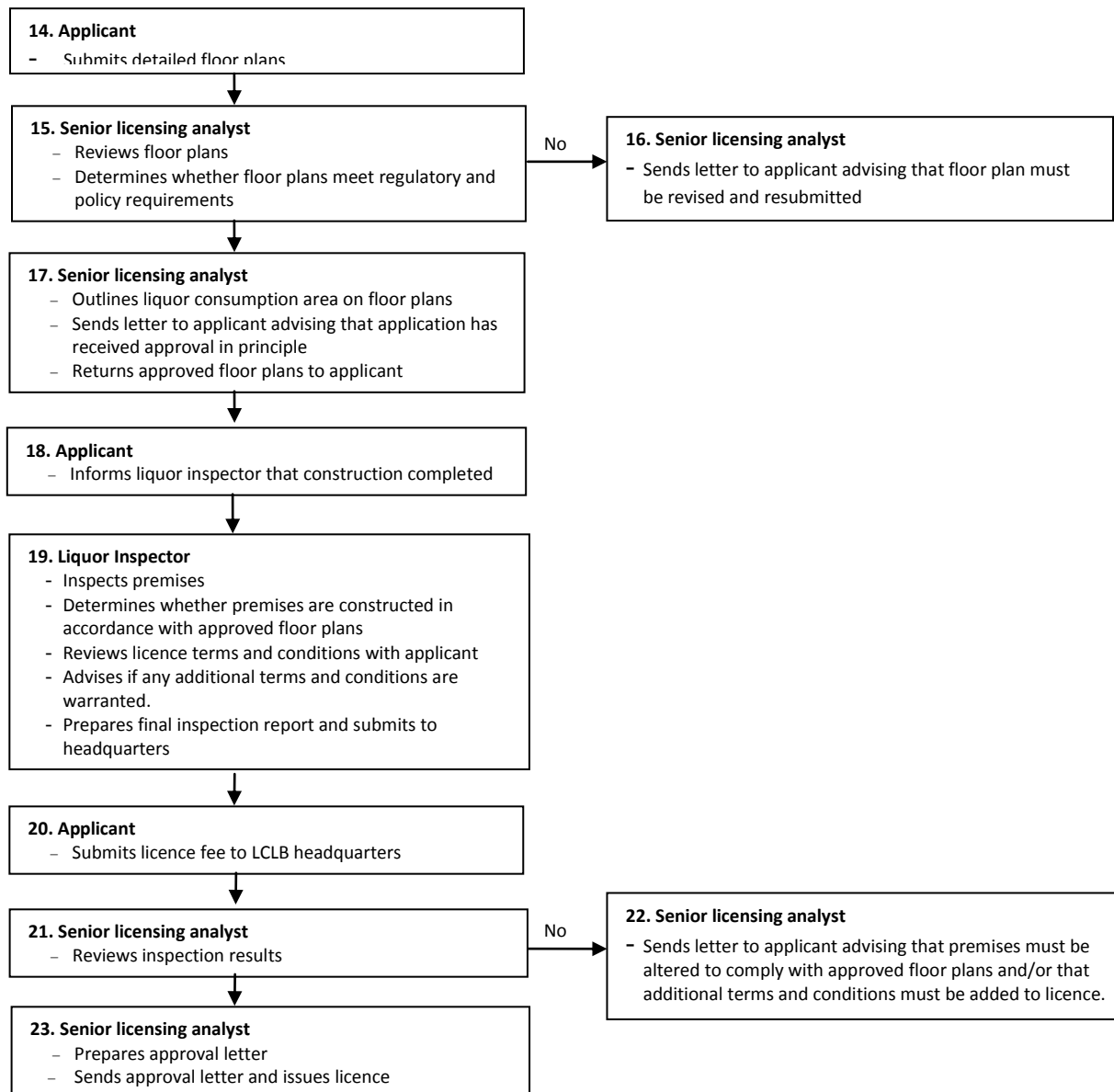


Stage three: Site and community assessment



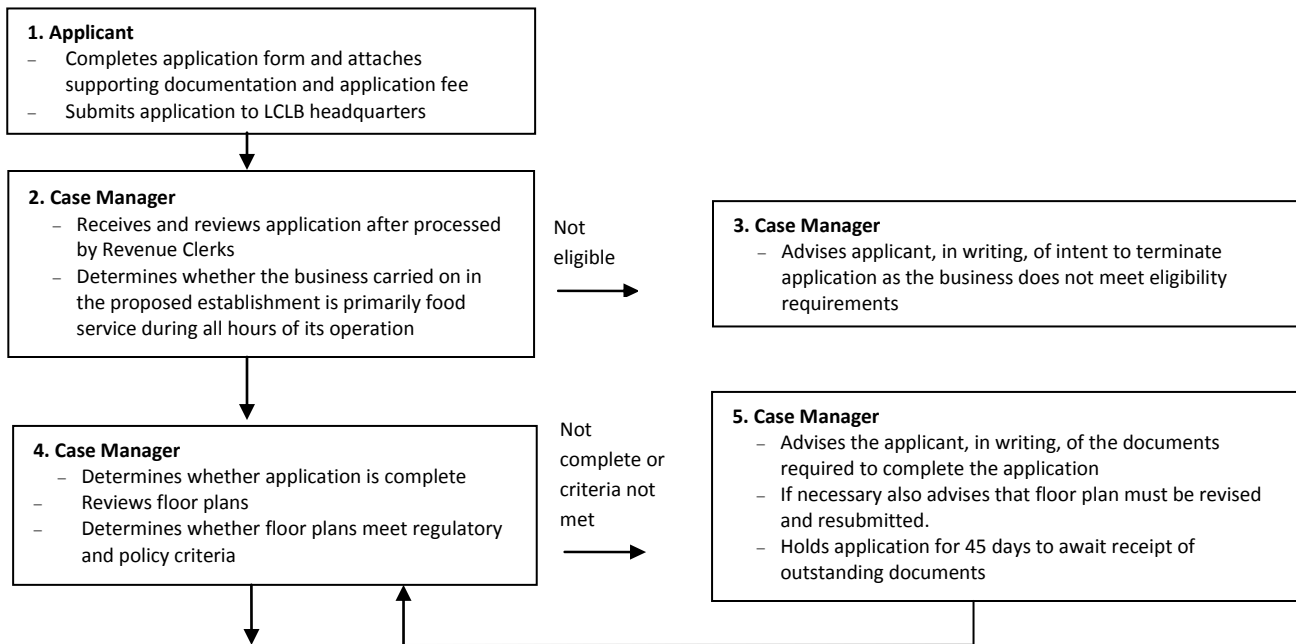


Stage four: Building assessment and issue of a licence

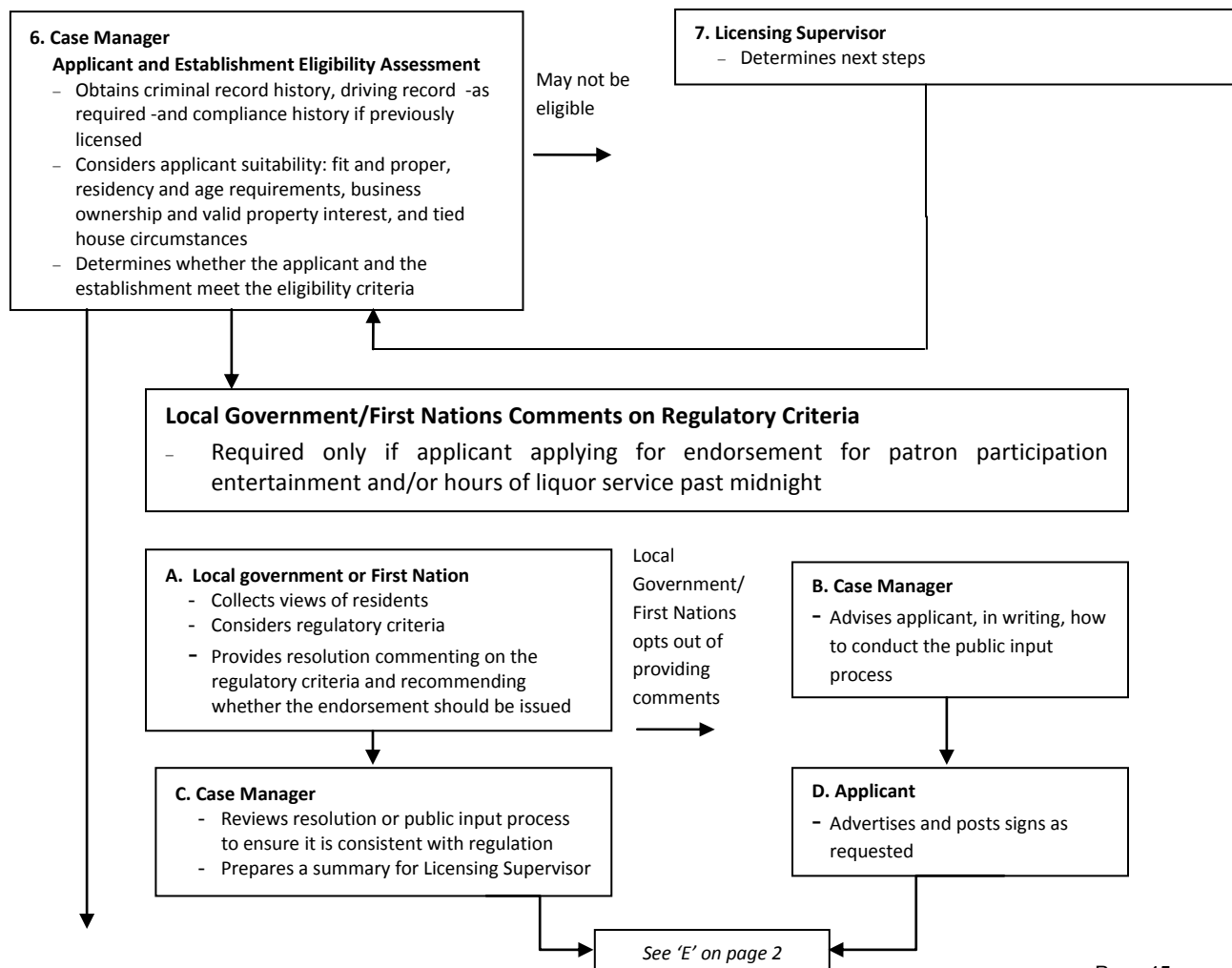


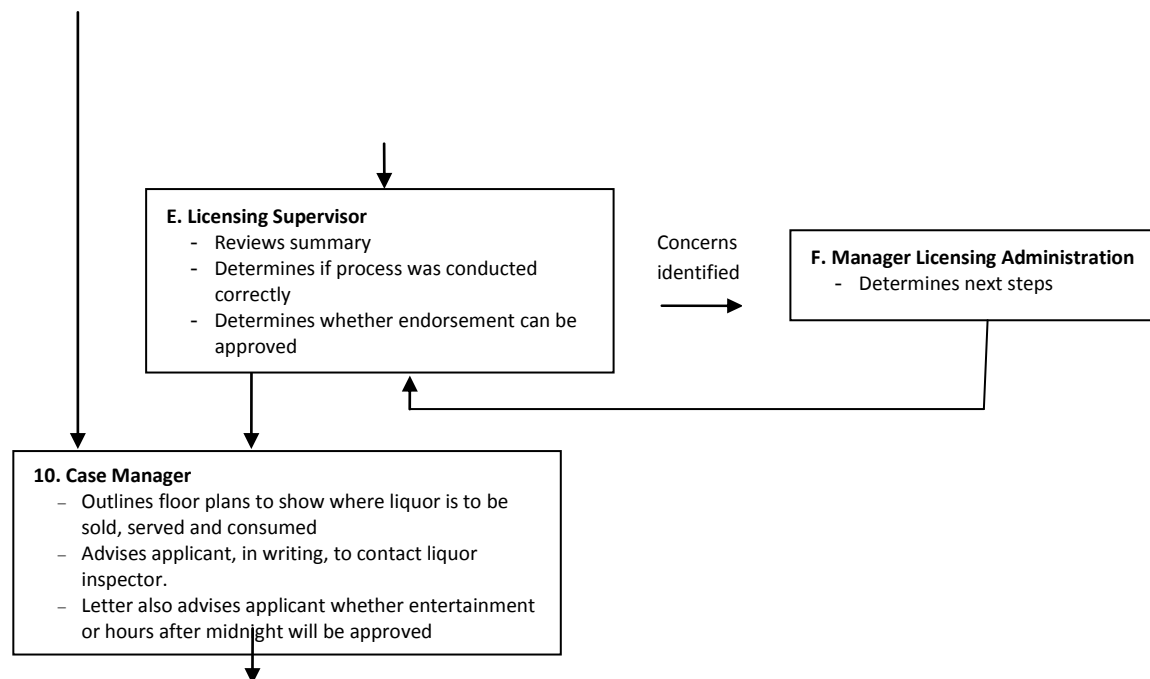
FOOD PRIMARY LICENCE APPROVAL PROCESS

Step 1: Application for a new licence

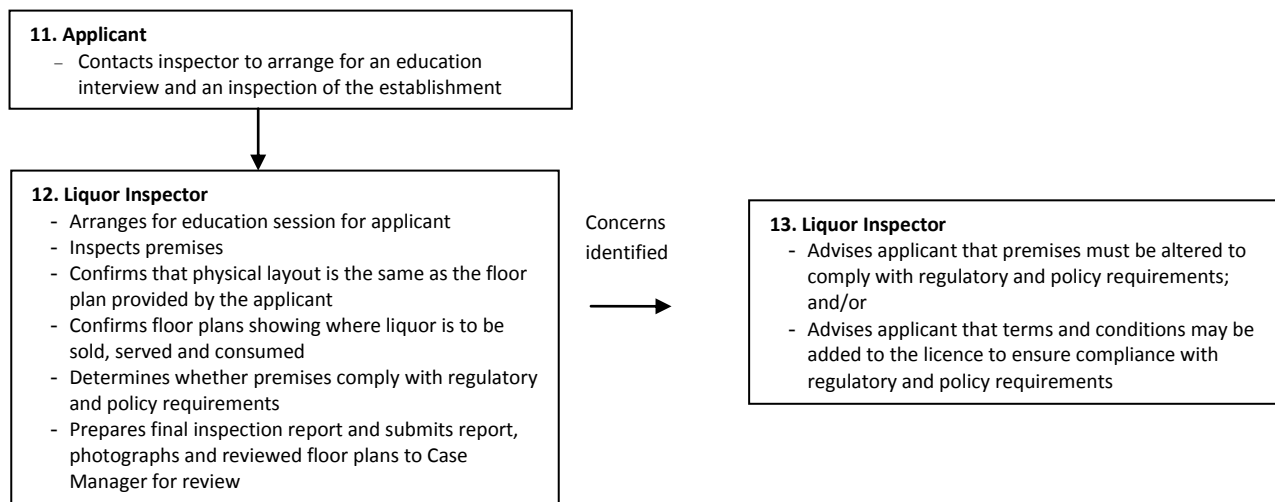


Step 2: Administrative Review – Applicant and Establishment Eligibility Assessment

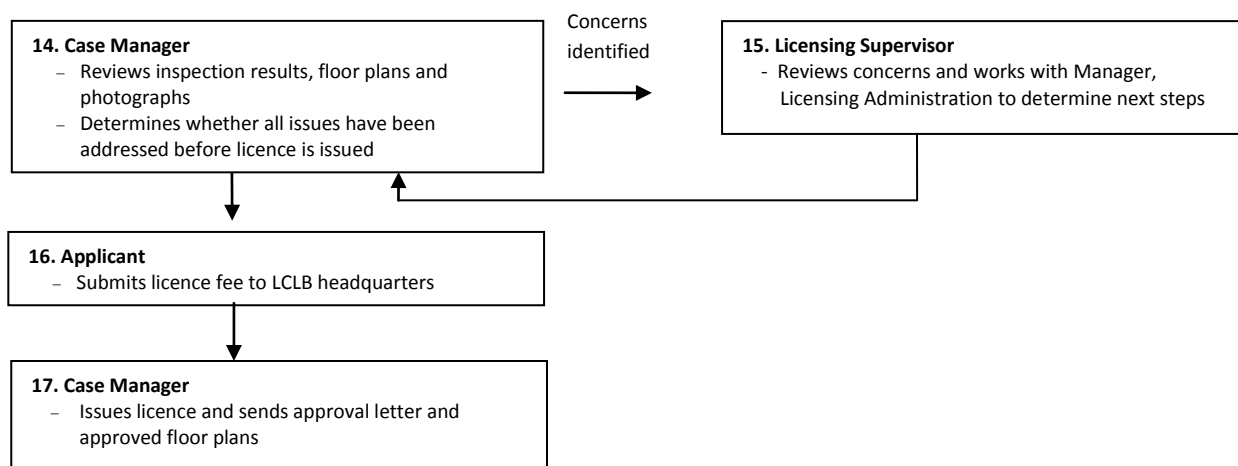




Step 3: Inspector's Review



Step 4: Final Assessment - Step 5: Decision



Section 5

Special Occasion Licences (SOLs)

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Special Occasion Licences – Business Eligibility

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is responsible for the Special Occasion Licence Program which issues over 25,000 Special Occasion Licences each year to allow liquor service at a wide range of events including small weddings, club meetings, church banquets, sports tournaments, large music festivals, etc. The licences are issued through local LDB government liquor stores (SOLs are not issued by private stores).

SOLs are issued for three types of events: family events, private events (invitation only) and public events (open to the general public). Only individuals are eligible to obtain family event SOLs and only non-profit clubs, societies or groups are eligible to obtain private event or public event SOLs. For-profit businesses are not eligible except under the following circumstances:

- if the business is a liquor manufacturer and the event is a tasting of its products and there is no charge for the liquor; or
- or if the SOL is issued to a business for staff parties or invitation-only customer appreciation and opening night events (fashion show, art gallery, etc.) and there is no charge for the liquor.

The restriction on businesses reflects the non-profit intent of the program and the desire to not have private promoters putting on regular events that compete with permanent licensees. There is also concern that events offered by private promoters for their own gain would occur more routinely in a specific location that is otherwise unlicensed, with adverse impacts on a community that did not have input into whether the location should be licensed, e.g. late night dances every weekend at a community hall.

Current issues:

1. General business use of SOLs

An analysis done two years ago showed that more SOLs were being issued to for-profit businesses than contemplated by the Act, i.e., for events other than the exceptions identified above. SOLs were being obtained for events such as fundraising, sporting events, meetings, musical events, conferences, etc. Effort has been undertaken to bring the licensing of events into alignment with the Act, resulting in many businesses which were previously issued SOLs no longer able to obtain them. During consultations, these businesses may raise the question of whether or not businesses should be able to obtain SOLs in British Columbia for private and public events.

Other jurisdictions:

Alberta restricts business use of their *Special Event Licence* to events at major entertainment venues, food fairs, theatre presentations and auctions of liquor products. Saskatchewan recently amended their legislation to allow businesses to obtain up to six *Special Occasion Permits* annually with respect to special events of any size. Prior to this business use was restricted to staff parties and gallery openings. Manitoba restricts business use to business meetings and grand openings. Ontario restricts business use

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of *Special Occasion Permits* to large events of “municipal, provincial, national or international significance”.

2. Large festival / major event SOL licensing

As mentioned above, businesses are not eligible for SOLs for large festivals or other major events. Only non-profit organizations are able to obtain an SOL for this type of event. This means that a business wishing to hold a large event (e.g., a rock concert, major sporting event, etc.) and provide liquor service is required to find a non-profit organization to obtain the SOL and assume the responsibility for the liquor service as the licensee. While the non-profit organization is the licensee on paper, in many cases it is the event organizer who is actually providing the liquor service. Requiring an event organizer to shop around for a non-profit organization to obtain the SOL has been identified as a unnecessary administrative burden and the issue may be raised during consultations by members of that industry.

Other jurisdictions:

Alberta allows businesses to obtain a public resale *Special Event Licence* for events at major entertainment venues, food fairs, theatre presentations and auctions of liquor products. Saskatchewan recently amended their legislation to allow businesses to obtain up to six *Special Occasion Permits* annually with respect to special events of any size. Manitoba does not allow businesses to obtain an *Occasional Permit* for large events. Ontario allows business use of *Special Occasion Permits* with respect to large events of “municipal, provincial, national or international significance”. Allowing for-profit businesses to obtain SOLs for major events aligns with the policy review’s guiding principles and may provide opportunities for business.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Special Occasion Licences – Police Involvement in the Approval Process

Background:

Of the Special Occasion Licences issued each year just over one half of applicants are required to obtain police approval before the SOL can be issued. Typically this means that the applicant takes the SOL application form to the police station where it is reviewed and approved. On occasion the application is left there for review and the applicant must return at a later date to pick it up. The applicant returns to the government liquor store for final approval and the issuance of the SOL.

Current issue: Police involvement in small, lower-risk SOL events

For larger events, police involvement is in the public interest; the police can impose terms and conditions which may reduce the risk of harm and knowing about the event allows the police to ensure they have sufficient resources available to respond to any problems which may arise. However, for a variety of reasons, police in some areas of the province are reviewing all SOL applications, even those for small family or private events where the risk of harm is very low. It is arguable that requiring hosts of small, lower risk events to obtain police approval is poor customer service and inefficient use of police resources.

The LCLB is currently looking at ways to reduce police involvement in the SOL approval process for small, lower-risk events. Reducing police involvement in small, lower-risk events aligns with the policy review's guiding principles and provides an opportunity for improving customer service and the efficient use of police resources.

Only a few provinces involve the police in their approval processes and at a much lower level of involvement. Police involvement in the SOL process may be raised by SOL applicants during the consultation process..

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Multiple day/site licensing and recurring events for Special Occasion Licence Events

Background:

The legislation requires the LCLB General Manager to determine how frequently a Special Occasion Licence (SOL) may be issued. Supporting policies limit applicants to up to two events per month, one weekend per month¹, or 24 events per year to reflect the legislative intent of the licence to be for special occasions. Applicants may request additional licences from LCLB as an exemption to policy. The application process requires an individual application for each licensed site. This ensures that the area police authority or local government is involved in accordance with the legislation and appropriate community resource management to ensure safe and responsible licensed events.

Special Occasion Licence fees are established in regulation (\$25 for private and \$100 for public events) and calculated based on number of days at one site. LCLB provides licence fee reductions for events operating over several days where liquor service is limited in duration and when it is in the public interest, such as for theatre productions or single sports games.

Contiguous sites generally require only a single SOL, even if there are several individual licensed areas on one property. Separate SOLs are required for sites at separate properties or communities, even if part of the same larger event (eg., marathon).

Other jurisdictions:

Other provinces generally require a separate licence application for each site, regardless of the duration of the event, and do not provide weekly fees. Two provinces allow annual licensing for certain kinds of temporary or special events but annual licensing in either province is not permitted for large public events or festivals. Manitoba issues a card which may be presented at a government liquor store to obtain a licence and cardholding organizations may host up to 12 licenses per year under a single application. Saskatchewan issues annual special event licenses for weekly gatherings at the same location. These annual licences are primarily intended for service clubs and fraternal organizations.

Current Issues:

1. Applicants want a more flexible, convenient approval process

Large, multi-site festival organizers are required to fill out a separate application form for each location, with negative impacts on applicant customer satisfaction. Applications are then reviewed by approving authorities in the municipality where the event is occurring. This ensures that local police and municipal officials are satisfied with the application. Applicants living in a different part of the province are not always able to visit local police or government agencies to obtain necessary approvals. Some police and local governments will accept a faxed application form or provide a letter of support. Police and local government agencies in populated areas generally want to meet the applicant in person before approving a licence.

¹ For the purposes of the policy, a weekend is considered three days (Friday – Sunday) on most weekends, and four days (Thursday – Sunday or Friday – Monday) when a statutory holiday falls on or immediately before/after a weekend.

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The current SOL issuance system is proprietary to LDB and any new system would require major capital investment. Online licence application technologies currently under consideration provide opportunities for applying remotely, fewer form completions and require a single trip to any BC Liquor Store.

2. The application fee for several days across several sites is unreasonable

Several sites' licence fees multiplied over several days could quickly reach hundreds or thousands of dollars in licence application fees. LCLB grants fee reductions for low-risk events where liquor service hours are limited in nature, such as at single sports games or live performances. This is done through a policy exemption application. Reducing fees further would negatively impact LCLB revenues which are directly invested in administering the Special Occasion Licence program and ensuring safe and responsible events.

Other jurisdictions:

BC's \$100 fee for large public events is low compared to other jurisdictions across Canada. Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario charge daily licence fees which range from \$250 to \$1000 per day, per site for similar events. BC's fee for private events is largely consistent with other jurisdictions.

3. Some groups and individuals feel that a 'portable' SOL or annual event permit would be more convenient and effective

Most SOLs are for family or community gatherings, such as weddings and holiday weekends. The most frequent repeat-applicants are most commonly theatre or sports groups who are unwilling or unable to apply for a permanent Liquor Primary liquor licence. In some cases this is because the group does not own or lease a facility while others use SOLs to avoid the cost of permanent licence application.

Festivals and large public gatherings are generally complex and higher-risk, requiring planning and approval conditions specific to a particular event and location.

Allowing a single application for annual events poses fee and revenue calculation challenges as it could reduce LCLB revenues and associated resources to administer and enforce the SOL program. Monitoring and inspecting 'portable' events may be problematic. Determining the frequency and location of unregistered or unauthorized events may be difficult or impossible beforehand, creating the potential for illicit licensed events and diverting police or emergency services resources if an incident occurs.

Recently-introduced licensed commercial catering provides an alternative for hosting licensed special events where food is served. In those cases, event organizers are not required to apply for a licence since liquor service and related administration is provided by the caterer but the caterer is required to notify LCLB and the police of the event.

Other jurisdictions:

Saskatchewan allows annual Special Occasion licences for limited club or membership events. These events are generally low risk in nature and limited in terms of designated location and meeting times. They cannot be used for different locations and are limited to once per week.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Whole site licensing for Special Occasion Licence Events

Background:

The legislation requires Special Occasion Licence (SOL) areas to be enclosed with all means of access supervised to the satisfaction of local police. This is meant to prevent unauthorized access by minors and to prevent the illegal removal of liquor and the subsequent consumption of liquor in an unlicensed public place. Though minors are generally permitted at SOL events, LCLB policy prohibits the presence of minors in beverage gardens (i.e. beer gardens). This prevents access to liquor by minors and prevents minors' access to areas generally considered inappropriate due to their considerable focus on liquor consumption.

LCLB policy limits public Special Occasion Licence eligibility to community festivals, civic celebrations and industry promotional tastings. This is to ensure that SOLs are used for community and charitable purposes. Supporting policy states that liquor service must not be an event's primary focus – rather, that liquor service compliments a larger or broader event. This has led to restricting liquor service at public outdoor events within clearly defined areas commonly known as 'beer- or beverage-gardens'. This distinction is not made in other provinces.

Recognizing that flexible site licensing options and permitting minors to attend licensed community events may be in the public interest; LCLB recently implemented a pilot project for the summer 2013 in a limited number of communities. This pilot will permit liquor service across an entire site for community events.

Other jurisdictions:

All provinces which licence temporary special events require some sort of barrier or definition surrounding a licensed area. Most other provinces do not permit minors in public liquor service areas at temporary licensed events.

Ontario is the leading Canadian jurisdiction in terms of relaxing licensing requirements for community events. These measures include:

- Licensing entire sites at major festivals and community events.
- Allowing minors within those licensed areas.
- Allowing patrons to move between a Special Occasion Permit and licensed establishment while possessing a single drink.

Current issues:

1. Beverage gardens are considered too restrictive and costly

Patrons report feeling 'caged up' in enclosed beverage gardens which is at odds with the intended atmosphere of community events. Patrons want access to an entire festival site while being able to consume liquor.

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LCLB policy definitions on sufficient enclosure have been historically vague, leading to inconsistent application of fencing and barrier policies. Event organizers have expressed concerns regarding unanticipated extra costs when a barrier increase is required by police or LCLB Inspectors after operating without problems. Small event organizers or those in remote communities sometimes cannot afford or locate suitable fencing.

Whole site licensing would potentially decrease fencing costs and direct more money to community causes. Recent media coverage has discussed the possibility of consumption of liquor in public without a licence. This could eliminate the fencing requirement for SOL events.

2. Minors attending public SOL events that are appropriate for young persons

Community festivals are family-friendly and not focussed on liquor consumption. Some families want to be able to attend licensed events and experience a range of food and beverage opportunities together, and minors in the company of adults are not likely to consume alcohol.

Event security and liquor service staff must be trained and are required to ensure responsible liquor service. LCLB now has tools to inspect SOLs for potential liquor service to minors through the Minors as Agents Program, and can recommend penalties or deny future licenses to SOLs found serving liquor to minors.

The current LCLB pilot project contemplates site-wide licensing and dedicated food-and-beverage areas where liquor and non-alcoholic drinks are served. There is a potential to divert business away from restaurants near festivals if site licensing is widely adopted. Businesses near common festival or gathering locations could be considerably impacted.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor and Special Occasion Licensed (SOL) Events

Background:

All types of liquor may be sold or served at private special occasions but spirits (hard liquor) may not be sold at public special occasions (civic celebrations, community festivals or public promotional liquor tastings). Spirits are also prohibited in beverage gardens, i.e. “beer gardens” and ‘Shooter’ drinks of spirits are prohibited from all SOLs.

Liquor sold or served at an SOL event must be purchased from a government liquor store; BC winery, brewery, or distillery; rural agency stores (RAS) that have been authorized; or an independent wine store (for private special occasions where the liquor will not be resold). Homemade or UBrew/UVin liquor cannot be sold or served at any SOLs.

Current issues:

1. Spirits at public SOLs.

In order for a public SOL to serve spirits the licensee must apply to LCLB and pay a \$100 application fee. The application asks for details, such as the overall nature of the event, which determines demographics, energy or excitement level; number of attendees; density of crowd; entertainment or attractions; presence of minors; security plans; layout; date; duration; drink cost and quantities; compliance history and other factors. Spirits exemptions at public events require police and Local Government/First Nation approval. Public events are increasingly requesting approval to sell spirits due to sponsorship or promotional agreements with manufacturers or food and beverage providers.

Safety issues related to spirits at events primarily involve the manner of consumption, rather than the presence of spirits. Rapid consumption of pure spirits can result in quick intoxication.

Spirit-based coolers are not considered spirits and can be served without an application for exemption.

2. UBrew/UVin product not permitted at SOLs.

Member of the public occasionally request to use their own homemade or UBrew/UVin beer or wine, at SOL events such as weddings. This is not permitted under the legislation.

Homemade and UBrew/UVin product is not subject to LDB mark-up or the 10% sales tax on liquor purchased through currently approved channels.

s.13, s.17

s.13, s.17

UBrew/UVin licensees occasionally market their product for weddings and other family events, without indicating to their customers that serving that product at a SOL is not permitted.

3. Private retail liquor stores issue or sell liquor to SOLs.

Private liquor stores (Licensee Retail Stores) sales are retail sales to customers for off-premises consumption. They are not permitted to sell liquor to licensees and licensees may not purchase from them. Many private liquor stores wish to expand their business through selling to SOL holders. Some SOL holders have expressed frustration at not being given the choice of government or private liquor store to buy from.

s.17

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s.13, s.17

Section 6

Public Safety and Compliance

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) program overview

Background:

The goal of the C&E Program is licensee compliance. This is achieved through:

1. education sessions with new licensees;
2. regular inspections of existing licensed premises; and
3. ongoing dialogue with licensees.

If an inspector observes a contravention of the Act, the inspector will generally issue a CN. The inspector may also request the licensee to attend a compliance meeting to resolve an issue without the need for an enforcement hearing. If the situation has been on-going, or represents a threat to public safety, and the inspector believes enforcement action is necessary to bring the licensee into compliance, the inspector will issue a Notice of Enforcement Action (NOEA) and recommend an appropriate penalty. Penalties are laid out in the Schedule 4 of the regulations, which sets out a range of monetary penalties or number of licence suspension days for contraventions of various sections of the Act. The decision whether to propose a monetary or suspension penalty is made after consideration of what would do most to promote voluntary compliance. The branch can also recommend cancelling the licence or imposing additional terms and conditions such as shorter hours.

The licensee can then either accept the penalty and waive the opportunity for a hearing, or request the opportunity for an adjudicated hearing, which is conducted by a hearing delegate who decides on behalf of the general manager. Penalties vary depending on the seriousness of the offence and compliance history of the licensee. Monetary penalties range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and suspensions range from 1 to 60 days.

Since 2005 the C&E program has been using a risk- based approach, targeting inspections on high risk establishments to:

- Prevent under-age drinking (minors);
- Prevent the over-consumption of liquor (intoxication);
- Prevent overcrowding or unsafe conditions in restaurants, bars and pubs;
- Minimize the potentially negative impact of liquor sales on neighbourhoods and communities; and
- Prevent illegal activities.

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Compliance and Enforcement Statistics (fiscal year 2012/13):

	Minors as Agents Program	SOL Inspected Events	Other	Total
Enforcement Inspections	552	88	11,363	12,003
Contraventions Identified	155	17	520	692
Contraventions Pursued	147	10	123	280
Notices of Enforcement Action (NOEA) Issued	140	5	112	257

* a NOEA may include more than one contravention)

Results of the 257 NOEAs issued:

- Licensees agreed to the penalty and signed waivers in **68%** of the cases (176 NOEAs).
- Licensees requested an enforcement hearing in **20%** of the cases (51 NOEAs)*.
- To date 22 cases have concluded and branch allegations were proven **95%** of the time. The remaining 29 cases are pending.
- For completed cases to date (hearings and waivers) this has resulted in **396** days of licence suspension and the payment of **\$951,000** in monetary penalties to General Revenue.

* totals do not add to 100% since not all cases are resolved in the same fiscal year

Top Ten Contraventions Identified (fiscal year 2012/13)

Alleged Contravention	Occurrences
Selling liquor to a minor	141
Permitting an intoxicated person to remain	64
Contravening a term and condition	61
Overcrowding beyond occupant load	27
Allowing liquor to be removed from the establishment	24
Allowing a minor on the premises	22
Operating as a bar when licensed as a restaurant	21
Selling or giving liquor to an intoxicated person	21
Exceeding maximum drink size	17
Making unauthorized structural alterations	15

Top Ten Contraventions Pursued (fiscal year 2012/13)

Alleged Contravention	Occurrences
Selling liquor to a minor	143
Permitting an intoxicated person to remain	26
Overcrowding beyond occupant load	22
Contravening a term and condition	20
Allowing a minor on the premises	13
Selling or giving liquor to an intoxicated person	13

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Allowing liquor to be removed from the establishment	9
Overcrowding beyond person capacity less than or equal to occupant load	5
Fail to take liquor from patrons by time required	6
Consume liquor while working – employees	4

LCLB Trends

Fiscal year	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Liquor inspectors	32	33	33
Enforcement Inspections	9,180	15,478	12,003
Compliance Rate**	95%	96%	96%
Liquor licences **	9,788	9,874	9,899

*Compliance rate does not include MAP inspections

** As of March 31 each year

Current issues:

1. Monetary vs. financial penalties

The Alliance of Beverage Licensees of BC (ABLE) has had a long term concern about the fairness of the penalty schedule in the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation. ABLE's primary concern is that a suspension penalty closes a LP or LRS establishment completely but allows a food primary (FP) to continue operating its non-liquor business (because its primary focus is food service). They have urged that the emphasis be changed so that monetary penalties rather than suspensions become the penalty of choice. They would also support an option for the licensee to choose either a suspension or monetary penalty as allowed in Alberta.

Under the penalty schedule, suspension penalties may be recommended for first, second or subsequent contraventions. Monetary penalties may only be recommended for first contraventions. The current penalty schedule has ranges for both monetary and suspension penalties, and also differentiates between contraventions according to their severity. There are three levels in the current penalty schedule, and 46 contraventions in total. For a first contravention:

- Level 1: 1 – 3 day suspension and/or \$1000 - \$3000 monetary penalty (Level 1 contraventions include employee consuming liquor, server has no Responsible Beverage Service training)
- Level 2: 4 – 7 day suspension and/or a \$5000 - \$7000 monetary penalty (Level 2 contraventions include permitting minors on the premises, operating outside of licensed hours of operation)
- Level 3: 10-15 day suspension and/or a \$7500 - \$10,000 monetary penalty (Level 3 includes providing liquor to a minor, overcrowding, illicit liquor, serving to intoxicated patron, permitting unlawful activities such as drug dealing).

Potential opportunities:

It is expected that many liquor industry stakeholders would support a move to emphasizing monetary penalties, claiming that it will help to protect their staff from temporary layoffs. Depending on the size of the business, the impact of monetary penalties can vary greatly. For large businesses, it can be easily absorbed as a cost of doing business, while the same penalty on a small business may have a financially disastrous impact. Support would be particularly strong for allowing licensees to choose between proposed monetary or suspension penalties for first contraventions. However, the economic impact of liquor licence suspensions as opposed to monetary penalties is different for food primary establishments and their industry associations have not been consulted.

Also, the flexibility of imposing either monetary or suspension penalties has gained favour in provinces which had previously had only suspension penalties. In January, 2009, Ontario amended its liquor act to allow for monetary penalties as 'a bridge between a simple warning and a suspension' and to provide an additional compliance tool to be used before a licence suspension or cancellation. However, the monetary penalty was not deemed suitable for the more serious contraventions such as serving intoxicated patrons, serving to minors or permitting illegal drugs on the premises. For these contraventions, the penalty remains a period of suspension or cancellation of the licence.

2. Penalty levels for certain contraventions (e.g. sale to a minor, intoxication)

There have been increased complaints in past couple of years from ABLE, especially the penalty for sale to a minor, as a result of the "Minors as Agents" program and the increased number of those penalties imposed. Since the branch tends to pursue serious public safety contraventions more aggressively, more of them are acted upon, hence their high profile with licensees.

Potential opportunities:

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Late Night Community Disturbance

Background:

In the past 20-30 years, there has been significant growth in the numbers of community centres which are shopping and commercial centres by day and dominated by licensed establishments by night, and have the following characteristics:

- Late night attractions are dominated by drinking;
- Almost all activity is run by the private sector, with a lack of even the most basic of services (such as public toilets) after 8 p.m;
- extended evening hours for retail stores are mostly limited to tourist areas;
- Movie theatres are by far the most widely available entertainment facilities open late;
- The most popular occasional activity is attending live events;
- Most public facilities such as libraries, museums and art galleries are closed; and
- Busiest times for town centres are Friday and Saturday nights.

Section 20(1)(c.1) of the Act requires a licensee to take reasonable measures to ensure that the operation of their establishment does not disturb the surrounding community. The penalty for contravening this requirement is considered one of the most serious contraventions, and is subject to the most severe penalties in the penalty schedule: a monetary penalty of between \$7,500 and \$10,000 or a 10-15 day suspension for a first contravention, and up to a 60 day suspension for continued offences.

Summary of Research:

Research shows that:

- Aggression is linked to:
 - Clashes between groups emerging from licensed establishments;
 - Ejection of troublesome or aggressive patrons;
 - Officious entry practices;
 - Aggression between staff and patrons who have been ejected;
 - Movement between establishments; and
 - Crowds gathering to watch and sometimes participate in conflicts.
- Entry and ejection practices by door staff are the most direct mechanism by which the licensed establishment exerts its influence on the surrounding area.
- Policy of ejecting troublemakers is based on the mistaken belief of security and door staff that they have no responsibility for what happens away from their front doors.
- The “no responsibility” attitude of staff is moderated a little a closing time, when most encourage patrons to leave quietly.
- Common locations of violent incidents include taxi stands, parking lots, bus stations, food outlets, sporting venues, main pedestrian thoroughfares, and the immediate environs of licensed premises.

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- Outlet density for bars is positively correlated with violence.
- Outlet density for restaurants is negatively correlated with violence.

Current issues:

The domination of youth-oriented, alcohol-related entertainment in specific areas has put pressure on governments to respond. The absence of a single body responsible for managing the space around licensed premises creates a vacuum in terms of who coordinates the activities of all stakeholders.

Since late night community disturbances, by definition, take place outside of licensed establishments, the LCLB and licensees have limited authority to act, and it is often very difficult to identify a particular establishment and their patrons at the root of a problem. It can also be difficult for all parties to agree on acceptable noise levels coming from licensed establishments that operate at night. Consideration must also be given to whether the establishment was already in operation before other businesses or residents moved into the area. Finally, the different licensing process and local government/First Nations input for food and liquor primaries means that restaurants locating in areas where there are a number of licensed establishments do not require local government input, but may be contributing to community disturbance by adding to the overall density of licensed seats and night time population density in a given area.

Several BC communities (e.g. Kelowna, Victoria) have taken steps to mitigate late night community disturbance using various strategies, such as:

- Increased enforcement;
- Voluntary partnerships with stakeholders to promote responsible behaviour;
- Provision of more public transit options (e.g. late night bus service and organized taxi stands); and
- Encouraging a variety of late night events/businesses that are not focussed on liquor service.

Potential opportunities:

The branch has participated in several voluntary accords with stakeholders in various communities around the province and at different times on an as-needed basis, which have been considered successful. A more comprehensive and systematic approach may be helpful to address long-term issues and is likely to be well-received by local governments. Community-based partnerships have been shown to be particularly effective in reducing drinking and driving, alcohol-related traffic fatalities and assaults and have also been shown to be effective in reducing aggression and community disturbances.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Minors as agents (MAP) inspections

Background:

Between 2003 and 2009 government used youthful-looking people of legal drinking age to measure the percentage of times liquor store sales persons requested the requisite two pieces of ID. The overall compliance rates were low (29%) and did not improve over time.

In 2010 government amended the Liquor Control and Licensing Act to provide authority for a minor employed or contracted by the province or police to legally purchase liquor for the purpose of testing licensee compliance with the Act's prohibition on supplying liquor to a minor. The branch ensured that all licensees were aware of the program before it started. In May 2012, LCLB expanded the MAP to inspect restaurants (food primaries) and rural agency stores (RAS).

There are 1,407 liquor retail outlets in the province. There are 195 Government Liquor Stores (GLS) and 672 Liquor Retail Store (LRS). To date, over the two-year life of the program, there have been 180 GLS inspections and 670 LRS inspections. In total, over this same two-year period, including all licence types, there have been 960 Minors as Agents Program inspections. Over the past two years of the program, compliance has risen substantially to 71 per cent.

Appendix 1 shows the breakdown of year two compliance statistics.

Other jurisdictions:

British Columbia is the only jurisdiction in Canada that uses minors to test compliance with age-of-sale laws. A similar program is also used in BC for tobacco age-of-sale laws.

Current issue: Decline in compliance rates in year two of program

Overall compliance rates went from 29% at program inception to 87% in year one and then down to 71% in year two. One of the reasons the overall compliance rate dropped was that the program has expanded to include licence classes that were not previously tested. Also, the compliance rate is likely affected by how food primary targets are identified (i.e. usually complaint driven). In addition, the results for food primaries are early results and they are expected to improve over time, as occurred with liquor retail stores in the first year of the program.

Potential opportunities:

The declining compliance rate across B.C. points to the need for continued vigilance, given the harms that can come from selling liquor to minors.

Appendix 1

**MAP Compliance Statistics
Fiscal Year 2012-2013
Results by Store Type**

2012/ 13	GLS	LRS	Rural Agency Stores (RAS)	SOL	FP	LP	Manu- facturers/ Wineries	Total
Total Inspections	85	326	50	6	71	6	11	555
Sales to a minor	7	90	16	4	36	2	4	159
Non- compliance rate	8 %	28 %	32 %	too small a data set	51 %	too small a data set	too small a data set	29 %
Compliance Rate	92 %	72 %	68 %	too small a data set	49 %	too small a data set	too small a data set	71 % ¹

Compliance Rate by Year and Licence Class

Compliance Rate By Year	GLS	LRS	Rural Agency Stores (RAS)	SOL	FP	LP	Manu- facturers/ Wineries	Avg.
2011/ 12	96 %	84%	too small a data set	no data	no data	no data	too small a data set	87 %
2012/ 13	92 %	72 %	68 %	too small a data set	49 %	too small a data set	too small a data set	71 %

Section 7

Social Responsibility and Public Health

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Health Effects of Alcohol

Background:

- Alcohol is one of the leading causes of disease and disability, and experts have predicted that damage and costs will increase if the status quo persists.¹ It accounts for approximately 10% of the burden of disease globally.
- There were 21,542 hospitalizations and 1,191 deaths in 2011 due to alcohol in BC.²
- The major alcohol-related health conditions that contribute to morbidity and mortality include³:
 - Cancers: head and neck cancers, liver cancer, breast cancer, as well as cancers of the gastrointestinal tract.
 - Neurological and psychiatric conditions: alcohol dependence syndrome, alcohol abuse, depression, anxiety disorder, neuropathies, and organic brain disease.
 - Diabetes: although alcohol can be protective in small amounts, in larger amounts it can increase risk.
 - Cardiovascular conditions: including ischaemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease.
 - Gastrointestinal conditions: alcoholic liver cirrhosis, cholelithiasis, and pancreatitis.
 - Maternal and perinatal conditions: low birth weight, intrauterine growth retardation, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.
 - Acute toxic effects: alcohol poisoning.
 - Injuries: road and other transport injuries, fall, drowning and burning injuries, occupational and machine injuries.
 - Self-inflicted injuries: suicide.
 - Violent deaths: assault injuries.

Alcohol and Health Statistics:

Injuries and Accidents

- At the Royal Jubilee hospital in Victoria, approximately 44% of people attending the emergency room between 9 p.m. and 4 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights reported having consumed alcohol in the 6 hours prior.⁴

¹ Giesbrecht, N., Wettlaufer, A., April, N., Asbridge, M., Cukier, S., Mann, R., McAllister, J., Murie, A., Plamondon, L., Stockwell, T., Thomas, G., Thompson, K., & Vallance, K. (2013). Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

² Centre for Addictions Research of BC. Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring. Accessed on May 29, 2013 at <http://carbc.ca/FactsStats/AODMonitoring/ProjectComponents/tabid/94/agentType/View/PropertyID/111/Default.aspx>.

³ Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

⁴ Centre for Addictions Research of BC. Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring. Accessed on May 29, 2013 at <http://carbc.ca/FactsStats/AODMonitoring/ProjectComponents/tabid/94/agentType/View/PropertyID/71/Default.aspx>.

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- It is estimated that the cost of alcohol poisoning alone, where alcohol poisoning was the primary reason for medical care, resulted in over \$3.1M of direct hospital costs in BC from 2001/02-2010/11.⁵
- Alcohol was a considerable contributor to the rate of cardiovascular disease (42 per 100,000 residents), cancer (60.6 per 100,000 residents) and other medical event (38.1 per 100,000 residents) hospitalizations attributable to substance use in BC in 2011.
- Almost one-third of all fatal motor vehicle accidents and 11% of all police-attended injury collisions in 2007 had alcohol as a contributing factor.⁶
- Between 2005-2009, young men aged 16 to 25 accounted for a third of the men charged with impaired driving. ICBC statistics demonstrate that drinking and driving related injuries peak among 21- to 25-year olds, with young men vastly outnumbering women. A roadside survey done in 2008 demonstrated similar observations, as 78.4% of impaired drivers were young men.⁷

Chronic Diseases

In 2002, alcohol was responsible for 8% of all deaths under the age of 70 and 7% of all hospital days in Canada.⁸

Alcohol use interacts with other risk factors such as tobacco use and unhealthy diets to substantially increase health risks. It contributes to health inequities by having a relatively greater impact on individuals without the social or economic resources to deal with harm from drinking, whether due to their own consumption or drinking by others.⁹

In 2002, the burden on health care and law enforcement services as well as costs associated with the loss of productivity in the home or workplace due to alcohol use amount to approximately 14.6 billion dollars in Canada. In more than half of all provinces, a comparison of direct revenue and costs from alcohol shows an overall deficit.¹⁰

Liver Disease

- Alcoholic liver disease resulted in 284 deaths in BC in 2010, a 71% increase from 2002.¹¹

⁵ BC Injury and Prevention Unit. Injury Data On-line Tool. Accessed on August 29, 2013 from: <http://data.injuryresearch.bc.ca/datatools/DataAnalysis.aspx>.

⁶ ICBC. Traffic Collision Statistics. (2007). Accessed on May 29, 2013 at <http://www.icbc.com/road-safety/safety-research/traffic-coll-stats-2007.pdf>.

⁷ Saewyc E., Rivers R., Creighton G., Drozda C., Roelefsen D., & Oliffe J. (2012). *The State of Boys' and Young Men's Health in British Columbia*. University of British Columbia.

⁸ Giesbrecht, N., Wettlaufer, A., April, N., Asbridge, M., Cukier, S., Mann, R., McAllister, J., Murie, A., Plamondon, L., Stockwell, T., Thomas, G., Thompson, K., & Vallance, K. (2013). *Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies*. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ BC Vital Statistics Agency. Personal Communication from Rosemary Armour May 7, 2013.

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Cancer

- Cancer prevention and risk reduction can be further be achieved through reducing alcohol consumption to within the low-risk drinking guidelines — alcohol is a risk factor for many different cancers and the risk of cancer increases with the amount of alcohol consumed.¹²
- Liver cancer is one of the fastest rising cancers in Canada. In 2013, over 2,000 Canadians are expected to develop primary liver cancer and about 1,000 will die of this disease.¹³
- Approximately half the cases of liver cancer are linked to risk factors such as alcohol-related cirrhosis.¹⁴
- Reducing smoking rates, drinking within the low risk drinking guidelines, and controlling excess weight can help reduce the incidence of liver and other cancers.¹⁵

Alcohol Dependence

- Between 32-42% of all clients seen by health authorities for substance use services report hazardous levels of alcohol consumption and/or alcohol dependence.¹⁶ This amounted to over 13,000 people in BC in 2009/10.

Crime

- In 2002, an estimated 30% of all crimes committed in BC are attributable to alcohol, resulting in a cost of almost \$200 million.¹⁷

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Canadian Cancer Society's Advisory Committee on Cancer Statistics. Canadian Cancer Statistics 2013. Toronto, ON: Canadian Cancer Society; 2013.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project. Addiction Treatment in British Columbia for Fiscal 2009/10. Accessed on May 29, 2013 from http://carbc.ca/Portals/0/AOD/AddictionTreatment/TreatmentReport09_10.pdf.

¹⁷ Kendall, P. (2008). Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy: An updated report from the provincial health officer. Queen's Printer: Victoria.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Social responsibility - Best practices

Background:

Research has the capacity to indicate which social responsibility strategies are likely to succeed, and which are likely to be less effective or even a waste of resources.

In general, the highest rates of lowering incidents of alcohol misuse are coordinated programs with multi-faceted strategies promoting safe, healthy and responsible alcohol use. It is generally accepted that comprehensive approaches work best, which include targeted education, policy and legislation, enforcement and penalties, and modifications to products and the environment. While there are effective strategies that focus on a single aspect of drinking behaviour, the use of multiple strategies to address more than one aspect of drinking behaviour has the potential to be significantly more effective.

Research results overview:

The following sections summarize individual evidence-based social responsibility approaches that have been researched and a summary of the level of empirical evidence for each.

Availability restrictions

Approaches that limit the availability of liquor are some of the most effective ways to manage alcohol-related harm. Physical availability of liquor has been repeatedly shown to be linked to increased overall consumption, which is in turn linked to risky use and increased alcohol-related health and social problems.

Research on public versus private control of liquor retail outlets suggests that under privately controlled retail distribution systems, larger numbers of outlets are found and higher levels of consumption are seen, including underage consumption. These higher levels of consumption are linked to increased alcohol problem rates.

Alcohol Pricing and Taxation

The impact of price changes on alcohol consumption and the harm done by alcohol is the most extensively researched area of alcohol policy, and some of the strongest evidence supports the use of pricing and taxation measures to create disincentives to increasingly risky patterns of consumption.

Alcohol consumption is price sensitive, and some of the heaviest drinkers are the most sensitive to changes in price. Regular heavy drinking is concentrated in the young adult population, and these drinkers tend to be more price sensitive compared to mature drinkers due to lower average incomes and lower prevalence of alcohol dependence. The magnitude of the effect of prices on consumption is dependent on the presence or absence of other alcohol policy measures.

Research also supports decreasing the price of low alcohol content drinks.

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Preventing minors' access to liquor

Early age-of-onset of drinking is a proven predictor of alcohol-related harm. The earlier a person begins drinking, the greater the likelihood that they will experience alcohol-related problems. Early onset drinkers also tend to be binge drinkers and are at higher risk for other anti-social behaviours. There is very strong evidence that increased minimum drinking age laws can have substantial effects on youth drinking and alcohol-related harm, particularly road traffic accidents, often for well after young people reach the legal drinking age.

Compliance checks are considered the most effective method for enforcing age-of-sale laws and decreasing the commercial availability of alcohol to youth. There is also evidence for restricting the sale of products aimed at youth (e.g. pre-mixed cocktails), which are often heavily consumed by young people and can contribute both to heavier drinking and early onset of onset of drinking.

Brief Interventions

In general, the most effective social responsibility strategies have a public education component but are multi-faceted, and individual strategies are generally thought to be less effective. A notable exception to the lack of effectiveness of individually based strategies is the use of brief interventions based in healthcare settings for individuals with existing hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption. Brief advice, which is defined as 1 to 3 sessions of counselling or advice, by a primary care medical practitioner or emergency room staff is highly effective as an intervention. There is extensive evidence that a drinker consulting a medical practitioner about health problems will be receptive to advice to reduce consumption, particularly where the health condition is related to consumption.

Community Mobilization Approaches

These strategies include local education campaigns, restrictions on hours of operation and outlet density and other bylaws reducing access, coupled with enhanced law enforcement. These are generally partnerships between local government, licensees, and police. Community-based prevention programs are particularly effective in reducing drinking and driving and alcohol-related traffic fatalities and assaults and have also been shown to be effective in reducing aggression and community disturbances.

The Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP) program has been widely adopted in about half of all communities in Ontario and is in the process of being adopted in Nova Scotia and BC. MAPs have been shown to be particularly effective in addressing community disturbance problems at community special occasion events by changing public attitudes about acceptable behaviour and minors' access to liquor, though the effects tend to be event-specific and limited to the short term.

Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship

Beverage alcohol is prominent among the many branded consumer goods that young people, in particular, increasingly use as a way of signalling their identity. Modern marketing uses multiple channels and global liquor manufacturers carefully craft advertisements to mirror youth culture and lifestyles. There is consistent evidence that exposure to alcohol advertisements influences consumption levels and the onset of youth drinking.

Live event sponsorship by liquor manufacturers is thought to be a particularly effective strategy for

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increasing sales by providing ready access to favoured target markets, although this is still an area of emerging research. Linking a product with a glamorous event is believed to be an effective way of embedding products in young people's lifestyles. Manufacturers are on the cutting edge of social media marketing strategies and are very aware of the demographic groups attracted to certain live events.

Industry Training

There is evidence for improved knowledge and attitudes following Responsible Beverage Service (RBS) training, such as BC's Serving It Right program, when backed up by enforcement, although this wears off over time. Training tends to decrease bad serving practices and increase "soft" interventions such as slowing service. The training effect is particularly strong when coupled with management training and appropriate house policies. RBS training has not proven effective in reducing drinking-driving unless it is combined with more comprehensive community based programs.

An Ontario program focussed specifically on preventing and managing violence in licensed establishments (Safer Bars Program) showed a modest effect on reducing aggression, the effect of which carried over post-test. This program has also been implemented in Alberta. Research concluded that staff and management's role in implementing effective house policies is very important in predicting aggression and violence.

There is growing evidence for the impact of strategies that alter the drinking environment in reducing alcohol-related harm. Licensed premises account for a substantial proportion of locations where intentional injuries occur, second only to violence in the home. The boundaries of acceptable behaviour in licensed premises can be very lax. In addition, the demographic characteristics of bar patrons are also the characteristics of violence-prone populations generally. The physical environment (presence of line-ups, size, décor, seating arrangements, upkeep, lighting, cleanliness) and staff behaviour set the tone for an establishment and contain messages about behavioural expectations. Inappropriate staff behaviour (e.g. aggressive security staff, staff drinking) contributes to aggression.

Public Education and Communications

The research supports specially designed messages to direct the targeted groups (e.g. pregnant women, binge drinkers, students) to specifically designed programs (e.g. websites, treatment resources). Significant, but so far largely neglected, opportunities exist to translate the scientific evidence into plain language and make it available for everyone. An informed public can also help build support for public alcohol policies. Surprisingly, the history of major public health campaigns has been a story of expensive failures. Most failed campaigns were too broad in scope, with vague messaging, were not well targeted to the intended audience and not able to hold their attention.

There is limited evidence for warning labels for certain risk situations (e.g. pregnant women and FASD), but no direct impacts of warning labels on consumption or alcohol-related problems have been established.

There is considerable experience of school-based education programmes, but currently unconvincing evidence for their effectiveness. Although there are individual examples of the beneficial impact of school-based education, the majority of well-evaluated studies show no impact even in the short-term.

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Drinking and Driving Countermeasures

Most drinking-driving countermeasures received high effectiveness ratings. Research shows strong support for lowered BAC limits, random breath testing, administrative licence suspension, lowered BAC for youth, and graduated licensing for novice drivers. Drinking driving laws must be publicized to be effective. When incorporated as part of community programs, drinking-driving countermeasures have increased effectiveness.

In “last drink” programs, information is collected on the reported drinking locations of drivers. Police can identify high risk licensed establishments and share information with licensing regulatory bodies to allow follow-up action against the licensee. While some American jurisdictions have adopted these programs, there is insufficient evidence on which to make a judgement about their effectiveness.

Designated Driver programs have not been proven effective as a strategy to reduce drinking-driving. They tend to suffer from confusion about defining what level of consumption is acceptable. While some programs have a zero tolerance policy, others allow consumption as long as the driver stays below the legal limit. In practice, it appears that only a minority of drivers remain completely abstinent, and many people apply the designated driver concept in ways that are unsafe (e.g. choosing the least intoxicated person as a driver after the fact, allowing all others who are not driving to drink well beyond the limits of moderation). The large variation in programs has made the study of the effects of these programs on both consumption and alcohol-related motor vehicle injuries difficult.

Other Social Responsibility Strategies

Though there is no direct connection between provision of public transportation and alcohol-related harms, the availability and provision of public transportation has been validated as part of larger, multi-component interventions.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies, 2013

Background:

On March 6 at a national conference, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) released a comparison of provincial alcohol policies, which provides a “systematic and comparative review of policies and programs across all Canadian provinces which have the potential to reduce the considerable health and social harms from alcohol.” The project aims to promote an evidence-based approach to addressing the negative impacts of alcohol use in each province.

Over the past two years the project team collected data from each province on ten major policy areas, based on the World Health Organization’s Global Alcohol Strategy. Individual provinces have been scored on each policy area. A series of province-specific reports are also being prepared. The BC report is expected to be released in August 2013.

Key findings:

BC ranks as one of the three “top-ranked” provinces, alongside Ontario and Nova Scotia. Quebec, P.E.I. and Newfoundland and Labrador ranked lowest. B.C. received an overall score of 53.4%; with only Ontario ranking higher at 55.9%. National mean score was 47.1%.

Ten categories were looked at in preparing the report and scoring the provinces:

- Pricing – BC was a bottom ranking province in pricing;
- Alcohol Control System – BC was the lowest ranking province;
- Physical Availability – BC was a top ranking province;
- Drinking and Driving – BC was the highest ranked province, with the note that “British Columbia is demonstrating a gold standard in administrative licence suspension and impoundment programs”;
- Marketing and advertising – BC was among the top two ranking provinces;
- Legal drinking age – BC was a top ranking province;
- Screening, brief intervention and referrals – BC was the highest ranking province, and the only province to get 100% on any indicator;
- Server Training and Challenge and Refusal Programs – BC was the top ranking province;
- Provincial alcohol strategy – BC was a top ranking province; and
- Warning labels and signs – BC was a middle ranking province.

Recommendations outlined in the report (for all provinces) include:

- Set minimum prices at a level that will discourage excessive consumption and that apply to all alcohol sales as well as index alcohol prices to inflation and set prices according to their alcohol strength.
- Maintain government monopolies by preventing further privatization of alcohol sales channels

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- and uphold a strong social responsibility mandate.
- Place upper limits on the density of outlets and limit the availability of alcohol in the early morning and late at night.
- Implement the legislative priorities pertaining to licensing, sanctions and remedial programs highlighted by MADD Canada in their 2012 report.
- Extend provincial controls on marketing and advertising beyond those outlined in the Code for Broadcast Advertising of Alcoholic Beverages to include further restrictions and to streamline and formalize the enforcement process.
- Set a minimum drinking age of 19 years (at least) and track challenge and refusals to encourage enforcement of the legal drinking age.
- Develop a provincial alcohol strategy in each province to guide progress and establish alcohol as a topic worthy of urgent attention.
- Highlight Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral (SBIR) as a priority area in the provincial alcohol strategy; support the uptake of the SBIR resource released by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) and the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC); and implement SBIR fee for service codes.
- Implement mandatory server training and challenge and refusal programs that have been shown to reduce over-service or service to minors.
- Disseminate mandatory alcohol warning messages, with clear health messages on a variety of topics, on alcohol packaging as well as at point of sale.
- In line with recommendations made by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Global Strategy on Alcohol (2010), a significant step forward would be for all provinces to monitor and report rates of alcohol-related harm on an annual basis, to document policies and prevention strategies, using a public health lens, and to exchange information on these efforts in a systematic way.
- The different government sectors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that deal with alcohol issues are encouraged to collaborate on matters pertaining to alcohol and to pilot and evaluate the impact of proposed policy changes.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: National Alcohol Strategy

Background:

The National Alcohol Strategy Working Group was composed of a wide range of stakeholders and included representatives from federal, provincial and territorial governments, addictions agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations, and the alcohol beverage and hospitality industries. In April 2007, following considerable work, the group reached general consensus on a comprehensive strategy that recognizes the respective roles of all players in addressing alcohol-related harm, and identifies a total of 41 recommendations in four broad areas for action:

- **Health promotion, prevention and education** – which aims to raise public awareness about responsible alcohol use;
- **Health impacts and treatment** – which aims to reduce the negative health impacts of alcohol consumption and address its contribution to injury and chronic disease;
- **Availability of alcohol** – which aims to implement and enforce effective measures that control alcohol availability; and,
- **Safer communities** – which aims to create safer communities and minimize harms related to intoxication.

The National Alcohol Strategy Advisory Committee (NASAC) was formed in 2008 to:

- lead the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Alcohol Strategy;
- increase awareness of Canadians on matters relating to alcohol abuse; and
- encourage participation in the reduction of harm associated with such abuse

NASAC members include participants with expertise in alcohol-related issues from all levels of government, non-governmental organizations, First Nations, Inuit and Métis service providers, and the alcohol industry.

Progress to date:

NASAC partners are actively involved in activities to implement the recommendations of the National Alcohol Strategy. Initiatives to address 38 of the 41 recommendations have either been implemented or are underway, including:

- developing and introducing Canada's Low Risk Drinking Guidelines;
- publishing three reports promoting the use of alcohol pricing policies to reduce alcohol related harm;
- partnering with the College of Family Physicians of Canada to develop a screening, brief intervention and referral web resource for physicians and health professionals;
- promoting the education of students about the dangers of binge drinking;
- encouraging provinces to adopt zero-tolerance alcohol policies for all drivers under 21 years of age;

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- implementing server training programs;
- pursuing approaches that focus on high-risk alcohol-dependent drivers;
- encouraging the development and implementation of municipal and campus alcohol policies; and
- pursuing standard drink labelling of alcoholic beverages.

BC response:

- promotion and dissemination of Canada's Low Risk Drinking Guidelines;
- development of a resource for high school Dry Grads;
- providing funding and assistance for the development of Municipal Alcohol Policies;
- providing funding and assistance for the development of Campus Alcohol Policies;
- development of an anti-binge drinking social marketing campaign;
- promotion of the screening and brief intervention tool for family physicians; and
- development of a web-based resource for parents of minors is underway.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy: An Updated Report from the Provincial Health Officer, 2008

Background:

On December 16, 2008 the provincial health officer, Dr. Perry Kendall, released a report entitled Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy which updates a similar 2002 Health report, by assessing the effects of the 2002 recommendations to minimize harms associated with alcohol use in BC.

The report presents best practice policies, a review of current alcohol policies in BC, and a series of recommendations to reduce the present burden of harms from alcohol consumption in the province.

Key findings:

Some key findings from the 2008 updated report are:

- The physical availability of alcohol has increased substantially, with the total number of liquor sales outlets having nearly doubled since 2002.
- The economic availability of alcohol appears to have increased.
- Alcohol consumption has increased 8 per cent overall in British Columbia since 2002.
- Self-reported rates of hazardous drinking “at least monthly” have increased since 2002.
- Over one-quarter of underage youth report binge drinking at least once a month (binge drink = 5 or more standard drinks on one occasion).
- Alcohol-related hospital stays have increased moderately since 2002.
- A comparison of a subset of direct alcohol-related costs and benefits indicates that health and enforcement costs exceeded government revenue from alcohol by approximately \$62 million in 2002/2003.

Appendix 1 provides a summary of the report’s recommendations and the government’s response to date.

Appendix 1**PHO REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

	Recommendations		Government Response
Economic Availability			
1	Implement strategies to maintain prices of alcoholic beverages with inflation, such as indexing minimum prices and mark-ups to the cost of living. Liquor mark-ups in BC strongly influence the eventual retail prices in both private and government stores; therefore, they are the only policy lever available for maintaining prices throughout BC's mixed distribution system. Further, it is recommended that a minimum social reference price per standard drink be introduced and reviewed annually along with the cost of living.	1	s.13
2	Implement strategies/policies to encourage production/consumption of lower alcohol content varieties within each major beverage type; for example, by replacing provincial sales taxes on alcohol with an alcohol content-based tax indexed to the Consumer Price Index.	2	s.13
3	Implement other strategies to maintain minimum price per standard drink, such as introducing a surtax on high alcohol content drinks. The proceeds of this surcharge could be used to fund treatment and prevention programs. Every one cent extra per standard drink would generate approximately \$20 million additional revenue annually in BC.	3	s.13
Physical Availability			
1	Maintain the moratorium on private liquor stores and restrict further growth in agency stores until the youth access issue is resolved.	1	Lead: LCLB LRS moratorium was enshrined in regulation in 2012 and would remain in place until at least 2022. There is also a moratorium in place on all other types of private liquor retail outlets with the exception of rural agency stores.
	Investigate current distribution of outlets and compare to social/health circumstances to		Lead: unclear This type of research is beyond the scope of LCLB's

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2	find if there are clusters around vulnerable populations (e.g., Downtown Eastside, northern and rural populations, Aboriginals) and make adjustments as necessary in collaboration with local governments.	2	mandate. Government's ability to cancel licences or require relocation for these reasons is very limited. LCLB works with local governments to address issues as they arise.
3	Increase minimum distance allowed between private stores (currently 0.5 km)	3	Lead: LCLB The minimum distance criterion for licensee retail stores was increased to 1 km in 2010.
4	Monitor violence and road trauma associated with drinking at particular licensed venues in order to inform liquor and impaired-driving law enforcement efforts.	4	Lead: unclear No action taken. There is limited evidence for the effectiveness of these types of programs and costs would be very high. Would require collaboration with police partners. [This recommendation appears to be the same as "last drink" information collection below.]
5	Roll-back hours of sale for bars and clubs to match the rest of Canada (2 a.m. recommended as maximum, but only for premises with a good track record on violence and alcohol-related harm).	5	Lead: LCLB With the exception of downtown Vancouver and a few smaller communities, 2:00 a.m. is the latest closing time for most establishments. As the report points out, the hours can be rolled back if local government supports it and provides licensees with an opportunity to provide input. No plans to roll back hours to 2:00 a.m. across the province
Other Policies:			
1	Put resources into enforcement and training to raise compliance rates with age verification protocols, particularly for private outlets and agency stores.	1	Lead: LCLB LCLB passed amendments allowing for the hiring of minors to check compliance with the minimum age laws in 2010 and developed and implemented the minors as agents program (MAP) in early 2011, which an initial focus on liquor retail outlets. Since its inception, this highly successful program has been expanded to include inspections of other types of licensed establishments.
2	<u>Drinking and driving:</u> a. Increase random spot checks. b. Implement best practices for ignition interlocks for those with impaired-driving convictions. c. Improve administrative licence suspensions as recommended by Mothers Against Drunk	2	Lead: Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles a) Police maintained, and when budget and operation requirement permitted, increased random spot checks to prevent drinking and driving, and to support the Immediate Roadside Prohibition initiative (IRP). b) The B.C. ignition interlock program was introduced on a limited basis in 2005, targeting high-risk drivers.

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	<p>Driving Canada.</p> <p>d. Re-invigorate impaired driving enforcement as recommended in the National Alcohol Strategy.</p>		<p>Since then it has expanded to include criminally convicted drinking drivers and some drivers who received administrative sanctions under the Motor Vehicle Act.</p> <p>c) The Immediate Roadside Prohibition initiative was implemented in September 2010. Within 2 ½ years, the new drinking and driving laws had helped to save an estimated 143 lives - cutting the drinking and driving death toll in British Columbia by more than half (51 per cent).</p> <p>d) The BC Government made alcohol-affected driving a priority fully supported by enforcement.</p>
3	Increase capacity for routine screening, brief interventions, and referrals for risky alcohol use, especially in primary health and social care settings	3	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>New Problem Drinking Guidelines with accompanying Screening and Brief Intervention tools and funding criteria jointly developed by the British Columbia Medical Association and the BC Ministry of Health were released to physicians in 2011. Impact will require ongoing support to ensure uptake across the province.</p>
4	Conduct research into effectiveness of current restrictions on advertising and exposure of BC youth to alcohol promotions, including Internet promotions.	4	<p>Lead: unclear</p> <p>No action taken.</p>
5	Begin discussions on controlling the <i>quantity</i> as well as the quality of alcohol advertising.	5	<p>Lead: unclear</p> <p>No action taken.</p>
6	Continue supporting and augment the BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project to track the levels of alcohol-related harm and to assess the impact of policy changes and programs.	6	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>Ministry of Health provided increased funding to CARBC in 2013 to monitor alcohol-related harms and costs.</p>
7	<p>Allocate resources to improve the collection of data on alcohol-involved morbidity and mortality by BC Vital Statistics Agency, including:</p> <p>a. that the Coroners Service of BC and the Vital Statistics Agency establish an ongoing, cross-agency data audit and reconciliation mechanism to correct historical data gaps and minimize the opportunity for unrecognized</p>	7	<p>Lead: BC Coroner's Service</p> <p>The BC Coroner's Service has noted the issue a number of times in their capital funding request but has not yet received funds to facilitate this project.</p> <p>The current process for collecting, accessing and using this information are labour, cost and time intensive as well as time sensitive. The manual reporting process for Coroners to submit Medical Certificates to Vital</p>

	<p>data issues to arise in the future;</p> <p>b. That The Coroners Service of BC and the Vital Statistics Agency be sufficiently resourced to support their data integrity improvement efforts.</p>		<p>Statistics can cause delays and reporting of inaccurate information. These delays inhibit program effectiveness and efficiency in sharing of information to other stakeholders.</p> <p>An electronic link to Vital Statistics to ensure timely completion of Medical Certificates will ensure timely information to families. A link to Vital Stats will provide many potential benefits including reducing administrative effort required at regional, head office and coroner level, providing data in a more timely manner, reducing errors of interpretation that commonly occur with manually created documents, and improving the improving the quality of information captured by providing validation electronically at the source.</p>
8	<p>Create a small “harm reduction” levy on specific alcohol products with higher than average alcohol content for their beverage class (e.g., beers with the strength above 5 percent alcohol by volume). Use the proceeds from this levy to fund improvements in alcohol harm prevention, monitoring, treatment, and research, with a focus on reducing youth alcohol use and risky and hazardous drinking among young adult drinkers</p>	8	s.12, s.13
9	<p>Meaningfully involve public health and addictions experts in alcohol decision making.</p>	9	<p>Lead: Government wide</p> <p>Public health groups and organizations are being consulted as part of the 2013 liquor policy review.</p>
10	<p>Provide support to local governments to prevent and respond to alcohol-related problems, especially in regions with higher rates of consumption and problems.</p>	10	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>In early 2012, the Ministry of Health, in partnership with BC Healthy Communities, provided funding and support to two communities for a pilot project to develop Municipal Alcohol Policies (MAP); there are 20 new communities engaged with MAP development.</p>
11	<p>Investigate the feasibility of implementing the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health’s Municipal Alcohol Policy program for use by local governments in BC.</p>	11	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>See #10 above.</p> <p>LCLB has provided assistance and advice on materials relating to special occasion licensing and catering.</p>
Programs and Policies to Reduce Violence in and around Licensed Establishments:			
	<p>Create and implement a dedicated violence prevention program in BC and require</p>		<p>Lead: LCLB</p> <p>Since the report’s release, Safer Bars program has been</p>

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1	establishments with demonstrated problems to provide training to their staff. (Report recommends use of Ontario Safer Bars program)	1	widely implemented in Alberta. LCLB is monitoring this and other training programs to determine the quality and effectiveness of the program.
2	Encourage strong, local collaboration between licensees, police, and civic authorities to implement policies that minimize and reduce alcohol-related violence ("local accords" or "community action plans").	2	Lead: LCLB LCLB has helped implement and participated in multi-agency task forces to inspect high risk establishments in several communities across the province.
3	Implement ongoing compliance checks for service to intoxicated patrons and overcrowding, especially in licensed establishments identified as problematic in police data.	3	Lead: LCLB LCLB does this on an ongoing basis as over service and overcrowding are two enforcement priorities of the branch.
4	Develop and implement a protocol for collecting "last drink" information from suspects in alcohol-involved crime incidents.	4	Lead: unclear No action taken. There is limited evidence for the effectiveness of these types of programs and costs would be very high. Would require collaboration with police partners. [This recommendation appears to be the same as "monitor violence and road trauma" above]
5	Change the requirements of the Serving It Right program to require server recertification (five-year intervals) and resource the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch to conduct ongoing enforcement compliance checks for responsible service practices in real-life conditions.	5	Lead: LCLB No action taken.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Restrictions on what and how licensees advertise

Background:

All types of advertising by licensees or manufacturers in BC must comply with the federal CRTC Code for Broadcast Advertising. For example, ads may not be directed at minors, show people drinking, associate drinking with driving, or suggest that liquor is essential to the enjoyment of an activity (see Appendix for details).

Additionally, advertisements for bars and restaurants may not be placed in locations that are used or visited mostly by minors, may not promote “wet T-shirt” or similar contests, and may only show people with liquor if there is also food. Bars and restaurants may advertise specials, but they may not have “2 for 1” specials, or “Happy Hours” (see Tab 3).

An advertisement or sign for a licensed establishment must reflect the type of class or category of licence the establishment holds. For example, a liquor primary establishment may use terms such as bar, or tavern in its name, a food primary establishment may not, to prevent public confusion about the restaurant’s primary function (to serve food).

Caterers may only advertise the services they offer, the types of liquor they offer, and previous events they have catered. They may not advertise manufacturer or brand names, or prices. The host of a catered event may not advertise the availability of liquor.

UBrew/UVin establishments may only advertise their contact information, and the products and services that they offer (including prices). Advertisements may not show people drinking or suggest that customers do not have a role in making the finished product.

Special occasion licensed events may not advertise the availability of liquor, unless it is a tasting event.

Liquor delivery services may only advertise that they deliver liquor. They may not mention brands or liquor prices in their ads.

The Liquor Distribution Branch approves the labels of all products sold in the province. Labels must comply with social responsibility criteria and generally be considered in good taste.

Prior to 2003, government had additional advertising regulations, and required branch pre-approval of advertising for manufacturers or agents.

Other Jurisdictions:

Alberta’s advertising aligns with the CRTC Code. They have some additional requirements (e.g. licensees must advertise price if they wish to advertise a brand of liquor.) Licensees may advertise “Happy Hours”.

Saskatchewan’s advertising aligns with the CRTC Code, and is applied to all mediums. They provide additional clarification as to how the Code is interpreted in Saskatchewan (e.g. advertising can’t target minors, which means ads can’t be within 200m of school).

Manitoba recently announced that it would be modernizing advertising standards, and implementing nationally accepted standards.

Ontario’s advertising aligns with the CRTC Code. Licensees may not advertise “Happy Hours”. Ontario has a formal complaint mechanism.

Current issue: Requests have been received to strengthen controls on advertising, particularly for those that appeal to youth or persons drinking in a high-risk manner, discontinue advertising discount prices, and limit the quantity of alcohol advertising permitted

Studies demonstrate that the level of exposure to advertising affects the age at which youth begin drinking, and the volume of liquor that they consume.¹

Some groups believe that media has changed since the CRTC Code was last updated in 1996, and that provinces should consider regulating the following:

- 1) the *content* of alcohol ads, especially ads depicting glamorous lifestyles and including aspirational characters often engaged in consequence-free drinking;
- 2) the *placement* of alcohol ads, as children are more vulnerable to the effects of alcohol ads, places where children play, and the media to which they are exposed should be protected from alcohol ads;
- 3) the *number* of ads in circulation, where fewer are better; and
- 4) the advertisement of drink prices, where ads for discounted drinks should be restricted.

One of the challenges with regulating advertising is that it is pervasive and crosses jurisdictions; for example:

- American television and radio broadcasts can be received in Canada, as can magazines.
- There are product placements in movies and on TV.
- Advertisements are widely available on websites (e.g. Facebook), with video ads becoming more common (for example, on YouTube).
- Manufacturers of imported products have websites that are outside of BC's jurisdiction.
- Companies now create advertising campaigns specifically for the internet and social media.
- Targeted content may not easily come to the attention of branch staff (e.g. promotions sent to "Facebook friends" of the licensee)
- 'User-generated content' is created and shared by consumers and is not controlled by the company.
- Advertising is becoming more instantaneous and transitory (e.g. Twitter)

Reducing the amount of traditional advertising in BC (billboards, flyers, etc.) may not have a significant impact on the overall level of exposure to liquor advertising, especially given the predominance of internet use by minors.

Potential Opportunities:

Opportunities to modernize advertising include:

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¹ See Giesbrecht, N., Wettlaufer, A., April, N., Asbridge, M., Cukier, S., Mann, R., McAllister, J., Murie, A., Plamondon, L., Stockwell, T., Thomas, G., Thompson, K., & Vallance, K. (2013). *Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies*. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Appendix

CODE FOR BROADCAST ADVERTISING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Commercial messages for alcoholic beverages shall not:

- (a) attempt to influence non-drinkers of any age to drink or to purchase alcoholic beverages;
- (b) be directed at persons under the legal drinking age, associate any such product with youth or youth symbols, or portray persons under the legal drinking age or persons who could reasonably be mistaken for such persons in a context where any such product is being shown or promoted;
- (c) portray the product in the context of, or in relation to, an activity attractive primarily to people under the legal drinking age;
- (d) contain an endorsement of the product, personally or by implication, either directly or indirectly, by any person, character or group who is or is likely to be a role model for minors because of a past or present position of public trust, special achievement in any field of endeavour, association with charities and/or advocacy activities benefiting children, reputation or exposure in the mass media;
- (e) attempt to establish the product as a status symbol, a necessity for the enjoyment of life or an escape from life's problems, or attempt to establish that consumption of the product should take precedence over other activities;
- (f) imply directly or indirectly that social acceptance, social status, personal success, or business or athletic achievement may be acquired, enhanced or reinforced through consumption of the product;
- (g) imply directly or indirectly that the presence or consumption of alcohol is, in any way, essential to the enjoyment of an activity or an event;
- (h) portray any such product, or its consumption, in an immoderate way;
- (i) exaggerate the importance or effect of any aspect of the product or its packaging;
- (j) show or use language that suggests, in any way, product misuse or product dependency, compulsive behaviour, urgency of need or urgency of use;
- (k) use imperative language to urge people to purchase or consume the product;
- (l) introduce the product in such a way or at such a time that it may be associated with the operation of any vehicle or conveyance requiring skill;
- (m) introduce the product in such a way or at such a time as may associate the product with any activity requiring a significant degree of skill, care or mental alertness or involving an obvious element of danger;
- (n) contain inducements to prefer an alcoholic beverage because of its higher alcohol content;
- (o) refer to the feeling and effect caused by alcohol consumption or show or convey the impression, by behaviour or comportment, that the people depicted in the message are under the influence of alcohol;
- (p) portray persons with any such product in situations in which the consumption of alcohol is prohibited; or
- (q) contain scenes in which any such product is consumed, or that give the impression, visually or in sound, that it is being or has been consumed.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Consumption of liquor in public spaces

Background:

People may not consume liquor in a public place, unless it is licensed. "Public place" is defined to be a place where the public is permitted access. It also includes public conveyances (boats, trains, buses, planes) and private vehicles that are located on land that the public may access (parking lots).

The Act permits the federal, provincial or local government to pass an order that liquor may be consumed at a public beach, public park or public campground, subject to terms and conditions approved by the general manager. No orders have been made.

Other Jurisdictions:

Other Canadian jurisdictions do not generally allow drinking in public spaces unless there is an event taking place which has a special event permit. There are some exceptions: Alberta allows parks to have designated picnic areas where drinking is allowed when food is consumed, and the Yukon allows drinking in public unless it is prohibited by the municipality. Municipalities in the Yukon may determine if public drinking is prohibited and if so, whether the prohibition is for the entire municipality or just certain areas of town. (We are awaiting information on whether Quebec permits drinking in public).

There are a variety of approaches taken to liquor consumption in public spaces in other countries. These include permitting it, allowing local governments to define areas that people may not drink (which may vary by time of day), and prohibiting it in all or most public spaces. The trend in Europe seems to be an increase in regulation, due to eroding social controls and increases in binge drinking by youth. Some states in Australia allow public drinking except in 'alcohol-free zones'. With few exceptions, drinking in public is not permitted in the United States.

Current issues:

1. Requests have been received to allow people to have a drink with their picnic at the park or at the beach

People already drink in public spaces, however it tends to be done inconspicuously (liquor pre-mixed into a pop or juice bottle, wine drunk out of travel mugs, etc.) or done where there are few people around to notice. Liquor pour-outs by police occur regularly at large events, such as Canada Day celebrations.

Some people do not feel they should be criminalized for wanting to have a glass of wine with their picnic, and feel they should be treated like responsible adults. They argue that it is an offense to be intoxicated in public and there are offenses for other negative behaviour associated with overconsumption that the police could enforce.

However, other people do not want to take their families to places where others are drinking. Removing the prohibition on drinking in public would increase the visibility of drinking, and likely increase the frequency as well.

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Among adolescents and adults, alcohol use is involved in up to 70 per cent of deaths associated with water recreation (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

When people drink in public there is no licensee responsible for supervising how much people are drinking or ensuring that minors do not consume liquor. As a result, it increases workload for the police.

Public intoxication can lead to complaints about noise, litter, public urination and violence. One of the findings from the Stanley Cup Riot Review was that the riot was fueled by liquor.

'Bush parties' already create problems for police and communities – there are issues with underage drinking, assaults, vandalism and litter. If the prohibition on drinking in public were removed, it would make controlling these parties more difficult (although minors would still not be permitted to have possession of liquor).

It is easier for police to enforce a ban on having open liquor in public (an objective assessment) than it is to demonstrate that a person is intoxicated in public (a subjective assessment). Also, removing liquor from people before they become intoxicated is safer for police and is a more effective way of preventing problems associated with overconsumption.

If drinking in public is allowed, there may be less need to obtain a special occasion licence to hold events in parks, leading to a potential loss of revenue.

Potential Opportunities:

Opportunities to allow more flexibility to drink in public could include:

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2. Other Issues:

Restrictions on Special Occasion Licences [limited frequency; event must be considered a special occasion] – see Tab 5.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Caffeinated Alcoholic Beverages (CAB)

Background:

The term "energy drink" identifies beverages that contain a significant amount of caffeine (over 50 mg) but do not contain alcohol. A 355 ml can of cola contains about 30 mg of caffeine, while a cup of coffee is much more variable, containing 95-200 mg of caffeine, depending on roasting, grinding, and brewing time. Non-alcoholic energy drinks generally contain about 70-80 mg of caffeine, but some can go as high as 200 mg per serving. Alcoholic energy drinks (containing less than 30 mg of caffeine/serving) are registered in BC and are available in BC liquor retail outlets. The Liquor Distribution branch does not register caffeinated alcoholic beverages (CABs) containing more than 30 mg of caffeine/serving.

Consuming CABs (and/or the combination of alcohol and high caffeine energy drinks) has been associated with increased risk. Caffeine can mask sensory cues that people may rely on to determine how intoxicated they are. Youth and young adults are at the greatest risk of harm from consuming caffeinated alcoholic beverages because they drink them at levels four times higher than the general public.¹ Compared to those who drink alcohol alone, youth and young adults who drink caffeinated alcoholic beverages are more likely to commit or be a victim of sexual assault; ride in a vehicle with someone driving under the influence of alcohol, or drive while under the influence of alcohol themselves; be hurt or injured and require medical attention; and drink more alcohol without realizing they are intoxicated because the caffeine keeps them awake longer².

There is no currently no prohibition on licensed establishments selling energy drinks. However, in light of the known harms associated with combining energy drinks and liquor, the LCLB has taken the approach of informing licensees about the potential dangers of combining them with alcohol and encouraging them not to sell these products.

Other jurisdictions:

Various government and professional health organizations, including Health Canada and the Canadian Medical Association, have expressed concerns over the increased use of energy drinks, especially when mixed with liquor. In 2010, Health Canada issued an advisory indicating that the mixing of energy drinks with alcohol constituted a serious health risk to consumers and recommended that liquor not be mixed with energy drinks.

Most jurisdictions do not regulate the mixing of energy drinks with liquor. The only Canadian jurisdiction surveyed that prohibits the mixing of liquor with energy drinks is PEI. If energy drinks are served with liquor the patron must mix them and the server must advise the patron that mixing energy drinks and liquor is not recommended.

¹ Health Canada. (2010). Canadian Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey microdata file; analysis by Centre for Addictions Research of BC.

² Brache, K., Thomas, G., & Stockwell, T. (2012). *Caffeinated alcoholic beverages in Canada: Prevalence of use, risks and recommended policy responses*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (p. 9)

Current issue:

Action to restrict or prohibit advertising of energy drinks in licensed establishments

Since 2011, the Association of Canadian Distillers has supported taking action, ranging from, at the least, a prohibition on licensee advertisements of energy drinks mixed with alcohol. The viability of this option is limited by the definition of advertising under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* (LCLA) to include advertising the cost of a drink (including a menu). This option would also not address any public safety concerns that concern the actual consumption of these beverages.

Potential opportunities:

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LCLB has a variety of communications mediums to provide information to licensees including the Serving it Right program. An October 2011 issue of the branch newsletter contained an article encouraging licensees to re-evaluate their policy on selling energy drinks.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Control and Licensing Branch Educational Outreach

Background:

The purpose of LCLB's educational outreach is to acquaint licensees with the requirements of the Liquor Control and Licensing Act and Regulations, liquor policy and the terms and conditions of their licence so as to increase licensee compliance.

LCLB currently produces terms and conditions guides for all licence classes and also provides educational videos for liquor primary, food primary and caterer licensees. The food primary videos are available in Korean and a number of Chinese dialects. All of these materials are online and can be saved to any computer. The Branch also sends a quarterly newsletter to all licensees that in part contain helpful or educational tips. Liquor inspectors are available upon request to meet with any licensee for educational or training purposes.

The LCLB is responsible for the Serving It Right self-study course that educates licensees, managers and servers about their legal responsibilities when serving liquor. The program is administered by go2, a non-profit organization that supports BC's tourism and hospitality industry. Additional information about this educational program is found within the "Serving It Right Program" policy note in this section of this binder.

The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario provides seminars to liquor licensees throughout the province of Ontario. The program is administered by three staff with support by local liquor inspectors. A similar program could potentially increase compliance in B.C.

Current issues:

1. Language barriers

The greatest issue with licensees understanding their responsibilities is language as British Columbia is richly diverse with many licensees having English as their second language. Within the restaurant industry there are many Chinese and Korean licensees, hence the reason for the education videos in those languages. Punjabi is also common in the restaurant industry. LCLB does not have an educational video in Punjabi and should consider it. It may be beneficial to provide the food primary terms and conditions guides in these languages as well, but translations are expensive and guides are routinely amended.

2. The number and complexity of rules.

Liquor law in B.C. is complex and there are often varied sets of rules both within and across licence classes – depending on specific terms and conditions they may have. Licensees often state they are too busy to wade through and easily understand lengthy sets of rules. LCLB is only one of many government agencies that liquor licensees have to deal with.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Serving It Right program

Background:

Serving It Right is a self-study course that educates licensees, managers and servers about their legal responsibilities when serving liquor, and provides effective techniques to prevent problems related to over-service and service to minors. The on-line course generally takes about 3 hours to complete and costs \$35. The requirement for a SIR certificate generally depends on the type of liquor licence held. Liquor primary licensees, licensee retail store licensees, catering licensees and their management and staff are required to obtain the training, as are applicants for public special occasion licences (SOL), their managers, and any paid staff. Manufacturer licensees and managers with an endorsement or sampling room must also receive training, plus any staff who may be left in charge of liquor service.

The Serving It Right program was substantially updated, effective June 2007. The new program places an increased emphasis on signs of intoxication, legal liability, duty of care on and off premises, and the necessity to create and enforce responsible beverage service policies.

Other jurisdictions:

Manitoba, PEI, Ontario and Alberta all have mandatory responsible beverage service training programs and Alberta and PEI require re-certification every 5 years. The requirement for training typically applies to anyone employed in an establishment that serves or sells liquor - often including security staff, retail clerks and hosts (kitchen staff and bus-persons are usually exempt). Only Alberta requires all Special Event permit holders to have the training (Proserve). Manitoba may require a special event permit holder for a larger festival to take the "Serving it Safe" program or meet with an inspector to go over regulations and security plans.

Current issues:

1. SIR training is not currently required for food primary (FP) servers or wine store licensees and their employees.

- Only licensees, managers and all those who may be left in charge in an FP need to have a SIR certificate. If the food primary has a lounge endorsement, the SIR program must also be completed by all servers. The results of Minors as Agents Program (MAP) inspections indicate poor compliance in food primaries with respect to service to minors.
- Wine stores were recently transferred from appointments under the Liquor Distribution Act to licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act, and unlike other liquor retail stores are not yet subject to the training requirement.

Potential Opportunities:

- Increased awareness and compliance could be achieved by requiring training to be taken by all FP servers. Research shows that training tends to decrease bad serving practices and increase "soft" interventions such as slowing service.

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- Require training for wine store licensees, managers, and all staff, as is required for licensee retail stores.

2. Re-certification for SIR training

There is evidence for improved knowledge and attitudes following training, although this wears off over time.

Potential Opportunities:

Server re-certification at periodic intervals (e.g. 3 to 5 year intervals) may be required to ensure sustained retention of materials.

3. Lack of specific training for SOLs

SOL holders, managers, and paid staff take the same training program as those operating licensed establishments, when in fact the situation and specifics of an SOL event may be quite different.

Potential Opportunities:

The large number of SOL's issued in the province (over 25,000 annually) and the significant differences between SOL events and licensed establishments may warrant the development of a specific program targeted at SOL events. A revised, shorter course would likely be well-received by SOL holders.

Section 8

UBrew Taxation

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: UBrew/UVin Taxation

Background:

UBrew/UVin establishments (approx. 264) provide goods, facilities and services to persons producing or manufacturing wine, beer or cider for their own consumption or consumption at no charge by others. UBrews/UVins have been licensed in BC since April 1, 2000 but have existed since the mid 1980s.

Total production of these outlets is estimated at approximately 10% of the total volume of wine and about 1% of the total volume of beer sold in BC. It is generally thought that UBrew/UVin stores operate on a low profit margin, which may explain the decline in number of stores over the past 9 years (there were 349 licensed stores in 2004).

To differentiate them from liquor manufacturers UBrews/UVins must comply with terms and conditions that limit the operator's involvement in production, set standards for customer participation, and give notice to the customer that product produced at UBrews/UVins must not be sold or served in a licensed establishment, including special occasion licensed events.

Currently in BC, GST applies only to the service component of the product price and both PST and GST apply to related supplies such as corks, labels, and bottles. The service component and related products generally comprise between one third and one half of the total price. Product kits (juice/barley/hops) are exempt from GST / PST because the product is considered a foodstuff when purchased by the consumer before being turned into liquor.

Other jurisdictions:

Nova Scotia, Quebec, Newfoundland, Manitoba, Alberta, Northwest Territories and the Yukon do not permit UBrew/UVin establishments. Saskatchewan permits UBrew/UVin operations, and they are subject to a 5% PST and 5% GST. Ontario and New Brunswick also permit UBrew/UVin establishments, which are subject to HST. In addition, Ontario licensees must collect and remit the flat tax of 13 cents per litre on all beer and/or wine produced. PEI has an equivalent Ferment on Premises licence, which is subject to a provincial health tax (\$0.49/litre and a \$0.01/litre) payable to the PEI Liquor Control Commission.

Current issue: Taxation

In recent years, manufacturer licensees have complained that UBrews/UVins have an unfair economic advantage because the final product is not taxed/marked up and have called for government to impose tax. Some pub, bar and hotel owners have raised concerns that UBrew/UVin product is displacing taxed beer, wine, cider and coolers.

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Section 9

Manufacturing

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Manufacturing

Background:

There are currently three types of liquor manufacturing licences issued by the province (manufacturers also require federal licences) – brewery, winery and distillery. There has been significant growth in the number of liquor manufacturers in recent years. This is likely due to changing consumer tastes, the growth of the small batch “craft” beer and distilled spirits sectors and continued interest in quality BC wines. Government financial support in the form of preferential LDB mark-ups for certain types of liquor products has also been a factor

Wineries (247)	Breweries (63)	Distilleries (19)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two level renewal fee based on production – must produce 4500 litres on site annually• May apply for an on-site store to sell their own product and on-site premises where patrons may consume BC wines, e.g. a lounge• Authorized by the LDB to make direct sales to licensees and private liquor stores; direct sales of 100% BC content wine is exempt from LDB mark-ups LDB has definitions for two categories of winery in order to administer the direct sales mark-up exemptions: Land based wineries which have a minimum of two acres of grapes/fruit at the winery site and produce only 100% BC content wine have a mark-up exemption on all direct sales, and Commercial wineries (25 of the 247) which make wine from BC grapes or imported bulk wine/materials, receive the direct sales mark-up exemption on BC VQA wine only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewal fees are a base fee plus additional per hectolitre amount• May apply for an on-site store to sell their own product and an on-site premises where patrons may consume the manufacturer’s beer, e.g. a lounge (new March 2013)• Authorized by the LDB to make direct sales to licensed establishments and private liquor stores• LDB supports smaller breweries by applying lower rates of mark-up, based on annual production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May apply for an on-site store to sell their own product and on-site premises where patrons may consume the manufacturer’s spirits, e.g. a lounge (new March 2013)• Distilleries defined by the LDB as “Craft Distilleries” are authorized to make direct sales to licensed establishments and private liquor stores and are exempt from mark-ups. Other distilleries must sell their products through the LDB• Craft Distilleries must fully produce all their products at their distillery site from 100% BC agricultural inputs and are limited in production volume

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Current issues:

1. Secondary (off site) tasting rooms

Other wine producing regions often have small wine tasting rooms away from the parent wineries that highlight the products of a few local wineries. These tasting rooms enable the wineries to showcase their products to those who cannot travel to the wineries themselves. The current licence class system does not support this type of establishment as it would have to be a liquor primary (LP) licence. The application process and fee for the LP create a financial and administrative burden for the winery that is disproportionate to the type of establishment proposed. Furthermore, LP's are generally not permitted to have minors on site which creates issues for tourists with children.

Increasing flexibility for businesses will ensure sustainability and market opportunities for BC's liquor manufacturing and hospitality/tourism sectors. Small tasting rooms could enhance BC's wine/tourism industry by bringing the tasting experience into urban centres for those who cannot tour the production regions.

2. Sales of 'craft' products at farmers markets

Some producers, particularly small wineries, breweries or distilleries have suggested that they be permitted to sell their products at farmers markets (e.g. temporary markets set up to primarily sell local produce when it is in season). There is some precedent for this concept in other provinces, but it is more common in the US. The current framework for retailing liquor products in the province provides a number of options for producers and is carefully structured in licensing and policy. Developing a policy to permit liquor retailing at temporary and potentially numerous farmers' markets would raise a number of issues.

3. Craft distillery policy

The recently implemented craft distillery policy has received mixed reviews as some small producers feel the policy is too restrictive. The primary complaints are around the requirement for 100% BC agricultural inputs, and the inability to use bulk neutral grain spirits purchased from elsewhere in their production. The purpose of these requirements is to ensure that craft distilled product is a 100% BC product and that distilleries are responsible for all aspects production from beginning to end. In return, craft distilleries receive a significant financial benefit in the form a LDB mark-up exemption on direct sales. Relaxing these requirements would enable distilleries that are not substantially involved in making their own products to benefit from the mark-up exemption and would reduce the spin off benefits for BC agriculture.

Any changes to the policy should consider the impact on government revenue related to the mark-up exemption. There are currently 8 BC distilleries that have qualified as craft distilleries.

4. Virtual wineries

The 'virtual winery' is typically a website offering wine for sale in BC from a 'winery' that does not appear to be licensed (the winery's name and/or address cannot be found in the Branch database). On some occasions where inspectors have followed up on a potential unlicensed winery, the wine in question was found to be a 'second label' of a licensed manufacturer where the producer is not declared on the label. In other cases the wine may have been manufactured by a licensed winery under contract but is being sold by an individual who does not hold a licence.

Several licensed wineries offer the service of "brand building" by creating a custom batch of wine for a customer and marketing and selling the wine under the licensee's licence (but the customer's "brand"). This is permitted by legislation and branch policy and popular with people or companies who are considering, or in the process of, building their own winery but want to create "brand awareness" prior to capital outlays. Current legislation and policy also permits a person without a liquor licence who has requested wine to be manufactured to be hired by the licensed winery as a sales representative under the winery's agent licence. That person may then help market the product(s) but all sales must be conducted and recorded by the licensed winery and the producing winery must be named on the label.

Licensed wineries engaged in the above types of transactions do not appear to be always informing their unlicensed clients of the requirements around how the wine must be marketed, labelled and sold under this type of contract production. This has resulted in an increase of instances of people or companies who are not licensed, but are selling wine, or representing the product in such a way that they appear to be the seller.

Some established wineries have expressed frustration with the unlicensed contractors as they feel they are circumventing the requirement to have equipment and minimum production giving them an advantage over those who have invested significantly in land and abide by the production requirements. Furthermore, inspectors have difficulty determining who is producing the wine as many of the wineries do not follow the labelling requirements. This makes it difficult for them to determine if the liquor is illicit and is not in line with truth in labelling policies that protect consumers.

5. On-site consumption

In March of this year regulations were passed that permit on site consumption at breweries and distilleries to align them with wineries. Prior to this, they were only permitted to serve samples. Applications can now be made for licence endorsements for a lounge, a picnic area, a special event area and a tour area. All manufacturers are also now permitted to have an on-site food primary and/or liquor primary establishment.

These different types of on-site consumption endorsements and licences all have different terms and conditions with regards to what types of liquor can be consumed and where. The complexity of these overlapping terms is confusing for patrons and licensees and is difficult to justify for this traditionally low risk establishment type. Some of the licences/endorsement types have application fees and require extensive local government/ First nation input while others are free and yet involve extensive analysis by the Branch.

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As the number of manufacturer applications increases, streamlining the onsite consumption policies would reduce workload for LCLB staff and confusion for applicants, licensees, local governments/first nations and the public. Automatic on site consumption permissions are issued as part of a manufacturer licence in several other analogous jurisdictions such as California, Washington and the wine producing regions of Australia. Reduction in non-public safety related regulations creates increased flexibility for businesses and is in line with initiatives to modernize BC's liquor laws and create a sustainable manufacturing sector.

Simplification of onsite consumption policies may require local governments/first nations to enact simple, specific zoning policies for on-site consumption at liquor manufacturing sites for their district/town/city. For example, Vancouver recently changed zoning to be inclusive of manufacturer lounges providing they abide by requirements such as seating caps and closing times. Residents of rural regions will also require a mechanism to have input around new large liquor consumption areas at manufacturing sites, particularly in wine regions where tour busses and other holiday traffic can be disruptive to and noisy to rural neighborhoods.

Section 10

Distribution

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Distribution

Background:

The current system of distributing liquor for resale (i.e. to retailers and bars/restaurants) in BC involves a mixture of government (LDB) and private sector services. A summarized schematic of liquor distribution is shown in Attachment 1. A brief description of liquor distribution in the province follows:

LDB Distribution Services

Warehouses: The LDB operates two warehouses, it's main one in Vancouver and a smaller one in Kamloops. The LDB's warehouses receive their liquor supplies from the following sources: domestic spirits – directly from producers; BC wine – directly from producers; imported spirits and imported wine – from private Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses (see below); domestic and imported beer – directly from breweries or Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses (import beer only).

The LDB warehouses distribute certain liquor products to the LDB's BC Liquor Stores (BCLS), including all spirit products, all imported wine products (including wine from other provinces), a portion of BC wine products, and a portion of domestic and imported beer products. The LDB warehouses also distribute products to the majority of private liquor retailers (licensee retail stores, independent wine stores, rural agency stores) and to a minority of bars/restaurants.

BCLSs: BCLSs also provide liquor distribution services to smaller private retailers and bars/restaurants. These customers arrange for their own transportation from the BCLSs to their establishment.

Private Distribution Services

BC Breweries: BC breweries distribute most of their products directly to BCLSs, private retailers and bars/restaurants. The three largest BC breweries, Molson, Labatt and Sleeman, also represent many imported beer brands that they distribute directly, with their domestic products.

BC Wineries: BC wineries may distribute their products directly to private retailers and bars/restaurants. Their products can also be distributed by the LDB or through Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses (see below).

BC Craft Distilleries: Recently government approved a new policy that allows small BC distilleries that qualify as "craft distilleries" to distribute their products directly to private retailers and bars/restaurants. Their products can also be distributed by the LDB.

Liquor Warehouse Program: The Liquor Warehouse Program requires agents of imported products to store the products in private warehouses upon entry to the province. The LDB then orders the products from Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses into its own two warehouses for distribution to BCLSs, private retailer and bars/restaurants. The LDB established the Liquor Warehouse Program in the early 1980s as a means to have a supply of imported products to reduce order lead times and to reduce the

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amount of storage space needed for LDB warehouses. There are seven Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses; however, one company, ContainerWorld, is the dominant service provider.

Other jurisdictions:

Liquor distribution systems in other provinces vary considerably. Alberta has the only fully private system. It owns the warehouse property and leases it to a single contracted distribution company responsible for most products except domestic beer. As in BC, domestic breweries distribute most of their own beer in Alberta and the other provinces.

No other province has a program similar to the LDB's Liquor Warehouse Program that requires imported products to be stored in private warehouses which then supply government warehouses. In other provinces with government operated warehouses, imported products are ordered directly from the foreign supplier.

Current issues:

1. Sale and Relocation of LDB's Vancouver Warehouse

In 2012, government announced that the LDB's warehouse in Vancouver and Kamloops would be sold and that government would contract with a single private sector company to provide liquor distribution services. As part of this change it was also decided that the new company would assume the services provided by the private Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses such as ContainerWorld. Later in 2012, government announced that it was cancelling this initiative.

In early 2013, government announced that it would sell the LDB's Vancouver warehouse and that the LDB would relocate to a more modern and efficient facility somewhere in Metro Vancouver. The LDB is currently in the process of engaging a consultant to assist in the relocation, which is expected to take approximately two years to complete. It has not been determined how, or if, this initiative would affect the private Liquor Warehouse Program.

Industry will be extremely interested in the LDB Vancouver warehouse relocation and how it may affect distribution services.

2. Distribution of Liquor from Private Retailers to Bars/Restaurants

Bars/restaurants and their associations have expressed an interest in being able to order products from private retailers. Private retailers and their associations have also expressed an interest in being able to sell to bars/restaurants. Private retailers receive a discount when they purchase liquor from the LDB, therefore a change policy to allow them to sell to bars/restaurants would have a significant negative impact on LDB revenue.

Appendix 1
Schematic of Liquor Distribution in BC



LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Distribution Branch Mark-up Overview

Background:

The LDB generates revenue by applying mark-ups to the cost of liquor products purchased from suppliers. These mark-ups, less the LDB's expenses and product discounts that the LDB provides to private retailers, result in the net income transferred to the provincial government (\$930 million in 2012/13).

The LDB's mark-ups vary by product category, and in general, have a linkage to the average alcohol content of a category (e.g. the higher the alcohol content of the category, the higher the mark-ups). With the exception of beer, the LDB's mark-ups are primarily calculated as a percentage of the cost of product purchased from suppliers. For beer, the mark-ups are volume based and are calculated as a dollar amount per litre of product (often referred to by the industry as a "flat tax"). Beer mark-ups also vary by size of brewing company (based on annual production) in order to support medium and small sized breweries. Beer mark-ups were changed from percentage based to volume based in 2003.

Government policy exempts certain sales of British Columbia produced products from LDB mark-ups. This includes direct sales of 100% British Columbia content wine by British Columbia wineries and direct sales of 100% British Columbia content distilled spirits by qualifying British Columbia craft distilleries.

Appendix 1 shows the LDB's major mark-up categories and rates.

Other jurisdictions:

The LDB's liquor mark-ups are similar in nature to those in other provinces, however, differences in operational structures and government revenue expectations result in variations. As in British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan have percentage based mark-ups for non-beer products and volume based mark-ups for beer products. Manitoba has percentage based mark-ups for all products and Alberta has volume based mark-ups for all products.

With the exception of British Columbia, provinces with volume based mark-up rates periodically increase the rates to adjust for inflation (it is not necessary to adjust percentage based mark-up rates for inflation because they automatically increase as supplier price increases). The LDB's beer volume mark-ups have never been increased for inflation since they were implemented in 2003.

Most other provinces also have reduced mark-up levels for smaller breweries although policies vary significantly.

Other provinces also provide mark-up reductions or mark-up exemptions for direct sales of local winery products, and in some provinces for direct sales of craft distillery products.

Current issues:

s.13, s.17

2. Mark-up Policy for Smaller Breweries

Once a brewery exceeds the production threshold that puts it into a higher mark-up category (see Appendix 1), all of its sales immediately become subject to the higher mark-ups. In recent years this has resulted in pressure to increase in the mid-sized brewery threshold to prevent financial hardship for a specific fast growing British Columbia brewery. The LDB has been directed to develop options to gradually phase out the mark-up benefits for smaller breweries to prevent this situation from reoccurring.

The major Canadian breweries (Labatt, Molson, Sleeman) are critical of the LDB's brewery mark-up policy and believe that it provides too much mark-up relief for mid-sized breweries that primarily sell lower priced beer which competes directly with the major breweries products.

**Appendix 1
Major LDB Mark-up Rates**

Category	Mark-up Rates
Distilled Spirits (e.g. Vodka)	163%
Table Wine	117%
Cider and Coolers	98%
Beer (Packaged) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large Brewery (production: > 160,000 hectolitres* per year)• Mid-Sized Brewery (production: 15,000 – 160,000 hectolitres per year)• Small Brewery (production: < 15,000 thousand hectolitres per year)	<div>\$1.63 per litre</div> <div>\$1.08 per litre</div> <div>\$0.97 per litre</div>

* A hectolitre is 100 litres.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: LDB Discounts for Private Outlets

Background:

Private liquor retailers purchase liquor from the LDB at a discount from the BC Liquor Store (government liquor store) price. The purpose of these LDB administered discounts, which vary by type of private retail model, is to compensate them for providing a retail service and to enable them enough margin to make a profit and offer reasonable prices.

A brief description of these discounts by liquor outlet type follows. A summary of the discount rates is shown in Appendix 1.

Licensee Retail Stores (LRS) – LRSs receive a 16% discount from the LDB. When the LRS model was originally created in the mid-1980s the discount rate was 10%, but was increased to the current level on three occasions between 2003 and 2007. At current sales volumes the LDB's annual cost of providing discounts to LRSs is approximately \$165 million (\$10.3 million for each 1% of discount). Some LRSs have consumer prices similar to BC Liquor Stores, but most are believed to charge an average of approximately 15% higher.

Rural Agency Stores (RAS) – RASs receive a 12% discount from the LDB. When the RAS model was originally created in the mid-1970s, the discount rate was 10%, but was increased to 12% in 2013. At current volumes the LDB's annual cost of providing discounts to RASs is \$12 million (\$1.0 million for each 1% of discount). RASs were originally required to charge consumers BC Liquor Store prices, but in 2010 were given the ability to price up to 10% higher or lower. RASs sell liquor in conjunction with grocery items and as a result have lower costs than standalone retail liquor models such as LRSs.

Independent Wine Stores (IWS) – IWSs receive a 30% discount from the LDB, the same discount rate that was established when this retail model was created in the late 1980's. The justification for the high discount rate compared to the other retail models was that IWSs were restricted in product selection to wine. At current volumes the LDB's annual cost of providing discounts to IWSs is \$13 million (\$0.4 million for each 1% of discount).

BC Wine Stores – There is a variety of wine stores operated by the BC wine industry including VQA stores operated by the BC Wine Institute, off-site stores operated by specific wineries and on-site stores operated by most wineries). Sales of 100% BC content wines from these stores are exempt from LDB mark-ups and therefore LDB discounts do not apply. Wine produced by BC wineries from imported bulk wine is subject to LDB mark-ups and the LDB provides a discount of 30% for wine store sales.

Duty Free Stores (DFS) – DFSs are restricted to selling liquor to travellers leaving Canada. The LDB does not apply discounts to DFS purchases, it sells liquor to DFSs at a low rate of LDB mark-up (e.g. 20% mark-up on distilled spirits as compared to the LDB's normal spirit mark-up of 163%).

Bars/Restaurants – Bars/restaurants purchase liquor from the LDB in the same manner as private retail stores but do not receive a discount on liquor purchases. The rationale is that they are not direct competitors with private and government retail stores as they sell liquor for on-premise consumption.

Other jurisdictions:

Most other Canadian jurisdictions have some form of private retailing, however retail models vary considerably. For some of these retail models the liquor authority applies purchase discounts similar to the LDB's system, and for some the liquor authority applies lower rates of mark-up.

With respect to bars/restaurants, other provinces have no discounts or limited discounts for licensees.

Current issues:

1. Requests for Increases to LDB Discounts

Government regularly receives requests from private outlets to increase the LDB's liquor purchase discounts. The most frequent requests have come from RAS operators, although the recent increase in the discount rate from 10% to 12% will likely reduce these requests. Bars/and restaurants, who receive no discount will likely continue to ask government to apply one.

2. Wholesale Pricing Model

Certain sectors of industry have asked government to eliminate the LDB's different discount rates for private outlets and move to a common wholesale pricing system applicable to all private models. Such a change would have significant impacts on LDB pricing policy, government revenue and the price competitiveness between private retail models and BC Liquor Stores.

s.13, s.17

s.13, s.17

Alberta which has a fully privatized retail system is the only province with a common wholesale pricing system.

**Appendix 1
Private Outlet Discount Rates**

Category	Discount Rates*
Licensee Retail Stores	16%
Rural Agency Stores	12%
Independent Wine Stores	30%
BC Wine Stores (for sales of products made from bulk imported wine only)	30%
Duty Free Stores	n/a**
Bars/Restaurants	no discount

* Discount rates are based on the BC Liquor Store retail price excluding sale taxes.

** Duty Free Stores receive a lower rate of LDB mark-up rather than a discount.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: LDB Minimum Retail Prices

Background:

LDB Minimum Price Policy

The LDB has a minimum price policy that specifies the lowest prices at which products can be sold based on BC Liquor Store (BCLS) display prices (i.e. retail including sales tax). The original purpose of the policy, which was implemented in 1989, was to: 1) prevent supplier revenue from being eroded by low priced products; 2) prevent LDB revenue from being eroded by the sale of low priced products; and 3) prevent over-consumption of low priced products (social responsibility).

Minimum retail prices are established as an amount per litre within specified product categories and prorated based on product size (i.e. a 750 ml bottle of spirits has a minimum price twice as high as a 375 ml bottle of spirits). Since 1989, changes to minimum prices have not been consistently applied to all categories. The minimum price for spirits has been increased a number of times, most recently in 2010. The minimum prices for beer (draught and packaged) have been increased less frequently, most recently in 2008. The minimum price for wine has not been increased since 1998, and the minimum prices for liqueurs and cider/coolers have not been increased since 1993. See Appendix 1 for current minimum prices.

Changes in minimum prices, when made, are usually justified on the basis of increasing revenue. Minimum price increases for all products except for beer result in increased revenue to both suppliers and the LDB. However, the LDB does not receive increased revenue from increases to beer minimum prices because the LDB's mark-up on beer is volume based rather than percentage based.

Due to the frequent increases in the minimum price for spirits, there are a number of spirits currently sold at the minimum price. There are a relatively small number of beer products sold at the minimum price. Very few liqueur, wine or cider/cooler products are sold at minimum prices because it has been so long since the minimum prices of those categories have been increased.

Ability of Private Liquor Stores to Discount

Although the minimum price policy establishes the lowest prices at which products can be sold in BCLSs, private stores may sell for less. LCLB policy allows Licensee Retail Stores (LRS) to sell up to 16% below BCLS retail prices and LDB policy allows Rural Agency Stores (RAS) to sell up to 10% below BCLS retail prices. In general, private stores only sell below BCLSs retail prices when they are having a short term promotion or discontinuing products.

Minimum Pricing and Social Responsibility

The Center for Addictions Research of BC (CARBC) is a University of Victoria based research and advocacy organization that supports the development of policies to reduce harms from substance abuse. CARBC has published a number of research papers in recent years recommending that the LDB's minimum prices should be adjusted for inflation annually and should be set at a consistent level across all categories based on alcohol content. CARBC also recommends that all retail stores, government and private, should have to adhere to the same policy. BC's Provincial Health Officer has supported CARBC's recommendations.

Other Jurisdictions

There are significant differences in provincial policies on minimum prices. Alberta does not have a minimum price policy. Manitoba only has a minimum price policy for specific large format beer bottles. Ontario has minimum prices for all categories, but they are not directly linked to alcohol content, and prices are increased annually for inflation. Saskatchewan has a minimum price policy that establishes rates consistently across all categories based on alcohol content but does not have a mechanism to increase prices for inflation.

Current issue: Increases to Minimum Prices

In the last few years, the large brewers and the large BC wineries have both made requests for minimum price increases. Both are believed to be concerned about competition from low priced competitors.

CARBC has recently issued a report recommending that all minimum prices be increased and that BC adopt Saskatchewan's system.

Appendix 1
Minimum Retail Prices by Category

Category	Minimum Price Per Litre (L)	Minimum Price Per Representative Product Size	Date of Last Increase
Spirits	\$31.66 per L	\$23.75 per 750 ml	2010
Liqueurs	\$16.15 per L	\$12.10 per 750 ml	1993
Wine (package sizes <10 Litres)	\$7.20 per L	\$5.40 per 750 ml	1998
Wine (package sizes >= 10 Litres)	\$6.45 per L	\$103.20 per 16 L Keg	1998
Packaged Beer	\$3.54 per L	\$7.55 per 6 X 355 ml	2008
Draft Beer	\$2.22 per L	\$130.30 per 58.7 L Keg	2008
Packaged Cider/Coolers	\$3.00 per L	\$6.40 per 6 X 355 ml	1993
Draft Cider/Coolers	\$2.45 per L	\$122.50 per 50 L Keg	1993

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Private Store Sales to Licensees

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Act requires bars/restaurants (licensees) to purchase liquor from the LDB or entities acting as agents of the LDB such as BC manufacturers (i.e. wineries and breweries). Licensees are not permitted to purchase liquor from most private liquor stores types such as Licensee Retail Stores (LRS) or independent wine stores (IWS). The LDB does, however, permit licensees in some rural communities to purchase liquor from Rural Agency Stores when it is demonstrated that it would be a hardship on the licensees to travel long distances to the nearest BC Liquor Store. The volume of these sales is small.

Licensees and their associations, such as the BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association, have expressed an interest in purchasing liquor directly from private retailers. One of the reasons for their interest is that LRSs and IWSs carry products (mainly imported wine) that are not available in BC Liquor Stores. Currently, if licensees purchase products from the LDB that are not sold in BC Liquor Stores, they are required to purchase in full case quantities (products carried in BC Liquor Stores can be purchased in less than case quantities). It would therefore be convenient for licensees to access these products in small quantities from private stores.

Private stores, particularly LRSs, have also expressed an interest in selling to licensees because it would significantly increase their customer base. Licensees account for approximately \$470 million in annual liquor purchases.

In many cases, licensees and private liquor stores like to carry a selection of products that are not carried in BC Liquor Stores. Carrying such products offers an opportunity to increase their margins because customers cannot price compare.

Other jurisdictions:

With the exception of Alberta, other Canadian liquor jurisdictions do not generally permit private stores to sell to licensees. In Alberta, which has a fully privatized retail system, most licensees purchase their products from private stores because most do not have sufficient volumes to justify purchasing directly from the government contracted distributor which only supplies full case quantities.

Current issue: Revenue Impact of Private Store Sales to Licensees

There would be a significant impact on government revenue if all private stores could sell to licensees. LRSs receive a 16% discount on their liquor purchases from the LDB and IWS receive a 30% discount. Licensees receive no discount from the LDB.

s.13, s.17

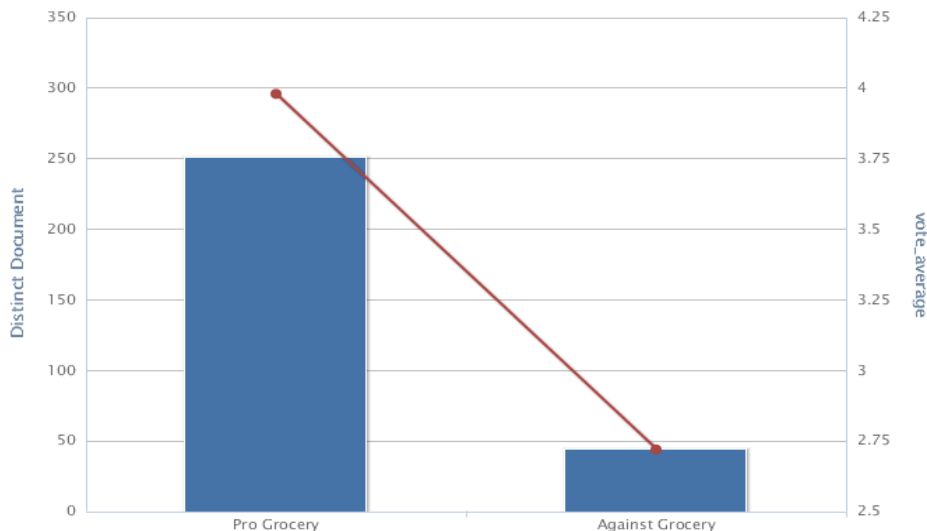
s.13, s.17

There are no government revenue issues in Alberta from private stores selling to licensees. Government receives all of its liquor revenue on sales to the private stores and any subsequent sales have no impact.

Summary on Grocery Stores

All comments from email, blog comments and twitter (excluding the petition) were run through Clarabridge for analysis related to grocery stores. The graph below shows the number of comments that have been classified as “pro” grocery and “against” grocery. The right axis shows the average votes for the comments containing that position on grocery stores. *To clarify, the votes are cast to support complete comments (where people may mention multiple things) not solely the sentence with the information about grocery stores. Also, these reports are co-created both manually and through the software, so there is a margin of error in terms of properly classifying people’s statements.*

of comments that have been classified as “pro” grocery and “against” liquor in grocery stores and average vote of containing comment



In reviewing the comments manually , it appears that there are two main reasons why people want liquor in grocery stores - to save time and perceived lower cost. The reasons they are against it is because they already have close proximity to their grocery store, and they are concerned for social issues like addictions, accessibility to minors, who will ID, location to schools, increased crime. Some support comes with tradeoffs, if you are to allow beer in grocery stores, you need to provide training to grocery store staff, etc. Some people talk about the impacts to BC government liquor store workers if we allow beer and wine in grocery stories. Some of the ideas that came from the comments were to have separate sections in grocery store, to partner with local breweries wineries only, to have partnerships and stores within stores and colocations. One person recommended trying some models in a small community prior to implementing province-wide. Most people would like beer and wine in big chain grocery stores, but there is less consensus around spirits in grocery stores and liquor in corner stores and gas stations.

NaturalId	SentenceId	Source	age_range	Author	Document Date	Post Date	region	vote_average	vote_num	Sentence	VerbatimType	Verbatim	Sentence	Sentiment
952	22535	BLOG	30 - 39				Thompson	1	2	I do not think having tobacco sales in my local grocery/convenience	comment_conten	Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-	Positive	
952	22534	BLOG	30 - 39				Thompson	1	2	A busy grocery/convenience/corner/big-box store, likely staffed with some minors, is not the venue to sell age restricted substances our society deems detrimental to the health and welfare of its citizens.	comment_conten	Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-	Neutral	
952	22529	BLOG	30 - 39				Thompson	1	2	Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-box stores for the sake of convenience and lower prices seems petty and unimportant to me...	comment_conten	Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-	Neutral	
949	22515	BLOG	undefined				undefined	2.33	3	Most government liquor stores are located right by a grocery store for convenience.	comment_conten	I strongly believe that selling liquor and wine in gro	Positive	
949	22513	BLOG	undefined				undefined	2.33	3	I strongly believe that selling liquor and wine in grocery	comment_conten	I strongly believe that selling liquor and wine in gro	Neutral	
940	22503	BLOG	undefined				undefined	5	1	Selling liquor inside grocery stores has no impact on shoppers who are there to buy food only.	comment_conten	Please don't follow Alberta by putting liquor stores	Neutral	Washington and Quebece model
940	22501	BLOG	undefined				undefined	5	1	Please do not follow Alberta by putting liquor stores in grocery store parking lots.	comment_conten	Please don't follow Alberta by putting liquor stores	Neutral	
938	22500	BLOG	50 - 59				Kootenay	3.67	3	I see no good reason why beer and wine should not be sold at grocery stores and convenience stores.	comment_conten	I see no good reason why beer and wine shouldn't	Neutral	
969	22476	BLOG	50 - 59				Mainland / Southwest		0	I think that beer and wine, locally produced or other, should be available in larger grocery stores and places like Costco, if those vendors want to do this.	comment_conten	I think that beer and wine, locally produced or othe	Negative	Local only
967	22462	BLOG	60+				Thompson Okanagan		0	If I wanted to move quickly with selling wine, beer and liquor in grocery stores I would copy the policy in effect at Waitrose UK, a John Lewis Partnership.	comment_conten	If I wanted to move quickly with selling wine, beer &	Positive	Waitrose UK model
962	22454	BLOG	50 - 59				Vancouver Island / Co.		0	It is not a big draw for me to have liquour sold in grocery stores;	comment_conten	It's not a big draw for me to have liquour sold in groc	Neutral	
957	22402	BLOG	30 - 39				Mainland /	2.33	3	Responsibility on part of the licensing authority to ensure the licenses even to grocery stores are at a minimum prescribed distance from the schools.	comment_conten	Sales off Liquor stores or Grocery stores is seconda	Neutral	
956	22393	BLOG	25 - 29				Mainland /	2.33	3	"I have heard a lot of feedback about the idea of allowing beer, wine and spirits to be sold in grocery stores."	comment_conten	"I have heard a lot of feedback about the idea of all	Neutral	
957	22380	BLOG	30 - 39				Mainland /	2.33	3	Sales off Liquor stores or Grocery stores is secondary.	comment_conten	Sales off Liquor stores or Grocery stores is seconda	Neutral	
948	22376	BLOG	Wed Dec 18 00:00:00 PST 2013				Mainland /	1	3	Based on this simple analysis, in my opinion, it would be detrimental if alcohol would be introduced into supermarkets, convenient stores, or any other place where it is easily accessible as this would jeopardize the health and safety everyone around and it would also break the social fabrics of society.	comment_conten	Going to a Secondary School right next to a Mac's C	Neutral	

955	22268	BLOG	40 - 49		Mainland /	2.83	6 I do not agree with selling alcohol of any kind in grocery stores.	comment_content	I do not agree with selling alcohol of any kind in gro	Neutral
931	22251	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	4.2	Oregon has requirements for supermarkets to give preferential stocking to Oregon beers, and while this is a distorting effect on the market, I feel that it would be an appropriate support for BC businesses that would, on the whole, also help the supermarket's bottom line.	comment_content	I would very much appreciate the ability to buy bee	Neutral
932	22247	BLOG	50 - 59		undefined	4.13	A visit to grocery stores in Washington State shows that this can be done with minimal fuss and impact.	comment_content	Sales of Beer, wine, cider and coolers at convenien	Negative
931	22243	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	4.2	I am a huge supporter of BC brewers and vintners, and I would hate to see them squeezed out of a market because they are unable to pay a supermarket for the shelf space required.	comment_content	I would very much appreciate the ability to buy bee	Negative
932	22242	BLOG	50 - 59		undefined	4.13	Sales of Beer, wine, cider, coolers and spirits at grocery stores are also long overdue.	comment_content	Sales of Beer, wine, cider and coolers at convenien	Neutral
953	22240	BLOG	19 - 24		Mainland / Southwest		0 Allow sales of beer and wine in grocery and convenience store locations.	comment_content	1. Take the control from the provincial government	Positive
936	22230	BLOG	30 - 39		Mainland /	4.43	Grocery stores, Stanley park concession, gas stations, Costco, theatres, farmers markets, sporting events, music festivals, etc	comment_content	Again, keep it simple!Let it be sold anywhere, as l	Neutral
931	22222	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	4.2	I would very much appreciate the ability to buy beer and wine in a grocery store, but I do not want the typical grocery store practice of selling shelf space to dictate the type of beers that are available to me.	comment_content	I would very much appreciate the ability to buy bee	Positive
933	22220	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	5	While each individual liquor source needs to be evaluated on its own, both options mentioned seem relatively simple to implement, especially compared to selling in grocery stores.	comment_content	While each individual liquor source needs to be eva	Neutral
937	22219	BLOG	30 - 39		Vancouver	4.2	I support the sale (and sampling) of wine, beer, and cider at farm markets, street festivals, and grocery stores.	comment_content	I support the sale (and sampling) of wine, beer, and	Neutral
1336_2013	22053	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX				We all go to the grocery store and then the liquor store on the same trip	Body	To whom it may concern;I am very glad we are f	Neutral
1334_2013	22047	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX				Grocery stores, particularly small stores, may be in residential neighborhoods.	Body	At the moment I understand community support ar	Neutral
1331_2013	21859	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX			#NAME?		Body	-Please privatize the liquor distribution system!-e	Neutral
1321_2013	21836	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX				in my opinion people of legal drinking age in BC ought to be able to purchase beer and wine in corner stores, and beer, wine and spirits in grocery stores.	Body	Hello.IMO people of legal drinking age in BC ougl	Neutral
1324_2013	21821	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX				I believe we should be treated as adults and at least be able to purchase wine beer and cider at the grocery store	Body	Hello. I am glad this review is in progress. I believe	Negative

1316_2013	21572 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Particularly the ability to purchase alcoholic drinks in various convenient locations, ie Grocery Stores, Drug Stores, Convenience Stores and also designated liquor stores.	Body	Mr. Minister:☞☞Thank you for the opportunity to st	Positive
1317_2013	21563 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Grocery stores are too big as it is.	Body	I prefer to maintain the current system of liquor stc	Negative
1312_2013	21548 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think it is time B.C.'s liquor laws caught up with the "real world" and that beer and wine should be available and sold in grocery stores.	Body	Dear L.C.B.☞I think it is time B.C.'s liquor laws caught	Negative
1310_2013	21529 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	2) I would permit major super markets to sell beer and wine, not convinence stores.	Body	Dear Mr. John Yap,☞☞☞☞☞☞There are two things	Neutral
1311_2013	21512 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to be able to buy alcohol in grocery and big box stores like Costco.	Body	I would like to be able to buy alcohol in grocery and	Neutral
1314_2013	21506 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Plus cold beer and wine in all grocery stores in B.C.	Body	I have another suggestion in addition to my idea las	Neutral
1174_2013	21333 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I do not agree with selling liquor in grocery stores.	Body	Dear Sir or Madam,☞re: liquor policy review☞1. I thi	Negative
1149_2013	20458 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	purchased our beer and wine at the grocery store along with our groceries (saving time and gas)	Body	Hello!☞☞Have you compared BC to Washington stat	Neutral
1146_2013	20444 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor can be purchased at the grocery store.	Body	Dear John☞☞I would like to see the following chang	Neutral
1117_2013	19980 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	therefore, my question is, "How can the government ensure that the grocery shopper picking up food and ingredients to feed his/her family will not end up spending less of the grocery budget on food than they do now, and subsituting alcoholic beverages for some of the purchases, if these beverages become available in urban grocery stores?	Body	The British Columbia government's Liquor Policy Re	Neutral
1125_2013	19666 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would not like to see the small corner grocery store allowed to sell alcohol.	Body	I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores a	Negative
1125_2013	19611 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	This sale should be restricted to large grocery stores such as Pricesmart, Safeway, Walmart etc.	Body	I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores a	Negative
1125_2013	19594 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores as is done in Washingon state.	Body	I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores a	Negative
1218_2013	19372 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Hudak has said he would allow beer and wine sales in corner stores and supermarkets for the first time.	Body	Subject: Re: LCBO - WOW☞☞☞Subject: LCBO - WO\	Neutral
1035_2013	19074 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If the licensee says no then the grocery store should not be permitted to sell liquor until 2022 when my government will possibly lift the moratorium.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,☞☞I am a 45-year-old woman that has	Neutral
1035_2013	19073 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think they should only be permitted to approach the closest Licensee to their grocery store to purchase their LRS license.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,☞☞I am a 45-year-old woman that has	Neutral

1035_2013	19017 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think to be fair to myself and the other 669 LRS owners through out the province that have invested all their life savings into their Licensee retail stores, the grocery stores should have to purchase our licenses from us up until 2022 to honor the moratorium promised by my government.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Positive
1035_2013	19014 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Almost all grocery stores have pharmacies too, is that a good mix?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Positive
1035_2013	19013 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	How about general practitioners setting up shop in a grocery store for convenience?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Positive
1035_2013	19012 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Are hair salons going to be allowed in grocery stores too for convenience?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Positive
1035_2013	19010 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	How will this be possible for a grocery store?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Neutral
1035_2013	19008 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	There will also be more liquor inspectors necessary to hold these grocery stores to the same standards of public safety as well as police.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Neutral
1035_2013	18999 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Big box stores and grocery stores like Costco, Superstore, Save on Foods, and Mr. G's will wipe us out with their extremely low margins but huge volume.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Neutral
1035_2013	18995 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If that happens the grocery store which is 1 flight of stairs above me will be my competition.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Neutral
1035_2013	18991 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I do not have very high margins, I have to pay my lease, buy product that I pay for a week in advance, pay my staff and now people want beer and wine in grocery stores for convenience.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Positive
1035_2013	18989 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	By allowing liquor in grocery stores how will I survive?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Neutral
1263_2013	18969 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Beer and wine at grocery stores and markets.	Body	Beer and wine at grocery stores and markets. Allow Neutral
1218_2013	18913 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The LCBO also has 214 "agency stores" — those operating in rural supermarkets, convenience stores or tourist outfitters, where there is not a market for one that is full-sized.	Body	Subject: Re: LCBO - WOW [2] [2] Subject: LCBO - WO\ Positive
1218_2013	18893 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The plan is to locate them in or near large grocery stores in the province.	Body	Subject: Re: LCBO - WOW [2] [2] Subject: LCBO - WO\ Neutral
1035_2013	18819 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I lease a space in a strip mall that also has a grocery chain store.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, [2] I am a 45-year-old woman that has Neutral
1246_2013	18578 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see VQA B.C. wine, along with wines from other countries (and beer) available in supermarkets, be it Safeway, specialty, or Costco stores.	Body	I would like to see VQA B.C. wine, along with wines Neutral
1212_2013	17701 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	IF the Zero tolerance is in effect then, and only then, should Beer and Wine be introduced to the BC Grocery Stores.	Body	Any changes to BC liquor laws should only be under Positive

1023_2013	17578 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It makes no sense, but this brings me back to my previous comment that wine and beer should be available in grocery stores, just like it is in Washington State and most other places, at competitive prices.	Body	I am writing to share my views on liquor regulation	Neutral
1023_2013	17480 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We might wonder what it would look like for alcohol to be sold in a supermarket alongside milk and eggs, but we do not have to imagine it at all because we only have to drive an hour and visit Trader Joe's or Costco or Target in the US.	Body	I am writing to share my views on liquor regulation	Neutral
1023_2013	17438 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Most of the western world seems to cope very well with wine and beer sales in supermarkets.	Body	I am writing to share my views on liquor regulation	Neutral
1032_2013	17238 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	With large floor plate stores (10,000 square feet and up) located in key markets, supplemented by smaller (5000 square foot and less) stores, grocery retailers would have to meet the above mentioned space requirement along with municipal support and would be unlikely to achieve market domination.	Body	Sirs/Mesdames,?? ??	Back in 1993, when Mr. Camp Negative
1032_2013	17237 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The process also determined that the existing license holders were afraid that the "Grocery" guys would dominate the market if they were allowed to sell liquor in the food stores without some kind of limitation.	Body	Sirs/Mesdames,?? ??	Back in 1993, when Mr. Camp Negative
1034_2013	17209 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	i think we should get modern and put all liquor in grocery stores --we go to mesa , California --when we go to coscto or the corner store we pick up what ever we need in spirits---then there is private specialty stores to get different wines etc.----seems so simple says gas and time -----brian plews----bpplews@gmail.com	Body	We are forwarding the following e-mail for your att	Positive
1032_2013	17182 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Back in 1993, when Mr. Campbell was looking at privatization of the retail component, I was involved with a group of significant industry types (VQA Store Owners and Grocery store owners) that were planning for a "big box" retail store concept.	Body	Sirs/Mesdames,?? ??	Back in 1993, when Mr. Camp Neutral
1185_2013	17170 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I have really appreciated the convenience in the UK of being able to buy wine in the grocery store where I was doing my shopping.	Body	Hello??	Having moved to Vancouver from the UK 15 Strongly positive

989_2013C	17162 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think new licenses should be given to the big grocery stores only if the entrances are separate from the grocery store with maybe some other conditions such as a lower rate of discount because of the large diversity they have, the separate entrance would warrant more staff and better control over minors, theft etc..	Body	To Whom It may concern: I have owned both a	Negative
1027_2013	17082 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If a child grows up seeing liquor beside food in the grocery store, or seeing it at the beach and the parks, or at lunch at the Pub, they will not know that there is a profound difference between a beer and a glass of milk.	Body	My first question is, What is wrong with our curren	Neutral
1022_2013	17066 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	There is also the potential for under age people buying liquor from grocery stores as well.	Body	We are forwarding the following e-mail for your att	Neutral
1022_2013	17065 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I do not believe that grocery stores should be selling liquor as they would not have the knowledge about product that liquor store employees have.	Body	We are forwarding the following e-mail for your att	Positive
1026_2013	17014 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	However I do not think hard liquor should be sold in fore mentioned stores nor do I think any liquor to all should be sold in corner 'mom & pop' corner stores, only the major grocery chain stores. L. Whiting 12977 61B Ave., Surrey, B.C.	Body	I am in favor of allowing beer, coolers and wine sal	Neutral
1026_2013	17013 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am in favor of allowing beer, coolers and wine sales in major grocery chains and warehouse club stores.	Body	I am in favor of allowing beer, coolers and wine sal	Neutral
1025_2013	16964 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	As a concerned mother, grandmother and citizen, I would not wish to see alcohol available for purchase in grocery or convenience stores.	Body	As a concerned mother, grandmother and citizen, I	Neutral
994_2013C	16390 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Every grocery store, corner store, gas station, happy hour bar had cheap and flowing alcohol.	Body	As a member of the public who is not only a recove	Neutral
1004_2013	16382 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	* beer, wine, and spirits to be sold in grocery stores * minors accompanied by an adult to eat together in a pub * bars to have a “happy hour” * consumption of a alcohol in public places, i.e., parks and beaches, and at special events, i.e., fireworks shows (Note, people who do not act in a responsible manner when consuming alcohol in a public place should be dealt with as per laws currently in place.)	Body	I’m tired of government assuming I can’t be respon	Negative
996_2013C	16204 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It would be wrong to share the profits with the private sector – especially the multi-national grocery stores who are based out of province.	Body	Sir: I am opposed to the idea of allowing the sale	Negative
996_2013C	16179 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Very few items available in grocery stores have this kind of danger.	Body	Sir: I am opposed to the idea of allowing the sale	Negative

996_2013C	16176 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	in grocery stores in B.C. 1.	Body	Sir: I am opposed to the idea of allowing the sale Neutral
993_2013C	16171 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Wines sold in grocery stores	Body	I would love to see B.C. Wines sold in grocery store Neutral
1091_2013	15947 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I agree that liquor should be sold in grocery stores because of convenience as well as competitive pricing, I have a hard time believing that it would create more alcoholic related problems, as we have already seen under age people getting drunk, alcohol related traffic accidents, and of course over dose, we already have these problems and the government is the ones selling alcohol, I can see that if any of the above problems occur because alcohol was sold to the under aged, that the offending store be fined more than 10,000 dollars.	Body	To whom it may concern: I agree that Neutral
1107_2013	15897 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	That is to allow alcohol sales in supermarkets as well as liquor stores.	Body	I believe it is time that we British Columbians got in Neutral
1086_2013	15575 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It would make it too easy for some who should not be spending what little money they do have to pass up groceries for their families in favor of their alcohol.	Body	Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts Negative
1086_2013	15574 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allowing sales in regular grocery stores will impact workers ie: there are many younger workers who would not be allowed to sell, this could impact employment for those persons.	Body	Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts Neutral
1086_2013	15572 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#NAME?	Body	Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts Neutral
1078_2013	15520 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If government can not bring itself to this logical conclusion, there should be a large increase in the number and kind of private sellers, including grocery and corner stores.	Body	BC Liquor Policy Review Free trade within Can: Neutral
1081_2013	15254 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The grocery stores are the great way to sell liquor, as it is done in Quebec, so why not here in British Columbia...it is about time.	Body	To whom this may concern: Just wondering how Neutral
1079_2013	15183 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I found the exclusion of beer and wine from grocery shops ridiculous.	Body	Just to share a personal view about how the beer a Negative
1074_2013	15179 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think that people should be able to purchase alcoholic products in grocery and convenience stores.	Body	Hello, I do appreciate the opportunity to partic Neutral
1063_2013	15144 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would be in favour of allowing beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores like Safeway and large box stores like Costco.	Body	Hello, I would be in favour of allowing beer and w Neutral
1036_2013	15105 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow the grocery stores to become agencies liquor stores in rural BC and close all of the Class C LDB stores.	Body	Here are some ideas to improvement customer ser Neutral
1036_2013	15089 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#4 - If wine and beer were available in grocery stores it would have a negative effect on the current Private Liquor Stores.	Body	Here are some ideas to improvement customer ser Negative

1046_2013	14993	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX			6) Please allow the sale of wine, beer and spirits at grocery stores and convenience stores, such as they are in the United States.	Body	Dear John Yap, Thank you for asking for input on	Positive
1042_2013	14674	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX			To pick up all these items at the grocery store in one stop would be great.	Body	Hello, Would like to say that I welcome the change	Positive
1045_2013	14604	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT	CITZ:EX			Hi there, I would like to see alcohol being sold in grocery stores across BC.	Body	Hi there, I would like to see alcohol being sold in gro	Neutral

743	14564	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.89	This is much easier to do with beer bought from a grocery store late at night 9 on the way home from an event or while "cruising" a neighbourhood.	comment_conten	There is no real reason for a change in the liquor sa	Negative
743	14563	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.89	It is possible that sales in grocery stores will increase the number of beer cans easily tossed out of the car window and littering the streets after an 9 impulse buy of a "six pack."	comment_conten	There is no real reason for a change in the liquor sa	Neutral
743	14552	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.89	Making liquor available in grocery stores acts as a much too easy incentive to impulsively spend/divert money away from uses that may be more useful 9 to the individual or the family.	comment_conten	There is no real reason for a change in the liquor sa	Positive

894	14496	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.63	as a frequent traveller to Europe, I just flip into their practice and pick up beer or wine in local stores - no big deal - I am reminded of how far we have to go to treat our citizens like responsible people - remember, it was not long ago that the religious types finally got overruled and we could enter pubs and/or buy liquor on Sundays - of course, we should be able to purchase beer or wine in grocery markets any day of the week ... however, its probably a good idea to limit the sales to beer or wine and leave the hard stuff in liquor stores while we adapt ... further, the wide variation of ownership in mom and pop grocery stores might require them being part of 8 'the next step'...	comment_conten	... as a frequent traveller to Europe, I just flip into tl	Neutral
889	14490	BLOG	50 - 59	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.05	This is currently no different than a grocery store selling large quantities of soda pop to those with blood sugar disorders or anyone with a sugar or 19 high fructose dependency.	comment_conten	Rather than talk about convenience, let's talk abou	Negative
739	14472	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	I fully support the expansion of sales of all alcohol to grocery and 10 convenience stores.	comment_conten	Unfortunately for many, the conclusion that John Y	Positive

735	14456	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.23	13 It really is not just about a convenience with having alcohol in any establishment (example: grocery, corner & convenience stores) that wishes to pay for a license to do so, the real reason is having so many governments over the years that are so afraid to open up licensing, location of dispensing and the simple fact that a large portion of the general public can regulate their own consumption and consume appropriately when in a public place.	comment_content Anyone who thinks the status quo is fine is living in	Neutral
736	14444	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12 It really does not make any sense to not allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine.	comment_content Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a commo	Neutral
736	14443	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12 Instead of doing my grocery shopping and then having to drive to a liquor store or beer and wine store to pick up a 6 pack.	comment_content Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a commo	Neutral
736	14442	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12 Really what is the problem if I go to the store and do my grocery shopping and pick up a 6 pack at the same time?	comment_content Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a commo	Negative
736	14440	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12 Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a common practice world over.	comment_content Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a commo	Neutral
893	14429	BLOG	25 - 29	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.77	13 I also would suggest a trial period, pick a region with an average amount of liquor-related problems, allow liquor sales in grocery stores for, say, six months, and measure the effect.	comment_content I'm in favour of liquor sales in grocery stores. I hav	Negative
892	14426	BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.95	19 Fantastic wines at grocery stores for less than \$10	comment_content Why not take a trip to places that have had this iss	Positive
891	14418	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15 And one more thing - I know there will be a temptation to only allow BC wines and beer to be sold at the grocery store - do not do it!	comment_content I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery str	Neutral
891	14412	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15 The large grocery chains already have a great distribution system, why not just leverage that?	comment_content I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery str	Neutral
888	14402	BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.06	18 Buying any alcohol whether it be beer/wine/ spirits should be allowed in all convenience / grocery stores.	comment_content 1. I agree with most comments that the liquour price	Neutral
893	14391	BLOG	25 - 29	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.77	13 I am in favour of liquor sales in grocery stores.	comment_content I'm in favour of liquor sales in grocery stores. I hav	Neutral
733	14388	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16 There was also the issue of the UK supermarkets using checkout staff under eighteen years old - they were not old enough to sell alcohol, let alone buy it.	comment_content As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70	Negative
733	14387	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16 It is obvious when children or minors are in a Liquor Store, and I would bet they are more likely to be ID checked at the checkout in the Liquor Store than a busy grocery store.	comment_content As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70	Negative
891	14386	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15 We lived in Washington state for 12 years, bought beer and wine with the groceries, saving so much time and gas!	comment_content I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery str	Neutral

891	14385	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15 wine sold at grocery stores such as Thrifty's Prices fell, because grocery stores are concerned with profits, not	comment_content	I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery stores. Neutral
733	14362	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16 regulation.	comment_content	As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70s, I think it's a bit Negative
733	14361	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16 Alcohol became easily accessible in grocery stores around the country.	comment_content	As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70s, I think it's a bit Positive
728	14351	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	2.11	27 There is no real reason that we NEED to sell liquor in a grocery store.	comment_content	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that? Neutral
728	14350	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	2.11	The people who are strong set on liquor going into the grocery store are just looking for the added convenience of not having to go to two separate stores when they want groceries and alcohol.	comment_content	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that? Positive
728	14346	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	2.11	27 Do you complain that you can not get your oil changed at the grocery store?	comment_content	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that? Negative
732	14343	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.2	I have no problems with Beer / Wine / Spirits sold in both Grocery and 15 convenient stores in BC as well as Big Box Stores like Walmart and Costco.	comment_content	I have no problems with Beer / Wine / Spirits sold in both Grocery and 15 convenient stores in BC as well as Big Box Stores like Walmart and Costco. Positive
728	14338	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	2.11	27 Okay, so we may be the only country who does not sell liquor in grocery stores.	comment_content	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that? Neutral
728	14336	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	2.11	27 The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that?	comment_content	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that? Neutral
729	14329	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.9	21 I completely agree that beer, wine and liquor should be available in any grocery store, corner store, etc.	comment_content	I completely agree that beer, wine and liquor should be available in any grocery store, corner store, etc. Positive
726	14326	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.44	18 By allowing private retailers to distribute alcohol this frees up the public's time to work more, also known as higher productivity, have more time for family or volunteering because they just go shopping in one location for their groceries, including alcohol.	comment_content	I believe the nanny-state-of-mind needs to be gone! Neutral
725	14301	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.19	16 I put a visit to these establishments on the same list as stopping by Home Depot, Costco and then the grocery store.	comment_content	I do not disagree with the current arrangement the way it is. Neutral
884	14287	BLOG	30 - 39	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.88	16 Having said all of this I am still not for the grocery stores carrying alcohol.	comment_content	This is an interesting conversation. I am very for the way it is. Neutral
884	14285	BLOG	30 - 39	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.88	16 Someone commented earlier that the liquor stores tend to be right beside busy grocery stores anyhow.	comment_content	This is an interesting conversation. I am very for the way it is. Negative
884	14275	BLOG	30 - 39	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.88	16 Having said all of this I do not see the benefit in allowing alcohol sales in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_content	This is an interesting conversation. I am very for the way it is. Positive
881	14256	BLOG	25 - 29	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.43	7 Open up sales to grocery stores, corner stores etc.	comment_content	First off, I would like to thank Mr. Yap for putting this out there. Neutral
720	14224	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.94	16 I hope I live to see the day when I can purchase alcohol in a grocery store!	comment_content	Thank you for allowing public input. I am a member of the public. Neutral
724	14220	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	8 I am from the UK, the last aisle of any supermarket is the booze, you do not want it you do not need to go near it.	comment_content	OK let's spin it on its head -- why not sell alcohol, so you can get it where you want it. Neutral
720	14208	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.94	16 #NAME?	comment_content	Thank you for allowing public input. I am a member of the public. Strongly positive

878	14193	BLOG	50 - 59	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.29	Just to add the the course of reply's about allowing the sale of wine and 7 beer in grocery stores.	comment_conten	Just to add the the course of reply's about allowing	Neutral
722	14187	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.47	We have travelled the world and are sad to say that this is the ONLY place we have been that does not allow the sale of beer and wine in a grocery 19 store.	comment_conten	We have travelled the world and are sad to say tha	Negative
877	14177	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	As for convenience, in my community the government run liquor store is in 8 the same mall as the grocery store, that is pretty convenient.	comment_conten	Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in groc	Strongly positive
877	14174	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	8 Grocery stores will keep the profit	comment_conten	Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in groc	Neutral
877	14165	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in grocery stores is going to be 8 any cheaper.	comment_conten	Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in groc	Neutral
875	14152	BLOG	undefined	9/20/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.71	On our trips to the Montreal area to visit family, we have on several 7 occasions purchased beer or wine from the grocery stores there.	comment_conten	On our trips to the Montreal area to visit family, we	Neutral
876	14150	BLOG	25 - 29	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.43	7 There are already plenty of things that some grocery stores sell, but not all.	comment_conten	There is a difference between "allowed to sell" and	Positive
876	14149	BLOG	25 - 29	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.43	If a grocery store owner thought it would be too much headache as you 7 describe, they could choose not to sell it.	comment_conten	There is a difference between "allowed to sell" and	Strongly negative
874	14139	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.82	We spend 6 months each year where liquor is sold in grocery stores, 11 convenience stores etc.	comment_conten	We spend 6 months each year where liquor is sold	Positive
864	14135	BLOG	30 - 39	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.24	Convenience stores are fine just selling a limited selection of wine and beer, 17 and same goes with grocery stores.	comment_conten	I don't need to go into a lot of detail of why these ic	Neutral
870	14119	BLOG	40 - 49	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.53	But keep it out of grocery stores...this will create a lot of headaches for 17 food vendors!	comment_conten	Independant cold beer and wine stores fill the neec	Negative
867	14115	BLOG	30 - 39	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	I have personally been ID'd more times in the grocery stores and convenience stores in the US than I have been at the government stores up 5 here.	comment_conten	I've personally been ID'd more times in the grocery	Positive
866	14114	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.36	If the law of selling beer and wine at grocery stores does not change then government liquor stores should be open on Sundays and longer hours 7 11 days a week, plus ten should sell chilled beer and wine.	comment_conten	If the law of selling beer and wine at grocery stores	Neutral
715	14109	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	Also it would mean less emissions because you could get your groceries and 4 beer in one stop instead of two.	comment_conten	What about people trying to quit smoking? Cigarett	Neutral
717	14105	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	I believe that liquor should be sold in grocery and convenience stores and 16 regulated like tobacco.	comment_conten	I believe that liquor should be sold in grocery and c	Neutral
863	14098	BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.07	Allow the sale of wine, beer and spirits in 'major' retail grocery outlets and 27 big box stores.	comment_conten	It is a little heartening that I see this discussion taki	Neutral
715	14089	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 Cigarettes are available at grocery stores, should we ban those as well?	comment_conten	What about people trying to quit smoking? Cigarett	Neutral

860	14082	BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.42	12 As it is now it is not really that difficult to access if you need it but it would be much more convenient to get all items for a dinner party in one place and aside from ID'ing which is already done for cigarettes which are far more harmful and sold in grocery stores, I do not see an issue with it.	comment_content I agree with laws and fines penalizing and discourag	Neutral
860	14081	BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.42	12 I think that beer and wine should absolutely be sold in super markets.	comment_content I agree with laws and fines penalizing and discourag	Neutral
703	14062	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.71	7 The time is well overdue to allow the sale of all types of alcoholic beverages in the major grocery outlets- this is virtually the norm throughout the civilized world- why should it be an exception here?	comment_content When I emigrated from Scotland to Manitoba in 19	Neutral
712	14052	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.92	13 However if liquor sales are decreased because of people shopping at the grocery store instead, hours and salaries will drop.	comment_content I personally think selling liquor in a grocery store or	Neutral
712	14046	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.92	13 I personally think selling liquor in a grocery store	comment_content I personally think selling liquor in a grocery store or	Neutral
709	14040	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.5	8 When I travel to the usa, I can buy liquor in any grocery store, which is very convenient, and I do not hear anything on the news about a vastly higher rate of drunken behaviours than we have at home.	comment_content We should be able to buy liquor in any grocery stor	Strongly positive
863	14037	BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.07	27 I have not seen ONE problem in any major grocery outlet or big box store where people are shopping.	comment_content It is a little heartening that I see this discussion taki	Positive
713	14035	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	6 wine in grocery stores	comment_content I fully endorse selling beer and wine in grocery stor	Neutral
710	14025	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.33	6 I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocery and corner stores as well as gas marts.	comment_content I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocc	Positive
863	14014	BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.07	27 Imagine... someone might actually, at my age, let me buy a bottle of wine with my groceries, or even some martini mix and vodka for a pre-dinner drink.	comment_content It is a little heartening that I see this discussion taki	Neutral
709	14008	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.5	8 We should be able to buy liquor in any grocery store.	comment_content We should be able to buy liquor in any grocery stor	Negative
708	14002	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.33	6 i think if liquor were to be sold in other venues such as grocery or convenience stores they must be willing to have a dedicated section in their shop that children or under age patrons may not enter,and possibly have a dedicated cashier to deal with such sales.	comment_content i think if liquor were to be sold in other venues sucl	Positive
707	13994	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7 Full access in grocery or convenience stores.	comment_content Full access in grocery or convenience stores. Fully p	Positive

856	13988	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.83	The moratorium on liquor store licenses is ridiculous, and if the government plans to allow beer and wine sales in grocery stores (I do not support the sale of hard alcohol in grocery stores), it is unfair and restrictive to members of the community who wish to open specialty stores, or a liquor	comment_conten	I agree with other commenters here and on the ot	Strongly negative
861	13953	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.05	12 store close to their neighborhood. 21 Let grocery stores sell hard alcohol.	comment_conten	Please just let grocery stores, convenience stores a	Negative
861	13952	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.05	Please just let grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations sell beer 21 and wine.	comment_conten	Please just let grocery stores, convenience stores a	Positive
706	13915	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2	4 I agree with wine and beer in grocery stores.	comment_conten	I agree with wine and beer in grocery stores. Separ	Positive
692	13890	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	5 NO to liquor in our grocery stores/convenient store.	comment_conten	I have to agree with most of the comments on mak	Negative
692	13887	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	Once you introduce liquor into grocery stores, think of how many business's 5 will have to close shop, or cut back employees.	comment_conten	I have to agree with most of the comments on mak	Neutral
692	13879	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	5 As for selling booze in grocery stores.	comment_conten	I have to agree with most of the comments on mak	Neutral
702	13870	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocery and corner stores as 5 well as gas marts.	comment_conten	I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in groce	Positive
701	13864	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1	Opinion: Sale alhocol in grocery stores or let extend the working hours of 2 liquer stores (Sunday as well).	comment_conten	Opinion: Sale alhocol in grocery stores or let exter	Neutral
700	13859	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.62	On the economic side of things, if BC did move towards putting liquor into convenience stores and grocery stores, this would ultimately kill the private 13 store business.	comment_conten	On the economic side of things, if BC did move tow	Neutral
696	13846	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.14	7 alcohol should not be available in grocery or convenience stores	comment_conten	I think that liquor sales are correct as they are now	Positive
855	13836	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11 #NAME?	comment_conten	I agree with the general sentiment here. Being able	Positive
855	13835	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11 Additionally beer/wine is basically treated as a grocery item in our house.	comment_conten	I agree with the general sentiment here. Being able	Neutral
855	13834	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11 so the convenience of grocery stores is less of a personal time saver	comment_conten	I agree with the general sentiment here. Being able	Strongly positive
857	13820	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.14	I agree with many of the comments around more liberal availability in 14 grocery and corner stores.	comment_conten	I agree with many of the comments around more li	Strongly positive
850	13803	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.75	Most people are reasonable, the few bad apples will always be present but they are in the minority, and whether we sell liquor at a designated liquor 4 store or the grocery store that will make no difference.	comment_conten	This type of approach to all aspects of life would en	Neutral
850	13802	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.75	Perhaps we should look at this from a greenhouse gas emissions perspective, how much less fuel would BC burn if we eliminated the need to 4 drive to a liquor store, if we could just buy our beer at the grocery store?	comment_conten	This type of approach to all aspects of life would en	Negative

855	13798	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	Being able to purchase beer and wine with my groceries would be a time 11 (and money) saver.	comment_conten	I agree with the general sentiment here. Being able Neutral
854	13791	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	We sell cigarettes in the grocery stores, and cigarettes are far more 5 hazardous to our health then wine or beer!	comment_conten	I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcoho Strongly negative
854	13790	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	These beverages can be sold in a separate area of the grocery store, where 5 ID is requested.	comment_conten	I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcoho Neutral
854	13789	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	5 So why not sell wine and beer in the grocery stores.	comment_conten	I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcoho Negative
854	13787	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	5 I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcohol in grocery stores.	comment_conten	I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcoho Neutral
850	13783	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.75	I have grown up in Europe where liquor is everywhere including grocery 4 stores and no one cares.	comment_conten	This type of approach to all aspects of life would en Negative
853	13773	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.82	1) There is absolutely no reason that alcohol (at a minimum beer and wine) 17 should not be available in grocery stores, corner stores, etc.	comment_conten	1) There is absolutely no reason that alcohol (at a n Neutral
684	13771	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	Liquor or beer should be sold at the grocery store or corner stores,it would be no different in asking for ID when someone is purchasing cigarettes in BC which can be easily regulated by the province Prices need to be reduced or taxes on liquor and beer the same amount of tax revenue will be collected probably more overall Minors should be allowed in the bar with their parents for brunch Bars,pubs and restaurants should also be able to have happy hour(s) again,several provinces in Canada have happy hours, in BC it is only certain liquors or alcohol on certain days,more options should be offered to the paying customer instead of the token 2 or 3 drinks specials max per day BC is way behind the rest of the world and Canada with its liquor laws which need to be updated and reflect what the paying 5 customer/taxpayer wants in this province	comment_conten	Liquor or beer should be sold at the grocery store c Neutral
851	13765	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.5	12 It could be set up similar to a bank inside a grocery store.	comment_conten	I propose that liquor in BCL become slowly privatizè Positive
851	13763	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.5	12 The first phase could be sales only in major grocery and drug stores.	comment_conten	I propose that liquor in BCL become slowly privatizè Neutral
852	13760	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.65	Having wine and beer available in grocery stores and convenience stores is 17 a welcome idea in my group of people.	comment_conten	Having wine and beer available in grocery stores an Positive
689	13734	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	6 YES you should be able to buy beer, wine, liquor at grocery stores.	comment_conten	BC Liquor laws are archaic and need to me changec Negative
687	13727	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co.		Just about every grocery store in the US can sell alcoholic beverages (at 0 least beer & wine) and there you have to be 21.	comment_conten	Just about every grocery store in the US can sell alc Neutral

683	13708 BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.45	I really do not think having liquor available in corner stores or grocery stores is the answer.	comment_content I really don't think having liquor available in corner	Neutral
845	13678 BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.69	2) Grocery Stores selling liquor, wine and booze - in my experience shopping for liquor and booze in the United States at grocery stores it has been fantastic, the store employees always check ID and the store systems require it.	comment_content Here is my position on some changes:1) The pers	Positive
847	13662 BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	undefined	2.85	I think that it is time that B.C. caught up to the "real world" in terms of selling beer and wine in grocery stores.	comment_content I think that it is time that B.C. caught up to the "rea	Neutral
678	13659 BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	I do not need it in grocery stores but would like it to be available there, but more selection, better prices, more convenience with increased tax revenue seems like a no brainer to me?	comment_content I moved here 5 years ago from AB and it is like I am	Strongly positive
846	13641 BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	undefined	2.14	I think B.C. should catch up with the "real world" as regards the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores.	comment_content I think B.C. should catch up with the "real world" as	Neutral
676	13603 BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.33	This is a reflection of what the whole Province would look like if the government let grocery stores control booze sales.	comment_content There is a Liquor Store on UBC campus. The whole i	Neutral
676	13602 BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.33	One can only imagine if alcohol was available 24/7 at any grocery store on campus.	comment_content There is a Liquor Store on UBC campus. The whole i	Neutral
677	13590 BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	6 Beer, wine and spirits sold in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_content I'm really glad the government is taking the time to	Positive
836	13576 BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	I do not see how opening up liquor sales to the grocery stores would really change anything, therefore there is no purpose served by banning it, therefore it should be allowed.	comment_content I've been giving most comments a rating, and leavir	Negative
836	13574 BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	The reason I support selling alcohol in grocery stores goes back to the reason that I think should be behind all law making: unless there is a specific reason for something to be illegal, the default should be for it to be legal.	comment_content I've been giving most comments a rating, and leavir	Neutral
671	13562 BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	2	If the consensus is to take alcohol out of Liquor Stores and into grocery stores, then the tax should be increased substantially.	comment_content If alcohol abuse creates costs to our already expen:	Negative
837	13539 BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	Caffeine is addictive too (I tell you, the splitting headaches when I quit the stuff...), but I am not saying that coffee should not be sold at grocery stores because I can not bear to look at it.	comment_content Lots of people struggle with tobacco addiction, are	Negative
837	13538 BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	Lots of people struggle with tobacco addiction, are you going to start campaigning to have the cigarettes removed from grocery stores and corner stores so that people who are trying to quit do not have to look at them?	comment_content Lots of people struggle with tobacco addiction, are	Negative

834	13532 BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.67	I feel that alcohol should be more readily available in grocery stores/convenient stores and be offered at a cheaper price.	comment_content I feel that alcohol should be more readily available Neutral
826	13516 BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.5	I think alcohol should be readily available in grocery and other stores (ie: 10 London Drugs).	comment_content I think alcohol should be readily available in grocery Negative
829	13511 BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	US grocery store employees diligently check I.D.'s and face disciplinary action and dismissal if they skip the step.	comment_content BC liquor employee statements sounds a bit self se Positive
828	13507 BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.73	Grocery store line-ups are a caotic environment as it is, to add "ID ing" and judging whether or not a person is suitable to buy liquor to the "mix" is 11 crazy.	comment_content Putting any alcohol in grocery/convenience stores w Neutral
828	13476 BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.73	Putting any alcohol in grocery/convenience stores would be very difficult.	comment_content Putting any alcohol in grocery/convenience stores w Strongly negative
824	13466 BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.56	I favour booze in grocery stores.	comment_content I favour booze in grocery stores. What we have nov Neutral
819	13449 BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	undefined	2.6	After you save that and then add the operating expenses for the grocery store (rent, administration, wages) how much are you saving if the 5 government maintains its current tax revenue.	comment_content Take a look at the actual financial reports. Getting r Neutral
821	13443 BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.45	I am not interested in going " American " where booze is available in grocery stores etc.	comment_content I think there are plenty of places to purchase liquor Neutral
821	13442 BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.45	Personally I do not want to see liquor in grocery stores, convenience stores.	comment_content I think there are plenty of places to purchase liquor Positive
822	13433 BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	beer and wine is available in grocery store aisles alongside everything else	comment_content I totally agree. I much prefer the Washington state Neutral
817	13425 BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	Privitization is neither necessary nor is being able to buy liquor or beer at 4 grocery stores or convenience stores.	comment_content The Government stores need to open on Sundays a Positive
809	13398 BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.65	Furthermore, I think selling alcohol in grocery stores would only increase the risk of minors getting their hands on the alcohol they want and would 26 therefore increase the levels of underage drinking.	comment_content I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a f Neutral
809	13396 BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.65	First of all I think one of the reasons cigarettes are easily sold in grocery stores or gas stations is because they are smaller, lighter, and easier to keep 26 out of sight and out of reach.	comment_content I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a f Positive
812	13392 BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	3.8	Sell liquour in grocery stores...give us convenience.	comment_content I was born and raised in Quebec where at the least Positive
814	13385 BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2	Employees hired by BCL are not physic tested to read minds any better than 4 a grocery store clerks can judge cigarette sales.	comment_content I have never understood the logic of a government Positive
809	13371 BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.65	I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a BC Liquor store and from these experiences I think that selling alcohol in grocery stores is not a great 26 option.	comment_content I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a f Negative

805	13360 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.57	14 And, if you do decide to treat us like adults, do not restrict it to certain supermarkets, open it up and have them compete for our business, another factor sadly lacking for consumers in our province - competition.	comment_content We're so far behind the times here in B.C. and I've	Negative
805	13359 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.57	14 I can handle having to go out of my way to buy stronger alcohol if need be, but come on guys, stop treating us like children who can not be trusted and let me buy a nice bottle or two in the supermarket.	comment_content We're so far behind the times here in B.C. and I've	Neutral
815	13357 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.26	23 Personally, I would love to be able to do my grocery shopping and wine shopping in one trip.	comment_content Underage drinking will ALWAYS happen no matter	Strongly positive
810	13353 BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.45	11 Having beer and win available in grocery and/or convenience stores would be so much better than having to go into liquor stores and trying to avoid the drunks while making my choice.	comment_content Having beer and win available in grocery and/or co	Neutral
805	13342 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.57	14 It is high time we were treated like adults and be allowed to at the very least buy a couple of bottles of wine or a six pack of beer for the weekend while buying the groceries at the supermarket.	comment_content We're so far behind the times here in B.C. and I've	Neutral
808	13338 BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.06	18 There is no reason why I should have to go to a different store to buy groceries and liquor.	comment_content I cannot wait for BC liquor laws to be relaxed. It is	Neutral
807	13330 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.93	15 My outlook is if grocery stores were able to provide liquor, it would be cheaper and more convenient for families for a one stop shop.	comment_content I do believe it's time to change our liquor laws, sinc	Strongly positive
787	13327 BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	7 Juice beverage companies that give samples at Grocery Stores and Costco go through hundreds of liters a year dwarfing what BC alcohol producers sample amounts.	comment_content TOPIC: BC Liquor Sales Agents & BC Off-Shore	Neutral
801	13272 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	22 I believe that alcohol should be sold in grocery and convenience stores, just like it is in the rest of the world.	comment_content I believe that alcohol should be sold in grocery and	Neutral
794	13252 BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.11	27 Allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores, much like Washington.	comment_content I believe it is time to get rid of BC Liquor stores. All	Neutral
796	13250 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.38	24 I am strongly in favor of being able to buy wine & beer in grocery stores.	comment_content I'm strongly in favor of being able to buy wine &	Neutral
791	13239 BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.07	30 The time has come (to put it mildly) to open up liquor distribution to groceries and convenience stores and get the BC liquor board out of lording over import and distribution.	comment_content The time has come (to put it mildly) to open up liqu	Positive
789	13231 BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.87	31 Will a big grocery store fo the same when they are looking at the profit line.	comment_content I believe there is enough locations to purchase liqu	Neutral
784	13229 BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.77	13 If people want the Québec model, it would mean closing all the private liquor stores and allowing only beer and a very limited selection of overpriced, low quality wines on the grocery shelf.	comment_content I lived in Québec for over 50 years and yet, when I	Negative

789	13224	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.87	Instead of allowing grocery stores to sell we should allow all government 31 stores to be open 7 days per week and even increased hours of operation.	comment_conten I believe there is enough locations to purchase liqu	Neutral
784	13213	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.77	I lived in Québec for over 50 years and yet, when I moved to BC, my perception was that liquor was much more available here than there, 13 despite always having purchased beer in the grocery store.	comment_conten I lived in Québec for over 50 years and yet, when I r	Neutral
786	13209	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2	Unlike the other posters, I see no need to sell liquor of any kind in grocery 14 or convenience stores.	comment_conten Unlike the other posters, I see no need to sell liqu	Positive
785	13206	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.38	You should be able to purchase a bottle of wine in the same location as 13 where you purchase your groceries.	comment_conten I think that wine and beer should be available in all	Negative
785	13204	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.38	I think that wine and beer should be available in all grocery and 13 convenience stores across the province.	comment_conten I think that wine and beer should be available in all	Neutral
783	13198	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.25	4 Would love to by a bottle of wine where I buy my groceries.	comment_conten How about allowing local retailers (private and chai	Strongly positive
781	13162	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.73	11 Allow beer and wine to be sold in any grocery store in the Province.	comment_conten Allow beer and wine to be sold in any grocery store	Neutral
780	13159	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.5	8 Allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine across the province.	comment_conten Allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine across th	Neutral
777	13093	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.43	and come back to B.C. and feel like a second-class citizen because I am told I can not buy a bottle of wine with my loaf of bread and cheese in the 14 grocery store.	comment_conten It is about time! I grew up in Europe, and there wa	Neutral
778	13077	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.25	It is reasonable that wine and beer be available in grocery and corner stores 8 since these are often consumed as an accompaniment to meals.	comment_conten It is reasonable that wine and beer be available in g	Positive
777	13069	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.43	14 the corner stores, supermarkets, everywhere	comment_conten It is about time! I grew up in Europe, and there wa	Neutral
922	13064	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	I am one for the inclusion of beer, spirits and wine in grocery stores and in convenience stores as it will move alcohol out from BCL's taboo store fronts 9 and into the public eye.	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Positive
922	13062	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9 But, the grocery store idea is a move in the right direction.	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Neutral
776	13059	BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	2.6	Do you want to be in your grocery store with your kids and there is a drunk stumbling in to find booze then he barfs or some worse or the poor minor worker having to deal with that besides that too the underage worker 15 would have to be fired cause u have to be 19 to sell booze.	comment_conten Differances in opinions .I still say bc isnt ready ,I hai	Strongly negative
922	13058	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	Having alcohol in grocery stores is not going to change society's problems 9 over night for better or for worse.	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Negative

771	13046	BLOG	25 - 29	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.33	To begin looking at where you would draw the line for what which type of stores i.e. gas station, connivence stores, grocery stores and big box stores 6 one needs to examine the distribution of liquor in BC as well.	comment_conten To begin looking at where you would draw the line	Neutral
775	13017	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.67	There are a large amount of citizens in this province that struggle with addiction and those trying to recover should at least be able to go to the 9 store to get groceries without having liquor there.	comment_conten I strongly feel that liquor does not need to be sold i	Negative
775	13015	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.67	9 I strongly feel that liquor does not need to be sold in grocery stores.	comment_conten I strongly feel that liquor does not need to be sold i	Neutral
770	13009	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.46	13 I want to be able to buy alcohol in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_conten I would like to see more variety in our choice of liqu	Positive
922	13003	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	Some folks also seem to think that if alcohol is removed from its segregation and becomes another commodity in the grocery store like milk or eggs, BC may see a surge in alcohol related injuries, accidents and 9 deaths.	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Neutral
922	13002	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	notion However, the grocery store solution is a cost effective, plausible and responsible way for the government to reduce the inefficient and 9 exorbitant system that is in place today.	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Neutral
922	12998	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	I think people should also understand that consolidating the sale of liquor into grocery stores will undoubtedly cause some problems in the short 9 term.	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Negative
922	12997	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	beer and spirits available in convenience stores and grocery stores to be an adequate solution to inefficient distribution branches BC Liquor has in place 9 now	comment_conten It seems that a common thread throughout these p	Neutral
921	12991	BLOG	30 - 39	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.45	11 It will allow liquor in grocery stores;	comment_conten First off, I love the idea of alcohol being sold basica	Neutral
923	12972	BLOG	50 - 59	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.29	7 Many countries in world sell alcohol in grocery stores except Canada.	comment_conten I have worked for a major grocery company for 25	Neutral
923	12969	BLOG	50 - 59	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.29	I have worked for a major grocery company for 25 years and would like to see changes in the bc liquor laws to include beer and wine to be sold in 7 grocery stores.	comment_conten I have worked for a major grocery company for 25	Neutral
919	12952	BLOG	40 - 49	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.1	Beer, wine, and spirits should be available through any licensed grocery 10 store.	comment_conten Beer, wine, and spirits should be available through	Negative
916	12940	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	BC already allows the sale of tobacco at private grocery and convenience 7 stores.	comment_conten The free sale of liquor in grocery stores and other p	Positive
918	12937	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7 Grocery stores, convenience stores, ad nauseum all sell liquor.	comment_conten The idea that we can't even buy beer or whatever €	Positive
918	12935	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	The idea that we can not even buy beer or whatever else in grocery stores 7 is ridiculous.	comment_conten The idea that we can't even buy beer or whatever €	Negative

916	12932	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	The free sale of liquor in grocery stores and other private non-liquor primary shops is widely accepted in many American states, Mexico and 7 Latin America, and most of Europe.	comment_conten	The free sale of liquor in grocery stores and other p	Neutral
765	12927	BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	3.5	We are all grown ups, sell ALL types of alcohol in grocery and convenience 8 stores.	comment_conten	So you want to continue with the nanny state? The	Positive
765	12915	BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	3.5	If you do not think we can control ourselves if you sell it in grocery stores, then you may as well start issuing "liquor licenses" to individuals who can 8 prove they are responsible!	comment_conten	So you want to continue with the nanny state? The	Neutral
766	12901	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1	A possibility to consider, is allowing only BC made beer and wines to be 7 featured and sold through grocery stores.	comment_conten	A possibility to consider, is allowing only BC made b	Neutral
761	12889	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.33	I do believe liquor sales should be available in grocery stores/ Big box stores 6 much like the model I have seen in the Usa.	comment_conten	I do believe liquor sales should be available in groce	Negative
764	12888	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.5	Allow grocery stores etc to sell beer, wine and liquor just like in the USA IT 14 WILL WORK AND LOWER PRICES	comment_conten	BC is so far behind the rest of the world relative to	Neutral
911	12862	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.09	a stand alone building separate from the main groceries store would make 11 most sense.	comment_conten	i grew up in Quebec and i always thought liquor coi	Neutral
913	12860	BLOG	30 - 39	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.18	I would have to kindly disagree on your comment that most posters would 11 like to limit spirits from being sold in grocery or convenience stores.	comment_conten	Thank You Mr. Yap, I would have to kindly disagre	Positive
757	12857	BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.58	I believe that liquor sales should be permitted in all grocery / convenience 12 stores across the province.	comment_conten	I believe that liquor sales should be permitted in all	Neutral
910	12839	BLOG	undefined	9/22/2013 0:00	undefined	3.11	I can imagine this may have been one of the considerations in Alberta with its move in 1993 to allow for stand-alone liquor store outlets operated in 9 the parking lots of grocery stores.	comment_conten	Clearly this is a topic that people feel strongly abou	Neutral
911	12837	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.09	i always thought liquor could be purchased at the local grocery store until i 11 moved here	comment_conten	i grew up in Quebec and i always thought liquor coi	Neutral
910	12835	BLOG	undefined	9/22/2013 0:00	undefined	3.11	On the flip side, I hear the concerns about any change along these lines making alcohol more accessible to minors (just by the very nature of it being in a grocery/convenience store) and resulting health impacts, as well as the impacts on those who are just there to buy their food (longer lines, 9 busier, potential for disturbances/theft).	comment_conten	Clearly this is a topic that people feel strongly abou	Neutral
910	12815	BLOG	undefined	9/22/2013 0:00	undefined	3.11	Also, it appears that while some are in favour of pursuing this with grocery 9 stores	comment_conten	Clearly this is a topic that people feel strongly abou	Neutral

910	12814	BLOG	undefined	9/22/2013 0:00	undefined	3.11	From reading the comments, it seems to me that of the people who want to see alcohol in grocery stores, more of them would be comfortable if we 9 drew the line at beer and wine vs spirits.	comment_conten	Clearly this is a topic that people feel strongly about Negative
664	12802	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	Most clientele at the grocery store are not interested in these products 5 anyhow.	comment_conten	The debate about health vs. convenience needs so Neutral
664	12801	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	5 The government could prohibit 'caffeine' drinks from grocery stores.	comment_conten	The debate about health vs. convenience needs so Neutral
664	12798	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	Following this point, it is possible to allow grocery stores to sell certain 5 kinds of liquor but not others in order to reduce risk.	comment_conten	The debate about health vs. convenience needs so Neutral
752	12785	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	9 Selling baked goods at a grocery store is unfair to the local bakeries.	comment_conten	Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy iter Negative
752	12758	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	We should also ban meat sales from grocery stores to encourage more 9 local butchers.	comment_conten	Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy iter Neutral
752	12716	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	9 we should also ban pharmacy items being sold at the supermarket	comment_conten	Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy iter Neutral
670	12713	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	Grocery, convenience stores, and big-box formats are the most obvious and 3 likeliest additional applicants for this, but why limit it?	comment_conten	There shouldn't be any restriction on the types of s Positive
749	12677	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.25	I think that we have enough liquor stores already that are close enough to the grocery and convenience stores that people do not have to go out of 24 the way to shop there.	comment_conten	I don't think that liquor should be sold anywhere ot Positive
752	12674	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	9 I propose that not only should liquor be kept out of grocery stores	comment_conten	Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy iter Neutral
752	12665	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	Buying those items from the supermarket directly takes profits from the 9 pharmacy next door.	comment_conten	Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy iter Neutral
748	12663	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	5 Either that, or put them all into grocery stores like other countries do.	comment_conten	If we are going to continue having liquor stores, the Neutral
749	12658	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.25	Having it [liquor] sold in grocery stores and convenience stores makes it too easy for minors to be able to buy it and therefore drink it even though they 24 are minors and it is against the current law.	comment_conten	I don't think that liquor should be sold anywhere ot Neutral
752	12652	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	9 We do not NEED to buy those from the grocery store either.	comment_conten	Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy iter Neutral
897	12639	BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	18 I do not need hard liquor at grocery stores or 7-11,	comment_conten	Please allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery str Positive
755	12621	BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	Beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores for convenience and 21 monitored like tobacco.	comment_conten	Beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores for r Neutral
895	12614	BLOG	25 - 29	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.8	I am totally in favor of grocery stores and convenience stores selling wine 15 and beer.	comment_conten	I am totally in favor of grocery stores and convenie Positive
897	12606	BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	Please allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery stores, and also allow 18 stores to purchase directly from the producer.	comment_conten	Please allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery str Neutral

3.8E+17	12550	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 15:35	#####	@John_Yap allow Happy Hours and beer/wine in grocery stores.	Verbatim Text	@John_Yap allow Happy Hours and beer/wine in gr	Neutral
3.8E+17	12441	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 1:47	#####	Share thoughts on grocery stores & convenience: http://t.co/IBSFveGLvS #bcliqur #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	Share thoughts on grocery stores & convenience: h	Positive
3.8E+17	12440	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 2:57	#####	RT @John_Yap: Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groceries, Convenience & Public Safety: http://t.co/IBSFveGLvS #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	RT @John_Yap: Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groce	Positive
3.8E+17	12436	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 2:54	#####	Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groceries, Convenience & Public Safety: http://t.co/IBSFveGLvS #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groceries, Convenien	Positive
3.8E+17	12387	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 6:31	#####	RT @John_Yap: Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groceries, Convenience & Public Safety: http://t.co/IBSFveGLvS #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	RT @John_Yap: Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groce	Positive
3.8E+17	12383	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 13:56	#####	RT @John_Yap: Share thoughts on grocery stores & convenience: http://t.co/IBSFveGLvS #bcliqur #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	RT @John_Yap: Share thoughts on grocery stores &	Positive
3.8E+17	12381	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 13:54	#####	RT @John_Yap: Share thoughts on grocery stores & convenience: http://t.co/IBSFveGLvS #bcliqur #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	RT @John_Yap: Share thoughts on grocery stores &	Positive
3.8E+17	12374	BCLIQUOR	9/18/2013 5:43	#####	RT @ModernizeWine: MT @CTVBC: @John_Yap, Head of #BCLiquor Policy Review questions selling booze in grocery and convenience stores http://t...	Verbatim Text	RT @ModernizeWine: MT @CTVBC: @John_Yap, H	Positive
3.8E+17	12372	BCLIQUOR	9/18/2013 6:52	#####	.@brucehayne, the idea's popularity IS the "data that suggests why we should be putting it into grocery stores" #bcliqur @John_Yap @CTVBC	Verbatim Text	.@brucehayne, the idea's popularity IS the "data th	Neutral
3.8E+17	12371	BCLIQUOR	9/18/2013 5:34	#####	MT @CTVBC: @John_Yap, Head of #BCLiquor Policy Review questions selling booze in grocery and convenience stores http://t.co/0QPcA1lwNK	Verbatim Text	MT @CTVBC: @John_Yap, Head of #BCLiquor Polic	Positive
3.8E+17	12295	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 20:10	#####	RT @john_yap: Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groceries, Convenience & Public Safety: http://t.co/VaxGjnT3xQ #bcpoli	Verbatim Text	RT @john_yap: Today's #bcliqur blog post: Groce	Positive
3.81E+17	12064	BCLIQUOR	9/19/2013 22:11	#####	@John_Yap living in Nanaimo and I am in favour of liquor sold in conv/grocery stores during certain hours, say until 6pm.	Verbatim Text	@John_Yap living in Nanaimo and I am in favour of	Neutral
3.81E+17	12013	BCLIQUOR	9/20/2013 1:05	#####	Should you be able to buy alcohol in #BC grocery stores?	Verbatim Text	Should you be able to buy alcohol in #BC grocery st	Neutral
3.81E+17	11966	BCLIQUOR	9/20/2013 17:20	#####	RT @govTogetherBC: Should you be able to buy alcohol in #BC grocery stores?	Verbatim Text	RT @govTogetherBC: Should you be able to buy alc	Neutral
3.81E+17	11964	BCLIQUOR	9/20/2013 17:16	#####	Should you be able to buy alcohol in #BC grocery stores?	Verbatim Text	Should you be able to buy alcohol in #BC grocery st	Neutral
3.81E+17	11959	BCLIQUOR	9/20/2013 17:25	#####	RT @govtogetherbc: Should you be able to buy alcohol in grocery stores?	Verbatim Text	RT @govtogetherbc: Should you be able to buy alc	Neutral
3.81E+17	11913	BCLIQUOR	9/19/2013 20:49	#####	#bcliqur Selling beer/wine/cider at grocery stores means less driving around, promotes safety and health of environment.	Verbatim Text	#bcliqur Selling beer/wine/cider at grocery stores	Neutral
518	10744	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland / 4.23	13	However, you can ensure that the liquor stores remain open and ensure that alcohol does not become potentially dangerously available by limiting what a grocery or convenience store can sell.	comment_conten I have already posted in the more recent blog about Positive

518	10743	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13 One of the largest issues I can see with the introduction of liquor sales in supermarkets and convenience stores, aside from greater accessibility, is the idea that they will make liquor stores, including the BCL, redundant or unnecessary.	comment_conten I have already posted in the more recent blog abou Neutral
518	10741	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13 I think there is an amazing chance to change that here and part of the solution may lie in introducing liquor sales to supermarkets and convenience stores.	comment_conten I have already posted in the more recent blog abou Positive
518	10737	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13 On Liquor being sold in Grocery and Convenience stores:I believe that these new laws will have far more impact on the culture of drinking in this province than anything else.	comment_conten I have already posted in the more recent blog abou Positive
518	10717	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13 I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public safety" that I adamantly believe that the culture of drinking in our province has the chance to changed for the healthier here in BC and that our current one seems to be one of an "All or Nothing" mentality.	comment_conten I have already posted in the more recent blog abou Positive
630	10713	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	4.11	9 While I do not mind the idea of opening up retail to include grocery stores, corner stores, etc., it is not personally so important to me.	comment_conten While I don't mind the idea of opening up retail to i Neutral
631	10705	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	6 I have lived in the US and traveled extensively throughout the Western world and have rarely seen a restriction on selling alcohol at grocery/convenience stores, yet those places are all able to cope with it.	comment_conten I have lived in the US and traveled extensively thro Positive
636	10700	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25 I think that any grocery store should be able to sell wine, and I think that any convenience store should be able to sell beer and wine.	comment_conten First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up Neutral
636	10699	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25 Yes we should be able to by wine in grocery stores but we should have to be shelling out \$20 or \$30 for bottles of wine that would be considered utter swill in most other areas of the first world.	comment_conten First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up Negative
636	10697	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25 Being able to buy wine in a grocery store is the mark of a civilized society.	comment_conten First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up Positive
636	10696	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25 So it is with this backdrop in mind that I answer the Minister's question regarding the sale of alcohol in grocery stores.	comment_conten First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up Neutral
634	10677	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co.		0 Supermarkets that would be willing to construct a separate space in their store for alcohol sales should not be a problem.	comment_conten I'm curious as to what the studies tell us of societie Positive
640	10629	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.42	12 I strongly believe that all types of liquor should be available in grocery stores anywhere in the province.	comment_conten I strongly believe that all types of liquor should be ε Negative

597	10598 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.82	In an ideal world, BC would model itself after Europe and allow sales of any 11 liquor at any grocery store, corner store, gas station, etc.	comment_conten It is my opinion that liquor laws in British Columbia Strongly positive
628	10595 BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	If you can tolerate the sale of a highly addictive product with no known benefits by huge health impacts in pharmacies, grocery and convenience 7 stores, then the case against alcohol in the same places is illogical.	comment_conten The availability of alcohol has nothing whatever to Positive
637	10575 BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.5	I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery stores back in the 1980's, to pharmacy's and motor oil and hardware items and patio furniture and many other household items in 12 grocery stores at the present time.	comment_conten I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult li Neutral
668	10573 BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	This is like saying that there should be separate government stores for candy, snacks and sugary drinks so that the obese person who is trying to lose weight is not tempted to wander down the candy and snack aisle when 2 they go to the grocery store for kale and celery.	comment_conten I simply cannot agree with this. Why should I, the re Negative
638	10565 BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.5	16 Beer and wine should be available at grocery/convenience stores.	comment_conten I agree on several earlier posts. Beer and wine sho Neutral
633	10561 BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.94	I would guess that if people are purchasing beer at the grocery store, then your standard liquor stores who do stock the craft beers would lose 16 business as would the craft distillers.	comment_conten I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor ir Negative
633	10559 BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.94	If a convenience/grocery store sells beer, are they going to make an effort 16 to stock craft beers?	comment_conten I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor ir Positive
633	10557 BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.94	I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor in 16 gas/grocery/convenience store.	comment_conten I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor ir Neutral
535	10551 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	I am not sure I understand how buying beer at a grocery store and then getting in my car would promote drinking and driving any less than buying beer at a gas station and then getting in my car, or for that matter, buying 15 beer at the BC Liquor store today, and then getting in my car.	comment_conten I'm not sure I understand how buying beer at a gro Neutral
635	10549 BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.8	I think it is a great idea to have it sold in grocery stores, it would save one 10 more trip somewhere else and i do not see what the difference is.	comment_conten I think it is a great idea to have it sold in grocery stc Positive

545	10509 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17 Simply go to Spain, France, Denmark, Germany, parts of the USA, etc, etc, etc, etc and you will see how purchasing alcohol in a grocery store and having some wine in the park is a wonderful thing that does not negatively impact their society as some of the naysayers here would lead you to believe.	comment_conten Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the	Neutral
545	10506 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17 Try explaining to my Danish friends that A) we have to drive 20 city blocks to find wine, and B) that we can not drink this wine in a park in a responsible manner for a picnic on a hot summer day because Canadians can not be trusted to buy wine from a grocery store without direct government oversight, and nor can we be trusted to drink this wine in a park without causing serious social unrest.	comment_conten Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the	Neutral
545	10505 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17 I find it honestly embarrassing as a Canadian because it says to the greater world that our citizens can not be trusted or be responsible enough to purchase something such as wine from a grocery store, when to the rest of the world this simple, common practice has been in place for hundreds of years.	comment_conten Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the	Negative
545	10503 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17 Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the world, everywhere from Bangkok to Bosnia, and I can attest that it is extremely frustrating and embarrassing as a citizen of British Columbia, compared to a large portion of the rest of the world, to not be able to buy alcohol from grocery and convenience stores.	comment_conten Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the	Neutral
627	10499 BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest		0 to have liquors in a grocery or convenience store would be just for the convenience of having another place to buy	comment_conten I don't mind going to a liquor store, to have liquors	Positive
485	10491 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11 If these issues could be resolved then I would support beer & wine sales in grocery stores as well, I just can not see how it can be done.	comment_conten 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm	Negative
485	10486 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11 A lot of grocery stores are now open until 10pm or midnight.	comment_conten 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm	Neutral
485	10485 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11 Go into a large grocery store after about 8pm and there is usually only a few people working and they are usually all high school or college kids.	comment_conten 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm	Neutral
485	10483 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11 There are numerous problems at these places in the US and there is no reason to believe we would be any different.6) Finally, the sale of alcohol in grocery stores is where I can not really decide but I do not support them being allowed to sell hard liquor.	comment_conten 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm	Negative

629	10464	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.67	I agree beer n wine from grocery stores and gas station like other countrys be great then driving all over the place to setup ur bbq or evening with ur friesnds and drinkin in public should be allowed as well but public intoxication still be delt with as it is now	comment_content I agree beer n wine from grocery stores and gas sta	Neutral
646	10424	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.41	27 NOT putting it in grocery stores potentially saves lives!	comment_content I'm honestly enraged by the lack of consideration h	Neutral
646	10418	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.41	How about being sensitive to the needs of recovering alcoholics that want 27 to go buy groceries without the temptation?	comment_content I'm honestly enraged by the lack of consideration h	Neutral
643	10405	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.87	23 I would like to buy from a grocery store	comment_content I'll be to the point.1. I'd like to see the Happy Hour	Neutral
656	10400	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.27	11 If gas stations can sell alcohol, then why not grocery stores?	comment_content I agree with alcohol sales in grocery stores. This is i	Negative
656	10393	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.27	11 I agree with alcohol sales in grocery stores.	comment_content I agree with alcohol sales in grocery stores. This is i	Positive
655	10373	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.29	Wine and beer should be available in grocery stores and they should be 14 allowed to discount the price.	comment_content Wine and beer should be available in grocery store:	Negative
662	10367	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	4	under the new model, liquor would be distributed through the grocery 1 network, so costs would go down for retailers, as well as customers.	comment_content under the new model, liquor would be distributed t	Neutral
651	10343	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.46	I would love it if alcohol were more affordable and accessible in grocery 13 stores.	comment_content I would love it if alcohol were more affordable and	Strongly positive
650	10338	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.73	15 In Oregon, you can buy beer in the grocery store.	comment_content I disagree. In Oregon, you can buy beer in the groce	Neutral
574	10296	BLOG	25 - 29	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	I would consider allowing moderate drinking in public, selling limited amounts with food at supermarkets, easing up on establishment licensing, 1 and lowering the drinking age for beer/wine.	comment_content I couldn't agree more with with this thoughtful corr	Neutral
592	10290	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	1.44	Currently, recovering alcoholics can buy their groceries in an alcohol free 9 environment.	comment_content I would benefit from the convenience and lower pri	Neutral
588	10285	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.83	I agree that beer, wine, and spirits should be made available in grocery and 6 convenience stores.	comment_content I agree that beer, wine, and spirits should be made	Neutral
609	10264	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest		I do think lines need to be drawn as to where alcohol is sold, but that would be to require a separate license for it that is available to 0 grocery/convenience stores.	comment_content I do think lines need to be drawn as to where alcoh	Positive
575	10262	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.69	The fact that in some rural areas you can buy alcohol at grocery stores 13 makes it even more farcical.	comment_content Having moved here from England, I still can't get us	Negative
585	10254	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	1.94	With liquor sales limited to the liquor stores we do not have to deal with drunks at the grocery stores or any of the other suggested locations where 17 families are shopping.	comment_content With liquor sales limited to the liquor stores we doi	Neutral

575	10253	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.69	Having moved here from England, I still can not get used to the idea or 13 understand the reasons behind separating alcohol and groceries.	comment_conten Having moved here from England, I still can't get us Negative
580	10249	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	2.7	If big box stores and grocery chains were to sell liquor it would have a 20 seriously detrimental effect on the private stores that exist already.	comment_conten I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores. The Strongly negative
580	10246	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	2.7	20 Opening up sales to every grocery	comment_conten I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores. The Neutral
580	10244	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	2.7	20 I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores.	comment_conten I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores. The Negative
576	10210	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	Allow sales in grocery stores, gas stations etc.2) Allow people to consume 12 beer and wine in public areas and enforce public drunkenness laws.	comment_conten Two simple changes 1) End the monopoly on liquor Neutral
621	10199	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	5	6 Additionally, what is the stop a drunk guy from grocery shopping right now?	comment_conten Is this a regular occurrence where you live? I feel lil Neutral
578	10184	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	4.47	Beers and wine should be sold in grocery stores and gas stations like most 15 civilized countries in the world.	comment_conten Beers and wine should be sold in grocery stores and Neutral
577	10181	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	4.2	Beers and wine should be sold on grocery stores and gas stations like most 10 civilized countries in the world.	comment_conten Beers and wine should be sold on grocery stores an Neutral
607	10114	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3	You need to understand that Rural stores have to sell groceries as a 2 condition of being able to sell liquor not the other way around.	comment_conten You need to understand that Rural stores have to s Neutral
459	10098	BLOG	25 - 29	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	Secondly, I definitely feel that alcohol should be made available in 9 convenience stores, and supermarkets.	comment_conten I really think that, to move forward, we need to exa Neutral
605	10066	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.73	You can buy beer or wine at the local corner store or grocery store, while spirits are sold at government liquor stores (Société des alcools du Québec) 15 much like in British Columbia.	comment_conten I've been living in Montreal for the past two years f Neutral
606	10035	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	1.88	Answer: They do not Its a much bigger issue to open up sales in grocery 8 stores and convenience stores then you think.	comment_conten There is a liquor store on every corner in Alberta! E Negative
550	10023	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.67	I do not think that having these products available as a grocery item will cause kids to drink, nor do I see how it would relate to snacks and lottery 12 tickets at all.	comment_conten I can't see how you can justify this comment. I don Neutral
604	10019	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	1.71	17 I do not support alcohol in grocery stores...too close to children.	comment_conten I don't support alcohol in grocery stores...too close Negative
572	9961	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.6	20 I have lived in countries where beer and wine is sold in supermarkets.	comment_conten Based on very many years working and living both c Neutral
537	9949	BLOG	25 - 29	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	1.56	While it would certainly be more convenient to be able to access alcohol in grocery stores, is easier access and increased convenience to a potentially 18 hazardous substance necessarily a good thing?	comment_conten In terms of public health and safety, I don't believe Positive

549	9930 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.42	Why is it so difficult for an adult to purchase wine, spirit or beer at either a 12 rural or government outlet rather than a grocery store.	comment_conten I couldn't agree more with the writer of this article, Strongly negative
544	9923 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.67	If beer, wine and spirits are sold in private stores or grocery stores would that make the LDB redundant and result in the loss of close to 3800 jobs in 12 the pubic sector?	comment_conten If beer, wine and spirits are sold in private stores or Neutral
548	9906 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.6	10 I support beer and wine grocery/corner stores.	comment_conten I support beer and wine grocery/corner stores. I h Neutral
534	9895 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.56	Even when I was in Australia the liquor stores were connected to grocery 16 stores.	comment_conten I spent some time in Florida last year. I purchased : Neutral
534	9889 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.56	I purchased alcohol at a Wal-Mart, at a grocery store, at a corner store and 16 at a liquor store.	comment_conten I spent some time in Florida last year. I purchased : Neutral
540	9873 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.71	Further I have travelled extensively in the US and Europe where grocery 14 store liquor sales is the norm.	comment_conten I live in a small community where 2 grocery stores Positive
540	9871 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.71	I live in a small community where 2 grocery stores currently offer liquor 14 sales.	comment_conten I live in a small community where 2 grocery stores Neutral
536	9862 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	9 Wine and beer in grocery stores makes sense to me (esp.	comment_conten Wine and beer in grocery stores makes sense to me Neutral
539	9860 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.5	That is how it is done in Australia and it is much better for the consumer for 10 purchasing groceries.	comment_conten I wish we had the price including tax on the price ta Neutral
531	9843 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.38	8 Liquor should be available in grocery stores (including Walmart and Costco).	comment_conten Liquor should be available in grocery stores (includi Negative
562	9804 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.96	I think these are drinks that are normally consumed with food and should 27 be sold wherever food is sold (grocery stores, 7/11, costco).	comment_conten I've lived in Montreal where they sell beer/wine in Negative
562	9803 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.96	I have lived in Montreal where they sell beer/wine in every corner store and 27 grocery store.	comment_conten I've lived in Montreal where they sell beer/wine in Neutral
552	9790 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.44	I feel that the BC has a good balance in terms of its current alcohol policies whereas in the UK - where all alcohol is widely available in large grocery 9 stores - there are serious alcohol issues in most communities.	comment_conten I came to Canada from the UK 5 years ago and I hav Neutral
521	9772 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.63	g grocery & convenience stores, gas stations, big box stores, wineries, breweries, distillers, etc.), I feel that the Government of BC should get out of the liquor distribution & sales business, and turn this activity over to the 19 private sector.	comment_conten I think that the most significant way to modernize li Positive
504	9756 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1	Do not want to see alcohol in groceries and other stores as we have 1 adequate off sale opportunity at pubs/bars.	comment_conten Living in a rural community we can not take our chi Positive
473	9737 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.69	Allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores and markets, and at places such 13 as Costco.	comment_conten I agree that BC's liquor laws are archaic, the result Neutral

556	9727 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co.		So, in a grocery or convenience store context, would the 'seller' have to be 0 19+?	comment_conten I find this an interesting perspective: young people Positive
556	9721 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co.		I find this an interesting perspective: young people selling alcohol in grocery 0 or convenience stores.	comment_conten I find this an interesting perspective: young people Positive
514	9682 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	I travel to Europe and Asia five or six times per year and it always amuses me that alcohol is pretty much available 24-7 in convenience and grocery 4 stores.	comment_conten I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in Strongly positive
494	9680 BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	However, you can ensure that the liquor stores remain open and ensure that alcohol does not become potentially dangerously available by limiting 5 what a grocery or convenience store can sell.	comment_conten I believe that these new laws will have far more im Positive
494	9677 BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	One of the largest issues I can see with the introduction of liquor sales in supermarkets and convenience stores, aside from greater accessibility, is the idea that they will make liquor stores, including the BCL, redundant or 5 unnecessary.	comment_conten I believe that these new laws will have far more im Neutral
514	9676 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	We visited Seattle in August and found that Washington State has dismantled its old government liquor stores and now allow sales of beer, 4 wine and spirits in grocery stores.	comment_conten I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in Neutral
494	9673 BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	I think there is an amazing chance to change that here and part of the solution may lie in introducing liquor sales to supermarkets and 5 convenience stores.	comment_conten I believe that these new laws will have far more im Positive
514	9668 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in grocery stores and in 4 most larger convenience stores.	comment_conten I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in Positive
506	9659 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 I agree with beer and wine, at a minimum, should be sold in grocery stores.	comment_conten I agree with beer and wine, at a minimum, should b Neutral
507	9654 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	3 I would love to have all types of liquor available in grocery stores.	comment_conten I would love to have all types of liquor available in Strongly positive
525	9640 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.06	I do not think it is a good idea to sell liquor at grocery/convenience 18 stores:Long-term, it will encourage young people to consume more alcohol.	comment_conten I do not think it's a good idea to sell liquor at grocer Positive
497	9626 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	Let us join other countries and make at least beer & wine available at 15 grocery stores.	comment_conten Yes! Let's join other countries and make at least be Neutral
500	9623 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	5 I are no reason that I can not purchase alcohol while I buy my groceries.	comment_conten I are no reason that I can't purchase alcohol while I Neutral
527	9616 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	9 It is about time we were able to purchase beer and wine with our groceries.	comment_conten It is about time we were able to purchase beer and Neutral
522	9599 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.63	grocery store is necessarily the way to go other than in some remote 8 communities where other options are limited	comment_conten I don't agree that liquor sales in a convenience or g Neutral
524	9594 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.8	10 I would love to have alcohol available in the grocery store.	comment_conten I would love to have alcohol available in the grocer Strongly positive

523	9586 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.75	I have no preference about the sale of liquor in grocery stores one way or 4 the other.	comment_conten I support selling beer and wine in grocery stores, be Neutral
523	9585 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.75	It would be convenient to be able to choose from a selection of beers and 4 wines at the same time I was doing the grocery shopping.	comment_conten I support selling beer and wine in grocery stores, be Negative
523	9582 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.75	4 wine in grocery stores	comment_conten I support selling beer and wine in grocery stores, be Neutral
516	9575 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	There is nothing wrong with being able to buy a bottle of wine or some beer 4 while getting your grocery.	comment_conten I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery Positive
516	9574 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	Perhaps grocery stores can have a separate section for alcohol so that 4 minors are not tempted to steal it.	comment_conten I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery Neutral
516	9572 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	I do think that sales should be limited to grocery stores rather than convince stores because grocery stores often have more security and they 4 are not open after hours.	comment_conten I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery Negative
516	9568 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	I do not think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery stores will make any 4 difference to alcohol related incidences.	comment_conten I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery Neutral
509	9567 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.67	We have the toughest and un-fairest drink driving laws in the country so lets make it easier for every body to get beer and liquor, lets sell it in 3 grocery stores, coffee shops, shoe stores and "O" yes gas bars.	comment_conten We have the toughest and un-fairest drink driving l: Neutral
348	9566 BLOG	19 - 24	9/15/2013 0:00	Kootenay	4.53	They will filter out into the streets at a slower rate. - We should be able to buy liquor in grocery and convenience stores - We should be able to drink reasonably in public (we already do)- I agree public drunkenness should still 17 be a crime	comment_conten I am so glad these archaic policies are being reform Neutral
476	9540 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	First of all, beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores and convenience 10 stores.	comment_conten First of all, beer and wine should be sold in grocery Neutral
479	9517 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.46	As a person employed in the social services field, I am wary about opening 13 up the sale of liquor, wine and beer to grocery and convenience stores.	comment_conten As a person employed in the social services field, I : Neutral
515	9466 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	Yes, I definitely would like to be able to purchase wine and beer at a grocery 1 store.	comment_conten Yes, I definitely would like to be able to purchase w Neutral
465	9461 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.67	To allow for the sale of liquor in those grocery stores would surely effect the future of those government stores who now supply great service, 15 variety, and pricing.	comment_conten It is hard to imagine that there is a need for any mo Positive
465	9460 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.67	Many BC government liquor stores are located very near major grocery 15 stores.	comment_conten It is hard to imagine that there is a need for any mo Neutral
465	9459 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.67	All those public and private stores that rely on their sales and their employees, would be in jeopardy as a result of allowing more liquor outlets 15 to appear, especially in grocery stores.	comment_conten It is hard to imagine that there is a need for any mo Neutral

513	9422 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.56	9 Like in about all countries in the world, alcohol is sold in grocery stores etc.	comment_conten	It is high time that our outdated liquor laws get a b	Neutral
477	9387 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest		Two changes I would like the government to consider making in BC are to be able to purchase beer and wine in grocery stores and the second change 0 would be for the liquor stores to sell cold beer/wine/cider.	comment_conten	Two changes I would like the government to consid	Negative
490	9327 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.41	17 3) Sell ALL types of liquor in grocery stores, wine stores .	comment_conten	Where to start regarding BC's unbelievably archaic	Neutral
467	9305 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.8	5 I think every thing should be sold in grocery stores including hard liquor..	comment_conten	Hi, This sales of liquor law is out dated. Even third v	Negative
493	9286 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.46	Allow sale of beer, wine and spirits in grocery stores and beer and wine in 13 corner stores.	comment_conten	1. Allow sale of beer, wine and spirits in grocery st	Neutral
434	9267 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	North Coast	4.26	19 Beer and Wine should be available in Grocery stores.	comment_conten	I enjoy the BC Government liquor stores, prices the	Negative
492	9258 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.58	Whether these are big box stores or any national grocery chain, this 12 convenience is LONG over due.	comment_conten	I think we are over due on this issue. If wine and b	Positive
492	9257 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.58	I firmly believe that we should be able to purchase whatever kind of spirits we choose in the same location as we are purchasing our groceries, this is 12 just common sense and moreover, CONVENIENT.	comment_conten	I think we are over due on this issue. If wine and b	Neutral
496	9253 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	Having lived in Quebec and the UK I can certainly testify to the convenience and pleasure it is to buy wine along with groceries or pick up a 6 pack of 12 beer when refueling.	comment_conten	Allowing beer/wine sales in grocery, convenience, t	Positive
496	9252 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	At present, I am forced to make an extra trip to purchase wine when I buy 12 my groceries - wasting fuel and time.	comment_conten	Allowing beer/wine sales in grocery, convenience, t	Negative
496	9250 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	12 Allowing beer/wine sales in grocery, convenience, big box stores, etc.	comment_conten	Allowing beer/wine sales in grocery, convenience, t	Positive
491	9244 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.43	Private outlets whether corner stores, supermarkets or service stations 7 must be diligent in ensuring product will not be sold to minors.	comment_conten	We don't have to reinvent the wheel. Look to other	Positive
463	9237 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.4	5 it would just be more convenient when grocery shopping.	comment_conten	I think we should be able to purchase alcohol at cor	Strongly positive
484	9215 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.25	While I am cautious about opening up liquor sales to grocery stores, etc., there are already a plethora of outlets in rural areas that combine liquor 4 sales with common store sales.	comment_conten	While I am cautious about opening up liquor sales t	Neutral

227	9212 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.93	I am not in support of this liquor policy review to be totally honest we have enough issues around the safe use of alcohol and if motion is carried forward why should it be aloud in our local grocery stores its like when smoking in public places was revised the second hand smoke was unhealthy for children to inhale so the no smoking in grocery stores bars casinos and so on alcohol should be in a controlled environment people die because of alcohol use drinking and driving we have people who even boot leg in this province there is a lot to think about and the future of Canada's children and familys most alcohol related crashes kill the sober drivers or pedestrians and the drunk survives the politics are not thinking clearly the drinking and driving laws are not even all there yet these types of people should not be aloud to have a license and be charged with murder and thrown in jail for life with out parole yes the liquor act should be taken	comment_content	I am not in support of this liquor policy review to be t	Negative
435	9198 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	26 2) Alcohol should be available at grocery stores, convenience stores, etc.	comment_content	Our BC liquor laws are far overdue for change. In th	Neutral
446	9166 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.17	6 I wholeheartedly support the sale of alcoholic beverages in grocery stores.	comment_content	I wholeheartedly support the Royal Canadian Legio	Neutral
481	9159 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.91	A person can also purchase all alcohol products in grocery stores as well as private stores.	comment_content	After visiting Europe this past summer I was please	Neutral
486	9157 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	I can not see this affecting health issues as it would be the same as going to a BC Liquor store after my grocery shopping... it is just more convenient.	comment_content	I would love to be able to purchase wine in a groce	Positive
486	9156 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	I would love to be able to purchase wine in a grocery store while I shop for my dinner.	comment_content	I would love to be able to purchase wine in a groce	Strongly positive
423	9086 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	if the government stores were not around all the grocery stores and private retailers would charge you even more	comment_content	What I have noticed is a number of people advocat	Neutral
423	9085 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	Private retailers including grocery stores would almost always charge you higher prices	comment_content	What I have noticed is a number of people advocat	Neutral
423	9084 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	Unlike what most private liquor stores tell you or grocery stores who want to sale alcohol, I will tell you a secret.	comment_content	What I have noticed is a number of people advocat	Neutral
423	9081 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	If grocery stores sold alcohol,gov sales would drop and the Liberals would need to raise taxes to make up for lost funds from government stores.	comment_content	What I have noticed is a number of people advocat	Negative

423	9077 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	As a retail consultant i can tell you most coner store owners and grocery retailers would be less capable or less interested in not selling to minors or 22 intoxicated people.	comment_conten What I have noticed is a number of people advocat Neutral
423	9073 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	As a liquor consultant this would be in my interest as large Grocery chains 22 would hire me but It would not be in the publics interest.	comment_conten What I have noticed is a number of people advocat Neutral
423	9071 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	It would also cost police and parks more to deal with if allowed and the 22 Liberals will not fund this extra cost.2, Allowing in Grocery stores.	comment_conten What I have noticed is a number of people advocat Neutral
431	9050 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.17	Generates more potential revenue for the government via taxes.2) Allow 18 Grocery stores over a certain size to carry liquor.	comment_conten Hello Everyone,1) I propose that we have ONLINE C Neutral
423	9049 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	And sales in grocery stores have no to little experiace dealing with liquor 22 retailing or its effects.	comment_conten What I have noticed is a number of people advocat Neutral
458	9020 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	I would love to see liquor sold in supermarkets like they have in USA for I believe it would reduce our current tax burden and open up the market to 10 more competitive pricing...	comment_conten I would love to see liquor sold in supermarkets like Positive
319	8956 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	I also agree with all previous posts calling for alcohol sales at grocery stores 10 and allowing for consumption in public places.	comment_conten Children should be allowed in pubs that serve food Positive
454	8921 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	5 There should be wine and beer available in grocery stores.	comment_conten As responsible adults, I do not see why we can not Neutral
389	8889 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.83	The changes I would like to see most are:1) alcohol sales in grocery 6 stores/convenience stores.	comment_conten I am repeating what many, thankfully, have already Positive
387	8879 BLOG	19 - 24	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.75	Purchased cider at a grocery store and then proceeded to the river where me and a few friends enjoyed the beautiful summer day while having a 4 couple of ciders.	comment_conten The last few years I spent quite a few months trave Positive
387	8872 BLOG	19 - 24	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.75	4 We should allow grocery stores/gas stations etc to sell alcohol.	comment_conten The last few years I spent quite a few months trave Neutral
388	8862 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	The ability to pick up a bottle of BC wine, or locally brewed beer with my 5 groceries would be wonderful.	comment_conten B.C. needs to drop the puritan liquor laws. In Euroꝑ Positive
388	8860 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	5 In Europe you can buy liquor in any grocery store	comment_conten B.C. needs to drop the puritan liquor laws. In Euroꝑ Neutral
384	8858 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.75	If the BC Government really wanted to encourage healthy consumption and reduce drunk driving, it would seem to make more sense if we were able to 4 purchase from the local grocery store.	comment_conten I find it embarrassing to explain to overseas guests Positive
384	8851 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.75	4 I think we should be able to purchase in grocery stores.	comment_conten I find it embarrassing to explain to overseas guests Negative
443	8834 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest		Also I would like to see beer and wine sold at local groceries like safeway 0 etc..	comment_conten I want to see a law pass that allows British Colombi Neutral

390	8787 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.33	I would also encourage consideration of the idea of selling beer and wine in 3 grocery outlets.	comment_conten For starters, the Provincial Government should be c	Neutral
393	8778 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	Short and sweet:-Allow the sale of ALL alcohol in grocery stores, convenience stores, and gas stations-Allow kids into pubs with their parents-Allow consumption of alcohol in public places (no beergarden fences)-Allow restaurants and bars to offer "Happy Hour" specials.-Lower legal drinking 5 age to 18.	comment_conten Short and sweet:-Allow the sale of ALL alcohol in gr	Positive
362	8770 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.64	Alcohol is sold in grocery stores (and gas station in Quebec) as well as longer sale hours and I saw less public drunken behavior despite people 11 being allowed to drink on the beach and at certain parks.	comment_conten I spent five years living in Ontario/Quebec where th	Neutral
359	8705 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1	1 I am not in favour of having alcohol for sale in grocery stores/box stores	comment_conten A couple of ideas from someone who actively supp	Neutral
415	8651 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	Count me as another British Columbia who wants to be able to buy beer 20 and wine at the grocery store.	comment_conten Count me as another British Columbia who wants to	Neutral
375	8570 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.44	Allow supermarkets to sell alcohol, if the concern is control of purchasing make them separate premises within the supermarket, but with the same 16 opening hours.3.	comment_conten 1. Privatise all government alcohol stores and distri	Negative
377	8527 BLOG	25 - 29	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.67	Furthermore, I agree with a need for new taxation policies and the 3 availability of alcohol in grocery stores.	comment_conten As a young (but over legal drinking age) person mys	Positive
377	8518 BLOG	25 - 29	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.67	Yes, putting alcohol in grocery stores does increase exposure of alcoholic beverages to a younger audience, however this does not necessarily create 3 an increase in under age drinking.	comment_conten As a young (but over legal drinking age) person mys	Neutral
351	8494 BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Kootenay	3.67	Re beer & wine being sold in grocery stores ,I do like the variety offered by the big BCLCB Signature stores but BC is long past due in catching up with civilized countries ,I would very much welcome beer & wine being offered 6 in our grocery outlets	comment_conten Re beer & wine being sold in grocery stores ,I	Positive
378	8452 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest		Time to get with the times and be able to purchase ALL liquor in grocery 0 stores, convenience, stores, and gas stations.	comment_conten I would absolutely agree. Government liquor store	Positive
318	8432 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.74	I would advocate:1) Allowing sales to adults in grocery stores, convenience stores, etc.2) Increasing the number of establishments (likely pubs, etc) 19 where parents can have a drink with their children around.	comment_conten I'm 33, but have lived, while an adult, in Vancouver	Positive
372	8428 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.67	6 Your village has a grocery store and/or gas station right?	comment_conten Your village has a grocery store and/or gas station r	Neutral
322	8423 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.18	once supermarkets could sell alcohol cheaper because of their buying 22 power, there was a race to the bottom	comment_conten Sure, go ahead, make one of the most dangerous r	Neutral

371	8418 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.47	Let us join the 20th century and allow the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores, at least.	comment_content Let's join the 20th century and allow the purchase c	Neutral
364	8393 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	1	currently there are mayor problems in UK and Ireland because of the easy access to alcohol especially in supermarkets and gas stations	comment_content I agree, currently there are mayor problems in UK a	Neutral
323	8386 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.73	11 I do not care if liquor is sold on grocery and corner stores.	comment_content I dont care if liquor is sold on grocery and corner st	Negative
361	8379 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.44	I do not want to see change in the law re -consuming alcohol in public parks/beachs-sale of alcohol in supermarkets/stores-children in pubs/beer gardens	comment_content I do not want to see change in the law re -consumir	Neutral
248	8356 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.83	Support for widespread sales of beer and wine in grocery stores, Costco and convenience stores3.	comment_content It seems there are many themes here, practically u	Positive
333	8320 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.15	13 Allow for grocery / big box stores to sell alcohol.	comment_content This is an opportunity for the province of BC to leac	Neutral
300	8241 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	Allow beer/wine to be sold in grocery stores,gas stations or any other store that wishes to do so.	comment_content Allow beer/wine to be sold in grocery stores,gas st	Neutral
332	8239 BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	Get out of the retail market re liquor, the Gov could collect the taxes without the expense of maintaining the stores, 40 years ago in Australia you could buy wine with your groceries and they had drive through beer stores, also in the UK they have beer stores in the Malls, so BC get with Times, !!!	comment_content Get out of the retail market re liquor, the Gov coul	Neutral
264	8238 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	Recently on a trip to Arizona, we bought wine at the grocery store with an eye-opening selection.	comment_content Recently on a trip to Arizona, we bought wine at th	Neutral
340	8209 BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	Consumers should be able to buy legal alcohol products as people in neighbouring Washington State can - at Costco's, grocery chain stores and other retail outlets.	comment_content We don't need the government retailing booze. Co	Negative
258	8201 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.62	21 I agree that liquor should be sold in the grocery stores/Costco etc.	comment_content I agree that liquor should be sold in the grocery sto	Neutral
269	8175 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.8	If instituting the regulation of grocery type stores being allowed to sell wine and beer is the first step, hurrah!	comment_content It is time to abolish the distance requirement betw	Neutral
247	8122 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.83	12 lighter wines for sale at some grocery stores	comment_content I suggest allowing beer and lighter wines for sale at	Neutral
259	8117 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.54	Few points to the law I would like to see changed:1) Allow the sale of liquor (at least beer and Wine) in grocery stores.2) Allow children to be with adults in neighborhood pubs/beer gardens.3) Allow dining establishments greater freedom as to when and how to sell liquor.	comment_content Few points to the law I would like to see changed:1	Positive

224	8104 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	Alcohol (any alcoholic beverage, including beer, wine, sake, hard liquor) can be purchased in grocery stores, convenience stores, stalls at fairs and 13 festivals, and even from vending machines.	comment_conten I lived in Japan for 20 years. In Japan, the drinking a Neutral
285	7958 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	As well, Alberta has giant liquor superstores on premises at many grocery 12 stores... no issues there.	comment_conten "the flip side to that coin is public drunkenness, the Neutral
285	7957 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	Most US jurisdictions sell liquor, wine, and beer from grocery stores and do 12 not have an increase in the problems you mention.	comment_conten "the flip side to that coin is public drunkenness, the Negative
218	7930 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	North Coast	2.46	As for offering it in a supermarket, perhaps not right in the market where families shop together but an attached area where adults can enter and exit 13 as they finish their shopping.	comment_conten I'm in a smaller northern community where there a Neutral
211	7894 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.33	A few thoughts, a lot in line with the others.1) People SHOULD be able to buy beer, wine and even harder alcohol in grocery stores/gas stations/box 6 stores wherever food is sold.	comment_conten A few thoughts, a lot in line with the others.1) People Neutral
283	7887 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	I, also, would like to be able to purchase wine at my local grocery store.	comment_conten I, also, would like to be able to purchase wine at my Neutral
214	7866 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	My guess is if we do not have booze in the grocery/convenience stores by 12 2015	comment_conten Twenty Five years ago I remember seeing a man wi Positive
214	7864 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	How is Marijuana going to be decriminalized in B.C. if one can not buy a 12 bottle of beer or wine in a grocery store?	comment_conten Twenty Five years ago I remember seeing a man wi Neutral
214	7859 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	All one has to do is download a grocery store flyer from anywhere in the 12 world	comment_conten Twenty Five years ago I remember seeing a man wi Neutral
214	7838 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	Twenty Five years ago I remember seeing a man with an empty shopping 12 buggy going up and down the aisles at my local grocery store.	comment_conten Twenty Five years ago I remember seeing a man wi Negative
233	7803 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.58	liquor laws should be amended to allow beer/wine to be available at 12 grocery stores, drug marts or where food is sold.	comment_conten liquor laws should be amended to allow beer/wine Negative
222	7790 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.29	17 Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores.	comment_conten Suggestions:1. Allow beer and wine to be sold at gr Neutral
181	7772 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.52	Jon, while selling liquor or beer out of a grocery store may seem like a good idea out of convenience, the flip side to that coin is public drunkenness, 42 theft, violence, children getting their friends to steal alcohol for them, etc.	comment_conten Jon, while selling liquor or beer out of a grocery store Neutral
236	7770 BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.6	10 Allow grocery and convenience stores to sell beer and wines.	comment_conten Allow grocery and convenience stores to sell beer Positive
136	7726 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	The Unions of course will not like this because of all the employees they employ at the stores run by the government,But lets get real for one in my 14 life and have these products available at groceries, and other retail outlets.	comment_conten I might live long enough to see Canada act like the US Negative

136	7721 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	now drug addicts are everywhere but the average person has been held hostage by these people being refused the right to buy beer at a grocery store, or have children present when alcohol is being consumed	comment_content I might live long enough to see Canada act like the i	Negative
197	7650 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.25	I travel to Southern California every couple of years and the ease of being able to go to the grocery store and get ALL my shopping done is so...civilized...?	comment_content I travel to Southern California every couple of years	Positive
237	7643 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.5	ALLOWING GROCERY STORES TO SELL LIQUOR WILL NOT MAKE SENSE IN BC TO KEEP SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY STRONG.	comment_content I AGREE WITH STACEY. THE PRIVATE RETAIL LIQUOR	Neutral
243	7637 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	4.11	Reduce the obscene mark-up and taxes, and permit distribution in grocery stores etc.	comment_content I agree. Look at the evidence from other jurisdictio	Negative
199	7619 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.56	While I do not agree with some of the very low prices available in the UK, the ability to pick up a bottle of wine with your normal grocery purchase would provide much more convenience and save the need to make another journey to find a liquor store.	comment_content As a fairly recent immigrant to Canada I do think th	Positive
199	7618 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.56	As a fairly recent immigrant to Canada I do think the province should allow supermarkets to sell alcohol.	comment_content As a fairly recent immigrant to Canada I do think th	Neutral
231	7599 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	4	Quebec has allowed beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores for decades.	comment_content I have no problem with beer/wine and liquor being	Neutral
231	7597 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	4	I have no problem with beer/wine and liquor being sold in grocery stores.	comment_content I have no problem with beer/wine and liquor being	Neutral
142	7589 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	Please, bring us into the 21st century and allow us to buy alcohol at least in grocery stores.	comment_content I wish I'd known about this site sooner (just saw on	Neutral
229	7583 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.14	Quebec has been allowing the sales of beer and wine in grocery stores for decades.	comment_content I am in agreement that beer/wine and liquor shoulc	Neutral
229	7581 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.14	I am in agreement that beer/wine and liquor should be allowed to be sold in grocery stores.	comment_content I am in agreement that beer/wine and liquor shoulc	Negative
228	7576 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.6	There is no reason it should not be sold in grocery stores like in the states !	comment_content Our liquor laws are very outdated compared to the	Neutral
135	7550 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.31	let grocery stores sell liquor+wine.	comment_content get the gov.completely out of the liquor business+c	Neutral
145	7506 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.37	Reform retail to allow grocery stores, convenience and wholesale stores to sell liquor.	comment_content I think reform of the BC liquor laws should take the	Positive
141	7488 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.4	Let private retailers like grocery stores and others sell liquor just like they sell tobacco.	comment_content BC has some of the most expensive alcohol, and ou	Neutral
194	7487 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.25	Let the grocery stores sell ALL TYPES of alcohol.	comment_content I agree with Wendy. Let the grocery stores sell ALL	Neutral
195	7475 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.65	I like all of these and will add one.-Grocery Stores/ big box stores need to be able to sell at least Beer/WineS	comment_content I like all of these and will add one.-Grocery Stores/	Positive

138	7469 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.06	I agree with Ali from Vancouver Island: It is time alcohol esp wine and beer is available for purchase in grocery stores.	comment_content I agree with Ali from Vancouver Island: It's time alc Positive
149	7466 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.73	I would like to see wiine/beer made available in grocery stores (not convenience stores/gas stations) If I can get a bottle of quality wine in a local wine/beer store in my neighborhood, what difference does in make where in town I purchase it.	comment_content I would like to see wiine/beer made available in grc Positive
190	7448 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	For the simplicity of convenience, being a working professional and family member, with small amounts of free time for errands, it would be grand to be able to do one stop shopping in grocery stores or large chain stores for food and alcohol.	comment_content For the simplicity of convenience, being a working p Positive
148	7444 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	4.6	I think we need more beer and wine stores or availability throughout our grocery stores.	comment_content I think we need more beer and wine stores or availi Neutral
134	7430 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.16	Please allow grocery/convenience stores to sell alcohol (at LEAST beer and wine) like the rest of the civilized world.	comment_content Please allow grocery/convenience stores to sell alc Positive
94	7407 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	gas stations and supermarkets will have increased revenues from lease or percentage of sales	comment_content I think this is a great opportunity for our province to Neutral
94	7403 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	As people have mentioned above, if liquour distribution is granted to large conglomerates based in the US (as many of our supermarkets are), a large portion of revenues and profits would potentially flow out of our economy.	comment_content I think this is a great opportunity for our province to Neutral
94	7402 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	Liquor sales in existing supermarkets and gas stations would be a very common sense solution, applying the concept of synergy.	comment_content I think this is a great opportunity for our province to Neutral
94	7401 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	This increases convenience and makes each business more viable, while freeing up an expensive corner lot that the gas station would have taken up if it was not leasing that space from the supermarket.	comment_content I think this is a great opportunity for our province to Neutral
94	7400 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	The high volume of people following to the supermarket brings exposure to the gas bar, and vice versa.	comment_content I think this is a great opportunity for our province to Neutral
94	7399 BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	There is a concept called synergy in retail real estate, where two businesses can locate near each other or work with each other to reduce operating costs while taking advantage of locational advantages and increasing sales for each businesses without detriment to the other, such as gas bars located leased supermarket land (i.e. Superstore gas bars).	comment_content I think this is a great opportunity for our province to Positive

45	7367 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.69	If the grocery stores and places like Costco sell alcohol, it will impact the private liquor store market already operating in BC, take jobs away from local people, and businesses away from local owners who have invested a lot of money into a business and supporting community events- it is not all about the bottom line to these folks- it is about doing good business, employing local people, and being proud of something they have created.	comment_content The problem with opening up alcohol sales to a large	Positive
81	7365 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.71	-drop the prices across the board,I go south down to the USA and prices are 1/2 what they are here-allow super markets and gas stations to sell beer and wine,they check ID for cigarettes,they can do the same for a bottle of wine-same goes for hard liqueur	comment_content -drop the prices across the board,I go south down to the	Neutral
133	7348 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.16	We visit the U.S. often and find it very convenient to be able to buy beer, spirits and wine at the same place we pick up our groceries.	comment_content I feel it is about time we stepped into modern time:	Strongly positive
131	7327 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.75	Step three not drive to the USA to be able to buy some wine or beer at said grocery store to enjoy with dinner.	comment_content What would be great is this.Step one not drive to the	Positive
131	7326 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.75	Step two not drive to the USA to go grocery shopping without having to support any type of GOV marketing board may it be for dairy or eggs.	comment_content What would be great is this.Step one not drive to the	Neutral
171	7289 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Northeast	1.31	13 many BC liquor stores are already next to grocery stores	comment_content Regarding addictions, alcohol is already legal and can	Neutral
171	7285 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Northeast	1.31	13 Grocery stores should be able to sell liquor.	comment_content Regarding addictions, alcohol is already legal and can	Negative
93	7255 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.22	9 1) Allowing the sale of beer/wine/liqueur in grocery stores.	comment_content Some early trends have appeared that I agree with	Neutral
175	7241 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.6	I can see points against allowing beer/wine to be sold at supermarkets (security issues with theft, the potential for cashiers to be less attuned to how boozed up a customer already is...)	comment_content Yes! Having neighbourhood pubs in more neighbourhoods	Negative
111	7229 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	If grocery stores can sell cigarettes, then they can handle selling liquor as well.	comment_content I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into the	Neutral
169	7149 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.19	I strongly believe and hope that BC liquor laws will be more relaxed and that this review will result in the following:Allow sales of wine and beer at grocery storesExpand the private sales of liquor, beer & wine.	comment_content Thank you for conducting this policy review. It's long	Neutral
165	7148 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	2.43	14 You can drink anywhere you want and buy your booze at the supermarket.	comment_content don't know what you mean 'protect children but not	Neutral

91	7083 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	4.63	While I would like to see beer and wine sold in convenience stores, and supermarkets, the very least that should be done is extend the hours that current stores can sell till.	comment_conten 1. Beer in parks and beaches. Kind of a no brainer, Neutral
89	7040 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.59	Buying your liquor at Costco for example while getting your groceries would save a lot of time and gas.	comment_conten I've been saying BC liquor laws are archaic and in n Neutral
89	7038 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.59	Example: We were getting a larger table and instead of everyone just grabbing their drink and moving over 20 feet the waitress had to grab everyone's drink in order to not break the current law.- Allow the sale of liquor in grocery stores and gas stations like Alberta and Washington.	comment_conten I've been saying BC liquor laws are archaic and in n Neutral
102	7022 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.67	12 Wine and beer should be allowed to be purchased at grocery stores.	comment_conten Wine and beer should be allowed to be purchased : Negative
112	7006 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.45	Adopt a similar approach as Alberta as far as allowing Supermarkets to sell Alcohol, ie, they may sell but in a separated facility with longer hours than we are used to here in BC, I like this approach in Alberta as they have weekly specials at each Supermarket, what is the word for that, oh yes, competition!	comment_conten Adopt a similar approach as Alberta as far as allowi Positive
87	6995 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.35	Having travelled extensively, I feel that we need to change the laws so that legal age adults can purchase beer, wine and ciders in grocery and/or convenience stores.	comment_conten Having travelled extensively, I feel that we need to Positive
35	6983 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	101 Secondly, in regards to shopping for alcohol in supermarkets, gas stations..	comment_conten While born and raised here, recently I did spend a f Neutral
115	6959 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.43	I agree with all the comments calling for the following changes:1) Allowing GROCERY stores (not gas stations and convenience stores) to sell beer and wine, and possibly spirits.	comment_conten I agree with all the comments calling for the followi Positive
120	6941 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	I think by having supermarkets and other places sell alcohol we would have more variety and competitive prices.	comment_conten I totally agree with Linda. I lived in Europe for 15 ye Positive
120	6937 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	32 I lived in Europe for 15 years where you could buy alcohol at supermarkets.	comment_conten I totally agree with Linda. I lived in Europe for 15 ye Neutral
88	6902 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.27	11 I agree beer and wine should be in the grocery store.	comment_conten I agree beer and wine should be in the grocery stor Positive
85	6878 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.43	I would like to see the government allow beer and wine sales in grocery stores and gas stations for that matter.	comment_conten I would like to see the government allow beer and \ Neutral
127	6866 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.18	I would allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine while consumers are purcashing their groceries.	comment_conten I would allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine v Neutral
38	6849 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.84	I wish I could buy a good local beer from the grocery store near my house, like they can in the US.	comment_conten Having visited many other jurisdictions I think it ma Positive

38	6841 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.84	56 Having visited many other jurisdictions I think it makes sense to allow the sale of beer and wine in supermarkets and grocery stores.	comment_content	Having visited many other jurisdictions I think it ma	Neutral
46	6825 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	4.68	34 I would like to see liquor available at the supermarket, at least wine, beer and cider.	comment_content	I would like to see liquor available at the supermar	Neutral
109	6812 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	11 I have three suggestions for changes:(1) Allow grocery stores and other general retail outlets (corner stores, gas station stores etc) to sell alcoholic products.()	comment_content	I have three suggestions for changes:(1) Allow groc	Neutral
39	6804 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.76	49 I would love to have the ability to buy wine/liquor from the supermarket.	comment_content	I would love to have the ability to buy wine/liquor f	Strongly positive
110	6799 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7 Such as:-liquor stores (private and government) stay open later than 11p. - liquor sold in grocery and or corner stores.	comment_content	Would love to see more convenience. Such as:-liq	Neutral
47	6792 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	48 (Supermarkets, convenience stores, etc.)	comment_content	1. Allow beer and wine to be sold anywhere. (Super	Positive
40	6776 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.82	49 Alcohol sales should be allowed in supermarkets etc just like the rest of the civilised world.	comment_content	Alcohol sales should be allowed in supermarkets et	Negative
82	6767 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.45	11 I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery stores	comment_content	I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery str	Neutral
43	6763 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.76	55 Any adult should be free to purchase any alcohol at the grocery store at any time of day.	comment_content	As a new Canadian from California, I come with a p	Negative
79	6755 BLOG	25 - 29	9/14/2013 0:00	North Coast	4.75	16 I would also really like to be able to make one stop on the way home from work, and be able to pick up a bottle of wine or some beers at the grocery store along with dinner.	comment_content	I would love to be able to take a couple beers down	Neutral
74	6742 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.83	24 This includes supermarkets, convenience stores, gift shops, department stores, etc.	comment_content	I agree with many of the above comments. I would	Positive
76	6728 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.44	9 Sell in grocery stores and corner stores and reduce taxes ..	comment_content	Sell in grocery stores and corner stores and reduce	Neutral
69	6695 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.24	21 Also would like to see some spirits available at the grocery store as is the case in United States .	comment_content	I would like to see changes to the liquor laws that v	Neutral
51	6638 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.39	23 We need:Grocery Stores/other outlets selling beer, wine & liquorBCLCB stores with cold beerAllow alcohol to be consumed on the beach, in the park etc.	comment_content	BC needs to enter the 21 Century, its liquor laws are	Negative
67	6629 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.33	18 Sell all types of liquor in grocery stores.	comment_content	First off, privatize liquor sales, government should	Neutral
72	6624 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.76	17 Allow large chain grocery stores to sell beer and wine.	comment_content	Allow large chain grocery stores to sell beer and wi	Neutral
57	6617 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.58	19 I strongly feel liquor (especially wine and beer) should be available through grocery stores.	comment_content	I strongly feel liquor (especially wine and beer) sho	Negative
63	6615 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.72	18 I was in Japan this spring and was buying beer in a grocery store.	comment_content	I was in Japan this spring and was buying beer in a	Neutral
55	6613 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.58	24 We spend time in the US and it is great to do grocery shopping and buy your liquors/wine at the same time.	comment_content	We spend time in the US and it is great to do groce	Positive
365_2013C	2281 NOT SPECIFIED					Alcohol should be available in grocery stores and convenience stores.	Body	Hello,☺☺I am a 34 year old resident of Vancouver. I	Neutral

336_2013C	2234 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Alcohol should be available in the supermarket.	Body	Dear Sirs,I have lived in many jurisdictions from Ire Negative
359_2013C	2189 NOT SPECIFIED	In Europe, beer and wine is available in supermarkets, but the cashier has to adhere to policy to verify eligibility of purchase for teenagers, and buyers should proof their age of 16+ by government issued Photo ID.	Body	Dear John,As a permanend resident coming form Negative
359_2013C	2188 NOT SPECIFIED	With the new Classification of Alcoholic Beverages (low% up to x%) and Liquor (high% above x%), Distribution could be considered to be expanded into supermarket and groceries stores where young people could be allowed to buy and use Alcoholic Beverages, while maintaining BC Liquor Stores for both types of low and high % level of alcoholic products.	Body	Dear John,As a permanend resident coming form Neutral
334_2013C	2181 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	with less problems than Canada, as people get their alcohol at the same time as their other consumer goods, groceries etc	Body	First of all do away with govt. liquor stores! I think Negative
359_2013C	2167 NOT SPECIFIED	In contrast, in Europe, as well as in the US, lower level alcoholic beverages as beer and wine are available in supermarkets.	Body	Dear John,As a permanend resident coming form Neutral
331_2013C	2109 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We should be able to get bottle of wine while picking up groceries as well as take our children to lounge/bar and enjoy a meal as a family	Body	We should be able to get bottle of wine while pickin Neutral
330_2013C	2059 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocery stores – just like everywhere else on earth – In fact we already do it to some extent in remote communities.	Body	1. Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocery stores – Neutral
328_2013C	2029 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I do feel that selling alcohol in grocery stores	Body	After traveling in Europe and shopping in the USA, I Neutral
326_2013C	2020 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	As such, any move that puts alcoholics beverages for sale in grocery stores, corner stores, gas stations and the like I am in favour of.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap:My thanks to the Government of B Neutral
327_2013C	2014 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	As such, any move that puts alcoholics beverages for sale in grocery stores, corner stores, gas stations and the like I am in favour of.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap:My thanks to the Government of B Neutral
329_2013C	2006 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Availability of Wine and Beer in supermarket food stores ...	Body	To whom it may Concern: I Neutral
357_2013C	1997 NOT SPECIFIED	All liquor shall be available in Grocery- Stores and not taxed more than food.	Body	Please step out of these old English Liquor Laws. I h Negative
357_2013C	1960 NOT SPECIFIED	Liquor was available in any Grocery -store and in Europe it was always cheaper than Pop!	Body	Please step out of these old English Liquor Laws. I h Neutral
356_2013C	1955 NOT SPECIFIED	One of the pleasures of travelling to the United States-including Hawaii-is the ability to buy wine in grocery stores while you are buying a steak for the barbecue.	Body	My basic point is this. The sale and consumption of Positive

353_2013C	1917 NOT SPECIFIED	1) As I am sure you have heard from many people for years allow beer and wine to be purchased in grocery stores.	Body	First, congratulations for reviewing BC's liquor laws	Neutral
354_2013C	1894 NOT SPECIFIED	Grocery stores over there have aisles just for beer.	Body	I go to the States all the time for vacations and It's i	Neutral
355_2013C	1885 NOT SPECIFIED	we would also like to be able to buy booze where we grocery shop and in convenience stores please	Body	We would like liquor stores to be open later and on	Neutral
354_2013C	1877 NOT SPECIFIED	I go to the States all the time for vacations and It is nice to be able to go to Wal-Mart and buy my beer and spirits (at very reasonable prices) along with my other groceries.	Body	I go to the States all the time for vacations and It's i	Strongly positive
351_2013C	1862 NOT SPECIFIED	Liquor should be sold in grocery stores like in the rest of the Western World	Body	Good day!☺☺☺Thank you for letting me engage in a	Negative
348_2013C	1857 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#NAME?	Body	September 14, 2013☺☺Hi,☺☺Things I'd like to see ch.	Neutral
352_2013C	1844 NOT SPECIFIED	I would like to see wine & beer sales in grocery stores.	Body	I would like to see wine & beer sales in grocery stor	Neutral
344_2013C	1793 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	September 14, 2013 I would like to be able to buy beer and/or wine from my grocery store.....	Body	September 14, 2013☺☺I would like to be able to bu	Neutral
346_2013C	1782 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think that you should be able to purchase alcohol in the supermarkets as has been done in other locations for quite some time, although I also think that we SHOULD NOT privatize!	Body	Time for a change!!...I think that you should be abl	Negative
342_2013C	1766 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores, and also hard liquor, it makes no sense to be driving from one end of town to the other, just to buy a bottle of wine.	Body	I would like to see the sale of beer and wine in groc	Negative
343_2013C	1765 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	sell beer wine in grocery stores allow selling of cold beer in liquor stores with no increase of price.	Body	sell beer wine in grocery stores allow selling of cold	Negative
338_2013C	1758 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocery stores – just like everywhere else on earth – In fact we already do it to some extent in remote communities.	Body	My Ideas for a “grown up” BC liquor industry:☺☺☺☺	Neutral
303_2013C	1755 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	they sell Spirits, wine and beer in their Grocery Stores.	Body	1--I have travelled to a number of Countries and ob	Neutral
304_2013C	1750 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I have a friend that works at Safeway and she told me that the number of tourists that can not understand why they can not get their beer and wine with their groceries is huge.	Body	I think that beer and wine should be available in grc	Negative
304_2013C	1749 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think that beer and wine should be available in grocery stores.	Body	I think that beer and wine should be available in grc	Negative
302_2013C	1745 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Beer and wine should be available in grocery stores and available at outdoor events where chidren are with parents.	Body	Changes are long over due. Beer and wine should t	Negative
325_2013C	1713 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow beer and wine only to be sold at grocery (and other large) retail stores at higher prices than at government liquor stores.	Body	My suggestions for the liquor policy review☺☺1. Use	Neutral

322_2013C	1689 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	2) Allow beer, liquor and spirits to be sold in supermarkets in a controlled and regulated manner.	Body	To whom it may concern, I am a Vancouverite Neutral
300_2013C	1686 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am in favor of having liquor sold in grocery stores.	Body	I'm in favor of having liquor sold in grocery stores. I Neutral
299_2013C	1676 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would just like to be able pick up a bottle of wine with my groceries without having to get in my car, drive, park and go to a liquor or wine store.	Body	I'd just like to be able pick up a bottle of wine with Positive
321_2013C	1629 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Please consider allowing grocery stores to sell beer and wine as they have done for many years in the Province of Quebec including Costco.	Body	Please consider allowing grocery stores to sell beer Neutral
310_2013C	1625 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	i would like to buy my beer and wine @ my supermarket please make it happen we are all adults and understand the lobbying that goes on by industry to protect their exclusiveness but those Days are over - people tell their Gov what to do & it better happen i'don't know why you do not have a survey form to fill out regarding the liquor issues (24/7/365) all Gov departments should ask anybody that visits on-line - if they would like to fill in a survey regarding their industry with a comment section thanks, Richard	Body	i would like to buy my beer and wine @ my superm Negative
313_2013C	1622 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Open up competition by expanding liquor sales to more consumer outlets including Grocery Stores, Costco, local markets and gas stations with mini marts.	Body	I believe that our liquor laws in BC are antiquated. I Neutral
319_2013C	1602 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am In favour of liquor sales in grocery stores	Body	I am In favour of liquor sales in grocery storesSer Neutral
315_2013C	1598 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	* sell alcohol and beer at grocery stores or corner stores as in other states.	Body	I feel BC liquor laws are very antiquated. The char Neutral
317_2013C	1591 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Collect the taxes, I get that, big country and no one lives here we have to pay for our socialized programs somehow, but absolutely no reason for Govt to be retailing alcohol. - beer and wine should be available in grocery stores, again no reason why this can not happen quickly.	Body	Just a few points that should be under consideratio Neutral
316_2013C	1581 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I support easier access such as sales at Costco and supermarkets as well as more access for a family meals at neighbourhood pubs Sent by David Hague	Body	I support easier access such as sales at Costco and : Neutral
312_2013C	1576 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We quite often travel to the US and find it very convenient to purchase our beer, wine and liquor while we are purchasing our groceries.	Body	Hello, I find our rules regarding liquor sales defini Strongly positive
314_2013C	1575 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We are hard working people that want to pick up a bottle of wine when we pick up dinner at the supermarket.	Body	We are hard working people that want to pick up a Neutral

309_2013C	1573 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Since then, it has become a serious problem, and it has the potential to become even more of a problem if it can be purchased I even more outlets such as corner stores and grocery stores.	Body	Hello, I am very concerned at the idea of making . Strongly negative
311_2013C	1567 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We should also be able to buy liquor at a 7-11, Costco or any other grocery store.	Body	As a regular traveler to Washington state I find it ri Neutral
305_2013C	1548 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	When visiting the U.S. and Europe, I have enjoyed the convenience of buying beer and wine in supermarkets.	Body	I think revisions to BC Liquor Laws are long overdue Positive
306_2013C	1535 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The law should be changed to allow liquor (spirits & beer) to be sold in grocery stores, which would make it much more convenient for me and other consumers and , probably, would be more affordable than the prices being charged in BC Liquor stores;	Body	The law should be changed to allow liquor (spirits & Positive
307_2013C	1530 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#NAME?	Body	Hello, I would suggest the follow: -Disban Neutral
271_2013C	1526 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Take a look at California and allow sale of alcohol in grocery stores such as Costco.	Body	There isn't a need to reinvent the wheel. Take a lo Neutral
272_2013C	1521 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Hope to see liquor in Grocery store next year.	Body	Mr.Yap, Thank for the opportunity to participate. F Neutral
272_2013C	1519 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It is time to allow the sales of liquor in Supermarkets in British Columbia.	Body	Mr.Yap, Thank for the opportunity to participate. F Neutral
272_2013C	1518 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Washington states Liquor sales in grocery store and Super market it has been a tremendous success for that state.	Body	Mr.Yap, Thank for the opportunity to participate. F Positive
269_2013C	1506 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Granting grocery stores the ability to sell beer and wine would only put the beer & wine stores out of business, and further "Wall-Mart ize" our society.	Body	I do not feel out liquor laws require changing, and t Neutral
267_2013C	1500 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to shop for my beer, wine and spirits at my local grocery store.	Body	Hi: I think that this province laws are outdated an Neutral
264_2013C	1470 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see wine and beer being sold in grocery outlets	Body	1. I believe the taxes on liquor sales are exhorbitar Neutral
263_2013C	1457 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Alcohol is for sale on every block, especially in filthy corner "grocery" stores that have no groceries for sale, just dusty bottles of liquor.	Body	I tried to submit directly to the website, but all it w Negative
259_2013C	1425 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	* beer, wine, and spirits to be sold in grocery stores * minors accompanied by an adult to eat together in a pub * bars to have a “happy hour” * consumption of a alcohol in public places, i.e., parks and beaches, and at special events, i.e., fireworks shows (Note, people who do not act in a responsible manner when consuming alcohol in a public place should be dealt with as per laws currently in place.)	Body	I’m tired of government assuming I can’t be respon Negative
260_2013C	1420 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	My suggestion is we start with BC wine and Kraft beer in our grocery stores, it is a natural fit and makes sense to the consumer.	Body	My suggestion is we start with BC wine and Kraft b Neutral

258_2013C	1414 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Grocery stores, corner stores and other small retailers should definitely be allowed to sell liquor from there outlets.	Body	Hello There,☺☺I have a couple of comments with re Neutral
293_2013C	1367 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	we behave completely responsibly when we can buy liquor in grocery stores	Body	Sep 14/13☺ ☺Dear Sirs and Madams,☺ ☺PLEASE, rec: Neutral
255_2013C	1365 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	My suggestions: - Provide more access by selling spirits, beer and wine in supermarkets and grocery stores. - Extend all liquor store hours to at least 11pm. - liquor stores to be open 7 days a week. - Lower prices!!!	Body	Thank you for this opportunity to submit suggestior Neutral
294_2013C	1343 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am of the opinion that grocery stores sand pharmacies should be allowed to sell beer, wine and hard liquor as they do in the US.	Body	I am of the opinion that grocery stores sand pharm Negative
253_2013C	1336 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Hello: I think it is time we would be able to buy beer and wine in the local grocery stores.	Body	Hello: I think it's time we would be able to buy bee Neutral
293_2013C	1335 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Change our laws to allow sales of wine, beer AND liquor in grocery stores and other general retail outlets, completely independent of any liquor control authority like the BCLCB.	Body	Sep 14/13☺ ☺Dear Sirs and Madams,☺ ☺PLEASE, rec: Neutral
292_2013C	1328 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow wine sales in grocery stores John Bortnak	Body	Allow wine sales in grocery stores☺John Bortnak Neutral
288_2013C	1326 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	There is a very good reason why alcohol should never be sold in corner stores, gas stations, drugstores and supermarkets: It is an addictive, debilitating, deadly drug, just like tobacco.	Body	Dear BC Government:☺☺There's a very good reason Neutral
283_2013C	1311 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to be able to purchase wine and beer etc at our Groceries stores, like Safeway, Walmart etc just like in the U.S.	Body	Hello and my name is Barbel Jaeger and I reside at : Neutral
286_2013C	1300 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Please bring us out of the dark ages and make beer and wine available at your local grocery store.	Body	Please bring us out of the dark ages and make beer Negative
274_2013C	1247 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I do not want to buy Liquor in a Grocery store or private store or a so called “Beer and Wine Store “.	Body	Dear B.C Government and Mr. John Yap,☺☺ ☺☺I wou Neutral
278_2013C	1246 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think there should be sale of BC made beer, wine and spirits in supermarkets and convenience stores.	Body	I agree BC liquor laws are outdated and in need of : Positive
280_2013C	1243 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Personally I would like see liquor sold in grocery stores for the convenience and it also would allow for competition in the marketplace.	Body	Personally I would like see liquor sold in grocery stc Positive
277_2013C	1223 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery stores alongside food.	Body	Hi☺☺ ☺☺I would like to see wine and beer sold in grc Neutral
275_2013C	1212 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Please let supermarkets stocks wine !!!!	Body	Please let supermarkets stocks wine !!!! Neutral
273_2013C	1204 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	All types of liquor, beer, wine and spirits should all be available in grocery and corner stores, including Costco.	Body	Two things I would like to see;☺☺1. All types of liqu Neutral

230_2013C	1195 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I urge you to eliminate the Provincial liquor stores and allow private liquor stores to sell all products, and allow wine and beer to be sold in supermarkets, as in Washington, California, etc.	Body	Hello, I urge you to eliminate the Provincial liquor Neutral
228_2013C	1193 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	consumption does not appear to be much different to us then what we observe in Canada We strongly endorse that the BC Government seriously consider closing the unnecessary BC Liquor stores and allow retail grocery stores and Costco etc to sell liquor products Thank you Sent from Windows Mail	Body	Thank you for the opportunity of allowing commen Negative
223_2013C	1189 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Parents who take their kids shopping have to pack them back in the car, pack them out again elsewhere and waste valuable family time dealing with the segregation of alcohol from other household groceries.	Body	I feel that if we are treated like civilized people, the Negative
223_2013C	1183 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Put alcohol in the grocery store.	Body	I feel that if we are treated like civilized people, the Neutral
228_2013C	1172 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Thank you for the opportunity of allowing comments from the BC public My wife and I are retired BC residents and we travel to the Palm Springs area in California for the winter months where we own a seasonal home We have become very accustomed to purchasing wine, beer and spirits at all grocery stores including Costco while in the USA Contrary to comments that I have recently heard on local TV news channels this access to purchase alcohol at grocery stores etc.	Body	Thank you for the opportunity of allowing commen Positive
225_2013C	1167 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It does not seem to present difficulties in the issue of selling to minors – as an adult I was never questioned but again as a result of it being purchased with groceries, minors were not in a grocery store to try and buy wine or beer.	Body	Travelling around the world, it has become apparer Negative
227_2013C	1159 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores such as Costco, Safeway, etc.	Body	Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores su Neutral
226_2013C	1148 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores similar to what you allow in small town BC where there are no stand alone government liquor stores Allow under the age of 19 to be in pubs until 7 pm to enjoy a lunch or early dinner with their parents.	Body	Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback Strongly positive
225_2013C	1134 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Travelling around the world, it has become apparent that having wine and beer available in grocery stores is a reasonable change to approve.	Body	Travelling around the world, it has become apparer Positive

213_2013C	1102 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	There will undoubtedly be a hue and cry from organised labour but think of all the grocery stores or private liquor stores etc that will need employees if the sale of liquor can be handled through those outlets.	Body	I am very pleased to hear the Provincial Governme	Negative
219_2013C	1093 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor, beer , and wine should be sold in grocery and convenience stores also including and retail outlets like Costco.	Body	To Whom it my concern:☺ ☺ My husband and I hav	Neutral
213_2013C	1089 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to be able to buy beer/wine or spirits in any grocery store where we do our shopping - having to go to a Goverment Liquor Store is a practice that needs to be changed immediately.	Body	I am very pleased to hear the Provincial Governme	Neutral
218_2013C	1081 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor should be available for purchase at the present locations as well as corner stores and supermarkets.	Body	Good day:☺ ☺I believe it's time to treat adults like a	Negative
215_2013C	1075 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	yes beer is sold on trains, buses, and in supermarkets	Body	After having just returned from ,Wales, England,an	Neutral
220_2013C	1069 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am sending this message as an advocate for the sale of wine and beer in B.C. grocery stores across the Province.	Body	I am sending this message as an advocate for the s	Neutral
214_2013C	1038 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor of all sorts should be available In grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores etc.	Body	Hello,☺Thank you for the opportunity to express my	Neutral
244_2013C	1018 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	This would also put a lot of pressure and liability on grocery and convenience store clerks to check for ID and could result in possible risk for the clerks from any disruntled client.	Body	Hello. My veiws are as follows.☺ ☺There is no need	Positive
212_2013C	1009 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor should be available in grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations.	Body	Liquor should be available in grocery stores, conver	Neutral
210_2013C	1002 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see something similar to Alberta with regards to grocery stores having stand alone buildings for liquor sales.	Body	I would like to see something similar to Alberta witl	Positive
211_2013C	998 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow beer & wine in grocery stores.	Body	Get rid of government liquor stores.....what kind c	Neutral
244_2013C	987 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	There is no need to have liquor of any kind id a convenience store or grocery store.	Body	Hello. My veiws are as follows.☺ ☺There is no need	Positive
249_2013C	972 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	A change should be made to sell beer & wine in the supermarkets as is done in the US.	Body	Hi ☺☺A change should be made to sell beer & wine i	Negative
250_2013C	970 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We should be more like the US and sell liquor in grocery stores and places like Costco.	Body	We should be more like the US and sell liquor in grc	Negative
240_2013C	966 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I have a vacation home in California and like the convenience of picking up a six pack while at the grocery store.	Body	I am 65 years old, born and raised in Vancouver. W	Positive
240_2013C	964 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	As far as changes are concerned I would like to see alcohol sold in grocery stores.	Body	I am 65 years old, born and raised in Vancouver. W	Negative
242_2013C	923 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	* Allow the sale of wine and beer in grocery stores.	Body	I have the following suggestions for changes I woul	Neutral

167_2013C	885 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If we were to license grocery stores and convenience stores to sell alcohol as I suggest above, this would be an additional revenue stream that could be used to help people who need it in a more meaningful way.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,👍👍I was very excited to learn that BC Strongly positive
238_2013C	878 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Alcohol should be available in grocery stores.	Body	Time to enter the 20th century never mind the 21st Negative
234_2013C	817 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	· Allow sales of alcohol in grocery stores.	Body	Hi,👍👍Here is my view on what needs to be updat Neutral
232_2013C	782 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	When I last took a motor vehicle trip down the Washington/Oregon coast, it was such a pleasure to be able to pick up my groceries and a decent bottle of wine in one store without having to search around an unfamiliar town/city to find the "liquor store".	Body	As a senior luddite who doesn't use Twitter, Facebc Positive
232_2013C	780 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I believe it is time to reform our liquor laws to enable people over the age of 18 years to purchase beer, wine and liquor at our local grocery stores and other suitable outlets.	Body	As a senior luddite who doesn't use Twitter, Facebc Positive
167_2013C	759 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If the concern is minors seeing alcohol in stores, then I am sure owners of grocery stores and convenience stores could create separate sections within the stores -- much like video stores that have adult only sections for pornographic films.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,👍👍I was very excited to learn that BC Neutral
167_2013C	750 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If we trust convenience stores and grocery stores to sell tobacco responsibly, it makes little sense to not trust them to sell alcohol.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,👍👍I was very excited to learn that BC Neutral
233_2013C	736 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	wine should be available in grocery stores as they are in many other jurisdictions	Body	Thank you for taking the time to seek my input.👍👍👍 Negative
176_2013C	673 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	In Quebec, if I recall rightly, it is the corner stores that can sell beer and wine, not the supermarkets.	Body	I am fine with rules and regulations about liquor dis Positive
176_2013C	672 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I want to see what I see in the USA, where supermarkets and small Mom and Pop grocery stores can sell alcoholic products.	Body	I am fine with rules and regulations about liquor dis Neutral
231_2013C	669 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The most important improvement required by far is to ensure that the public can buy wine and beer in the supermarket.	Body	Attention: John Yap & The BC Liquor Policy Review. Neutral
178_2013C	638 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	In society today we expect to do our shopping all at the same store so grocery stores make cense as we all have to eat.	Body	I worked in the Liquor industry for 33 years so I am Neutral
175_2013C	538 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	so I am very familiar with buying my liquor at the same time as I grocery shop	Body	I spend the winter in Arizona, so I am very familiar \ Strongly positive
173_2013C	526 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	As a purchaser of wine, I find it insane that I can not purchase a bottle of wine to drink with my dinner at my local grocery store.	Body	I would like to submit my comments regarding the Neutral

173_2013C	525 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see a retail enviroment like they have now in Washington State where the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores is permitted.	Body	I would like to submit my comments regarding the	Neutral
168_2013C	505 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#NAME?	Body	- Yes to beer and wine in grocery stores.??	Neutral
164_2013C	482 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It is time to change the laws and allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores and supermarkets.	Body	Hi there,???	Thank you for looking at these archaic Neutral
164_2013C	481 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	including liquor and wine, at a grocery store will only serve to make things more convenient for shoppers	Body	Hi there,???	Thank you for looking at these archaic Strongly positive
164_2013C	461 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	You do not see masses of drunk people in Italy or France simply because alcohol is sold at the village grocery store.	Body	Hi there,???	Thank you for looking at these archaic Neutral
164_2013C	450 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Even in the U.S., grocery store shelves have dedicated wine areas and are a great place to showcase products that go along with wine such as cheeses and crackers.	Body	Hi there,???	Thank you for looking at these archaic Positive
164_2013C	449 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	When we travel through Europe, we are delighted that as we buy our baguettes and cheese at the grocery store, we can also purchase a lovely bottle of rose to go along with lunch.	Body	Hi there,???	Thank you for looking at these archaic Strongly positive
164_2013C	446 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be realize that having liquor available for purchase in grocery stores does not promote alcohol use (or abuse).	Body	Hi there,???	Thank you for looking at these archaic Negative
162_2013C	438 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I live in Spences Bridge,BC and this community has tried to get a liquor outlet here for years but the policy has been that you must have a grocery store.	Body	Re-Liquor Policy Review:??	?? My com Neutral
163_2013C	436 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am from an older generation, born in Quebec, and realized at a very young age that beer was available in the same store my mom shopped for groceries.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap:?? ??	I am from an older generation, I Neutral
183_2013C	433 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	liquor sales in grocery stores;	Body	Hello,?	While trying to open a Nano Brewery in Van Neutral
206_2013C	396 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	(1) Wines and Beer sold at all supermarkets.	Body	About time this was looked at!	(1) Wines and Be? Neutral
205_2013C	388 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see rules on sales of beer and wine changed so when my wife and I do our regular grocery shopping we can pick up a bottle of wine or case of beer at the same time.	Body	I would like to see rules on sales of beer and wine c	Neutral
179_2013C	342 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Mostly just ordinary folk who want to be able to buy wine, beer and spirits while at the grocery store.	Body	I agree that BC liquor laws are somewhat outdated.	Neutral
190_2013C	334 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	To me it is that simple and I am sure the staff memebbers of liquor stores would be an asset to every grocery store that is going to sell liquor to the public, therefore they would not be losing their jobs.	Body	Hello?	I am a retiree and have resided in British C? Positive
186_2013C	323 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We would love to see wines in grocery stores.	Body	1) Eating outdoors is a big part of our BC summers.	Strongly positive

186_2013C	318 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	3) When we are in the USA or Australia on vacation, we buy our wines at the grocery stores.	Body	1) Eating outdoors is a big part of our BC summers. Neutral
190_2013C	294 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I see no reason why when I wish to purchase liquor, I can not just go to the given section of a grocery store and put my purchase in my buggy along with my food purchases.	Body	Hello☺ ☺I am a retiree and have resided in British Cc Negative
182_2013C	293 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Also we live a distance away from a liquor store so it would be great if we could buy alcohol from our local grocery store which we can walk to as against get in the car and drive to the town.	Body	We have recently emigrated from the UK where thi Negative
179_2013C	280 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	liquor is available in such places as grocery stores, drug stores, convenience stores, gas stations and more	Body	I agree that BC liquor laws are somewhat outdated. Positive
190_2013C	274 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Having said that, I truly do believe that any person of legal age should be able to purchase any and or all of their liquor requirements at any approved grocery stores in British Columbia.	Body	Hello☺ ☺I am a retiree and have resided in British Cc Negative
193_2013C	266 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	you should be able to go into a grocery store and buy anything, like in california, the excuse that always comes up, it is to easy for are youth to get ahold of it.	Body	the laws now do not work in todays society, get wit Neutral
185_2013C	252 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	allow sales in grocery stores.	Body	I believe that BC should:☺☺1. follow Alberta's lead Neutral
180_2013C	233 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would love, love, love to be able to go to the grocery store, do my shopping for dinner and pick up a bottle of wine for dinner.	Body	It is about time! I am all in favour of changing the li Strongly positive
189_2013C	215 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Please consider the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores.	Body	Please consider the sale of beer and wine in grocer Neutral
191_2013C	214 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	YES WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY WINE IN GROCERY STORES	Body	YES WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY WINE IN GROCER Negative
181_2013C	210 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Hello, I would like to add my voice to changing liquor laws to allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery stores.	Body	Hello,☺ ☺I'd like to add my voice to changing liquor Neutral
196_2013C	203 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am in favour of all alcoholic products being sold through grocery outlets and specialty stores and for the BC Govt to let their employees have first option of taking over existing retail stores when they get out of distribution and marketing.	Body	I am in favour of all alcoholic products being sold th Neutral

better vs. Alberta

NaturalId	SentenceId	Source	age_range	Author	Document Date	Post Date	region	vote_average	vote_num	Sentence	Verbatim	T-Verbatim	Sentence Sentiment
	35	6983 BLOG	40 - 49		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.8	101	Secondly, in regards to shopping for alcohol in supermarkets, gas stations..	comment_	While born and raised here, recently I did spend a few years living in Hawaii. Granted Vancouver	Neutral
	141	7488 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		Vancouver	4.4	81	Let private retailers like grocery stores and others sell liquor just like they sell tobacco.	comment_	BC has some of the most expensive alcohol, and outdated liquor policy in the developed wor	Neutral
	38	6849 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.84	56	I wish I could buy a good local beer from the grocery store near my house, like they can in the US.	comment_	Having visited many other jurisdictions I think it makes sense to allow the sale of beer and w	Positive
	38	6841 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.84	56	Having visited many other jurisdictions I think it makes sense to allow the sale of beer and wine in supermarkets and grocery stores.	comment_	Having visited many other jurisdictions I think it makes sense to allow the sale of beer and w	Neutral
	43	6763 BLOG	40 - 49		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.76	55	Any adult should be free to purchase any alcohol at the grocery store at any time of day.	comment_	As a new Canadian from California, I come with a probably biased opinion. I don't understand	Negative
	39	6804 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		Thompson	4.76	49	I would love to have the ability to buy wine/liquor from the supermarket.	comment_	I would love to have the ability to buy wine/liquor from the supermarket. When we host a p	Strongly positive
	40	6776 BLOG	40 - 49		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.82	49	Alcohol sales should be allowed in supermarkets etc just like the rest of the civilised world.	comment_	Alcohol sales should be allowed in supermarkets etc just like the rest of the civilised world.O	Negative
										If the grocery stores and places like Costco sell alcohol, it will impact the private liquor store market already operating in BC, take jobs away from local people, and businesses away from local owners who have invested a lot of money into a business and supporting community events- it is not all about the bottom line to these folks- it is about doing good business, employing local people, and being proud of something they have created.			
	45	7367 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		Vancouver	1.69	48		comment_	The problem with opening up alcohol sales to a larger market is that the money doesn't stay	Positive
	47	6792 BLOG	undefined		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.4	48	(Supermarkets, convenience stores, etc.)	comment_	1. Allow beer and wine to be sold anywhere. (Supermarkets, convenience stores, etc.)2. Conl	Positive
										Jon, while selling liquor or beer out of a grocery store may seem like a good idea out of convenience, the flip side to that coin is public drunkenness, theft, violence, children getting their friends to steal alcohol for them, etc.			
	181	7772 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		Vancouver	1.52	42		comment_	Jon, while selling liquor or beer out of a grocery store may seem like a good idea out of conv	Neutral
	46	6825 BLOG	30 - 39		9/14/2013 0:00		undefined	4.68	34	I would like to see liquor available at the supermarket, at least wine, beer and cider.	comment_	I would like to see liquor available at the supermarket, at least wine, beer and cider. And, as	Neutral
	120	6941 BLOG	50 - 59		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.5	32	I think by having supermarkets and other places sell alcohol we would have more variety and competitive prices.	comment_	I totally agree with Linda. I lived in Europe for 15 years where you could buy alcohol at super	Positive
	120	6937 BLOG	50 - 59		9/14/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.5	32	I lived in Europe for 15 years where you could buy alcohol at supermarkets.	comment_	I totally agree with Linda. I lived in Europe for 15 years where you could buy alcohol at super	Neutral
	789	13231 BLOG	40 - 49		9/18/2013 0:00		Vancouver	1.87	31	Will a big grocery store fo the same when they are looking at the profit line.	comment_	I believe there is enough locations to purchase liquor already. Instead of allowing grocery stc	Neutral
	789	13224 BLOG	40 - 49		9/18/2013 0:00		Vancouver	1.87	31	Instead of allowing grocery stores to sell we should allow all government stores to be open 7 days per week and even increased hours of operation.	comment_	I believe there is enough locations to purchase liquor already. Instead of allowing grocery stc	Neutral
										The time has come (to put it mildly) to open up liquor distribution to groceries and convenience stores and get the BC liquor board out of lording over import and distribution.			
	791	13239 BLOG	50 - 59		9/18/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.07	30		comment_	The time has come (to put it mildly) to open up liquor distribution to groceries and convenie	Positive
	728	14351 BLOG	19 - 24		9/17/2013 0:00		Kootenay	2.11	27	There is no real reason that we NEED to sell liquor in a grocery store.	comment_	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store"	Neutral
										The people who are strong set on liquor going into the grocery store are just looking for the added convenience of not having to go to two separate stores when they want groceries and alcohol.			
	728	14350 BLOG	19 - 24		9/17/2013 0:00		Kootenay	2.11	27		comment_	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store"	Positive
	728	14346 BLOG	19 - 24		9/17/2013 0:00		Kootenay	2.11	27	Do you complain that you can not get your oil changed at the grocery store?	comment_	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store"	Negative
	728	14338 BLOG	19 - 24		9/17/2013 0:00		Kootenay	2.11	27	Okay, so we may be the only country who does not sell liquor in grocery stores.	comment_	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store"	Neutral
	728	14336 BLOG	19 - 24		9/17/2013 0:00		Kootenay	2.11	27	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store" is what about all the jobs that will be affected by doing that?	comment_	The thing that all the people are forgetting when saying "Yes sell liquor in the grocery store"	Neutral
	863	14098 BLOG	60+		9/19/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.07	27	Allow the sale of wine, beer and spirits in 'major' retail grocery outlets and big box stores.	comment_	It is a little heartening that I see this discussion taking place. Imagine... someone might actu	Neutral
	863	14037 BLOG	60+		9/19/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.07	27	I have not seen ONE problem in any major grocery outlet or big box store where people are shopping.	comment_	It is a little heartening that I see this discussion taking place. Imagine... someone might actu	Positive
	863	14014 BLOG	60+		9/19/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.07	27	Imagine... someone might actually, at my age, let me buy a bottle of wine with my groceries, or even some martini mix and vodka for a pre-dinner drink.	comment_	It is a little heartening that I see this discussion taking place. Imagine... someone might actu	Neutral
	794	13252 BLOG	60+		9/18/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.11	27	Allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores, much like Washington.	comment_	I believe it is time to get rid of BC Liquor stores. Allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores, m	Neutral
	646	10424 BLOG	25 - 29		9/17/2013 0:00		Vancouver	1.41	27	NOT putting it in grocery stores potentially saves lives!	comment_	I'm honestly enraged by the lack of consideration here for individuals who have struggled wi	Neutral
	646	10418 BLOG	25 - 29		9/17/2013 0:00		Vancouver	1.41	27	How about being sensitive to the needs of recovering alcoholics that want to go buy groceries without the temptation?	comment_	I'm honestly enraged by the lack of consideration here for individuals who have struggled wi	Neutral
	562	9804 BLOG	30 - 39		9/16/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.96	27	I think these are drinks that are normally consumed with food and should be sold wherever food is sold (grocery stores, 7/11, costco).	comment_	I've lived in Montreal where they sell beer/wine in every corner store and grocery store. I thi	Negative
	562	9803 BLOG	30 - 39		9/16/2013 0:00		Mainland /	4.96	27	I have lived in Montreal where they sell beer/wine in every corner store and grocery store.	comment_	I've lived in Montreal where they sell beer/wine in every corner store and grocery store. I thi	Neutral
	361	8379 BLOG	40 - 49		9/15/2013 0:00		Mainland /	1.44	27	I do not want to see change in the law re -consuming alcohol in public parks/beachs-sale of alcohol in supermarkets/stores-children in pubs/beer gardens	comment_	I do not want to see change in the law re -consuming alcohol in public parks/beachs-sale of	Neutral
	91	7083 BLOG	undefined		9/14/2013 0:00		undefined	4.63	27	While I would like to see beer and wine sold in convenience stores, and supermarkets, the very least that should be done is extend the hours that current stores can sell till.	comment_	1. Beer in parks and beaches. Kind of a no brainer, especially for those who live in Vancouv	Neutral
	809	13398 BLOG	19 - 24		9/18/2013 0:00		Mainland /	1.65	26	Furthermore, I think selling alcohol in grocery stores would only increase the risk of minors getting their hands on the alcohol they want and would therefore increase the levels of underage drinking.	comment_	I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a BC Liquor store and from these experienc	Neutral

809	13396	BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.65	26	First of all I think one of the reasons cigarettes are easily sold in grocery stores or gas stations is because they are smaller, lighter, and easier to keep out of sight and out of reach.	comment_ I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a BC Liquor store and from these experiences I think that selling alcohol in grocery stores is not a great option.	Positive
809	13371	BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.65	26	2) Alcohol should be available at grocery stores, convenience stores, etc.	comment_ I have worked both in a Private Liquor Store and a BC Liquor store and from these experiences I think that selling alcohol in grocery stores is not a great option.	Negative
435	9198	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	26	I think that any grocery store should be able to sell wine, and I think that any convenience store should be able to sell beer and wine.	comment_ Our BC liquor laws are far overdue for change. In their effort to control alcohol consumption	Neutral
636	10700	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25	Yes we should be able to by wine in grocery stores but we should have to be shelling out \$20 or \$30 for bottles of wine that would be considered utter swill in most other areas of the first world.	comment_ First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up and taxes on alcohol in North America ar	Neutral
636	10699	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25	Being able to buy wine in a grocery store is the mark of a civilized society.	comment_ First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up and taxes on alcohol in North America ar	Negative
636	10697	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25	So it is with this backdrop in mind that I answer the Minister's question regarding the sale of alcohol in grocery stores.	comment_ First of all British Columbia has the highest mark up and taxes on alcohol in North America ar	Positive
636	10696	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.96	25	I am strongly in favor of being able to buy wine & beer in grocery stores.	comment_ I'm strongly in favor of being able to buy wine & beer in grocery stores.	Neutral
796	13250	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.38	24	I think that we have enough liquor stores already that are close enough to the grocery and convenience stores that people do not have to go out of the way to shop there.	comment_ I don't think that liquor should be sold anywhere other than in liquor stores and restaurants.	Positive
749	12677	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.25	24	Having it [liquor] sold in grocery stores and convenience stores makes it too easy for minors to be able to buy it and therefore drink it even though they are minors and it is against the current law.	comment_ I don't think that liquor should be sold anywhere other than in liquor stores and restaurants.	Neutral
749	12658	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.25	24	This includes supermarkets, convenience stores, gift shops, department stores, etc.	comment_ I agree with many of the above comments. I would like to summarize what I think are the m	Positive
74	6742	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.83	24	We spend time in the US and it is great to do grocery shopping and buy your liquors/wine at the same time.	comment_ We spend time in the US and it is great to do grocery shopping and buy your liquors/wine at	Positive
55	6613	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.58	24	Personally, I would love to be able to do my grocery shopping and wine shopping in one trip.	comment_ Underage drinking will ALWAYS happen no matter what laws you have in place. If you can se	Strongly positive
815	13357	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.26	23	I would like to buy from a grocery store	comment_ I'll be to the point.1. I'd like to see the Happy Hour brought back or at least tested, from the	Neutral
643	10405	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.87	23	Support for widespread sales of beer and wine in grocery stores, Costco and convenience stores3.	comment_ It seems there are many themes here, practically unanimous. I agree with them all:1. BC. liq	Positive
248	8356	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.83	23	I agree with all the comments calling for the following changes:1) Allowing GROCERY stores (not gas stations and convenience stores) to sell beer and wine, and possibly spirits.	comment_ I agree with all the comments calling for the following changes:1) Allowing GROCERY stores (Positive
115	6959	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.43	23	We need:Grocery Stores/other outlets selling beer, wine & liquorBCLCB stores with cold beerAllow alcohol to be consumed on the beach, in the park etc.	comment_ BC needs to enter the 21 Century, its liquor laws are so out of date it is hard to believe. We n	Negative
51	6638	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.39	23	I believe that alcohol should be sold in grocery and convenience stores, just like it is in the rest of the world.	comment_ I believe that alcohol should be sold in grocery and convenience stores, just like it is in the re	Neutral
801	13272	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	22	if the government stores were not around all the grocery stores and private retailers would charge you even more	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9086	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	Private retailers including grocery stores would almost always charge you higher prices	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9085	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	Unlike what most private liquor stores tell you or grocery stores who want to sale alcohol, I will tell you a secret.	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9084	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	If grocery stores sold alcohol,gov sales would drop and the Liberals would need to raise taxes to make up for lost funds from government stores.	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Negative
423	9081	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	As a retail consultant i can tell you most coner store owners and grocery retailers would be less capable or less interested in not selling to minors or intoxicated people.	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9077	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	As a liquor consultant this would be in my interest as large Grocery chains would hire me but It would not be in the publics interest.	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9073	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	It would also cost police and parks more to deal with if allowed and the Liberals will not fund this extra cost.2, Allowing in Grocery stores.	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9071	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	And sales in grocery stores have no to little experiace dealing with liquor retailing or its effects.	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
423	9049	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.95	22	once supermarkets could sell alcohol cheaper because of their buying power, there was a race to the bottom	comment_ What I have noticed is a number of people advocating liquor allowed on beaches, parks etc..	Neutral
322	8423	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.18	22	Recently on a trip to Arizona, we bought wine at the grocery store with an eye-opening selection.	comment_ Sure, go ahead, make one of the most dangerous mind altering drugs easier and cheaper to p	Neutral
264	8238	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	22	If grocery stores can sell cigarettes, then they can handle selling liquor as well.	comment_ Recently on a trip to Arizona, we bought wine at the grocery store with an eye-opening selec	Neutral
111	7229	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	22	I completely agree that beer, wine and liquor should be available in any grocery store, corner store, etc.	comment_ I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into the B.C.'s liquor policy review. It is clear th	Neutral
729	14329	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.9	21	Let grocery stores sell hard alcohol.	comment_ I completely agree that beer, wine and liquor should be available in any grocery store, corne	Positive
861	13953	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.05	21	Please just let grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations sell beer and wine.	comment_ Please just let grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations sell beer and wine. Let gr	Negative
861	13952	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.05	21	Beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores for convenience and monitored like tobacco.	comment_ Please just let grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations sell beer and wine. Let gr	Positive
755	12621	BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	21	I agree that liquor should be sold in the grocery stores/Costco etc.	comment_ Beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores for convenience and monitored like tobacco.	Neutral
258	8201	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.62	21		comment_ I agree that liquor should be sold in the grocery stores/Costco etc. There is no reason why wi	Neutral

							I strongly believe and hope that BC liquor laws will be more relax and that this review will result in the following:Allow sales of wine and beer at grocery storesExpand the private sales of liquor, beer & wine.	
169	7149 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.19	21		comment_ Thank you for conducting this policy review. It's long overdue!! strongly believe and hope thNeutral
69	6695 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.24	21	Also would like to see some spirits available at the grocery store as is the case in United States .	
812	13392 BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	3.8	20	Sell liquor in grocery stores...give us convenience.	comment_ I would like to see changes to the liquor laws that would make it possible to have children in Neutral
							if big box stores and grocery chains were to sell liquor it would have a seriously detrimental effect on the private stores that exist already.	comment_ I was born and raised in Quebec where at the least beer and wine were readily available at c Positive
580	10249 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	2.7	20		comment_ I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores. There are enough private and government siStrongly negative
580	10246 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	2.7	20	Opening up sales to every grocery	comment_ I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores. There are enough private and government siNeutral
580	10244 BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	2.7	20	I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores.	comment_ I am opposed to selling liquor in grocery stores. There are enough private and government siNegative
							I have lived in countries where beer and wine is sold in supermarkets.	
572	9961 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.6	20		comment_ Based on very many years working and living both at home and abroad, here is my input:1. I Neutral
							Count me as another British Columbia who wants to be able to buy beer and wine at the grocery store.	
415	8651 BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	20		comment_ Count me as another British Columbia who wants to be able to buy beer and wine at the gro Neutral
							There is no reason it should not be sold in grocery stores like in the states !	
228	7576 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.6	20		comment_ Our liquor laws are very outdated compared to the rest of the world. There is no reason it shNeutral
							I like all of these and will add one.-Grocery Stores/ big box stores need to be able to sell at least	
195	7475 BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.65	20	Beer/WineS	comment_ I like all of these and will add one.-Grocery Stores/ big box stores need to be able to sell at lePositive
							Having travelled extensively, I feel that we need to change the laws so that legal age adults can purchase beer, wine and ciders in grocery and/or convenience stores.	
87	6995 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.35	20		comment_ Having travelled extensively, I feel that we need to change the laws so that legal age adults c Positive
							This is currently no different than a grocery store selling large quantities of soda pop to those with blood sugar disorders or anyone with a sugar or high fructose dependency.	
889	14490 BLOG	50 - 59	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.05	19		comment_ Rather than talk about convenience, let's talk about the business of Government. GovernmeiNegative
892	14426 BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.95	19	Fantastic wines at grocery stores for less than \$10	comment_ Why not take a trip to places that have had this issue figured out for EONS? Ever been to Pa Positive
							We have travelled the world and are sad to say that this is the ONLY place we have been that does not allow the sale of beer and wine in a grocery store.	
722	14187 BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.47	19		comment_ We have travelled the world and are sad to say that this is the ONLY place we have been thaNegative
							g grocery & convenience stores, gas stations, big box stores, wineries, breweries, distillers, etc.), I feel that the Government of BC should get out of the liquor distribution & sales business, and turn this activity over to the private sector.	
521	9772 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.63	19		comment_ I think that the most significant way to modernize liquor sales and distribution in BC, is to rerPositive
434	9267 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	North Coast	4.26	19	Beer and Wine should be available in Grocery stores.	comment_ I enjoy the BC Government liquor stores, prices there are ok. Just need a few more outlets atNegative
							I would advocate:1) Allowing sales to adults in grocery stores, convenience stores, etc.2) Increasing the number of establishments (likely pubs, etc) where parents can have a drink with their children around.	
318	8432 BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.74	19		comment_ I'm 33, but have lived, while an adult, in Vancouver (home), California (current), UK (twice), /Positive
							Reform retail to allow grocery stores, convenience and wholesale stores to sell liquor.	
145	7506 BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.37	19		comment_ I think reform of the BC liquor laws should take the following form:1.) Get out of the distribuPositive
							Please allow grocery/convenience stores to sell alcohol (at LEAST beer and wine) like the rest of the civilized world.	
134	7430 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.16	19		comment_ Please allow grocery/convenience stores to sell alcohol (at LEAST beer and wine) like the resPositive
							We visit the U.S. often and find it very convenient to be able to buy beer, spirits and wine at the same place we pick up our groceries.	
133	7348 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.16	19		comment_ I feel it is about time we stepped into modern times. We visit the U.S. often and find it very cStrongly positive
							I strongly feel liquor (especially wine and beer) should be available through grocery stores.	
57	6617 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.58	19		comment_ I strongly feel liquor (especially wine and beer) should be available through grocery stores. cNegative
							Buying any alcohol whether it be beer/wine/ spirits should be allowed in all convenience / grocery stores.	
888	14402 BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.06	18		comment_ 1. I agree with most comments that the liquor prices in BC are to high. Some may argue if pr Neutral
							By allowing private retailers to distribute alcohol this frees up the public's time to work more, also known as higher productivity, have more time for family or volunteering because they just go shopping in one location for their groceries, including alcohol.	
726	14326 BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.44	18		comment_ I believe the nanny-state-of-mind needs to be gently replaced by a more modern, worldly apNeutral
							There is no reason why I should have to go to a different store to buy groceries and liquor.	
808	13338 BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.06	18		comment_ I cannot wait for BC liquor laws to be relaxed. It is time to join the rest of the world and mocNeutral
897	12639 BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	18	I do not need hard liquor at grocery stores or 7-11,	comment_ Please allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery stores, and also allow stores to purchase dirPositive
							Please allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery stores, and also allow stores to purchase directly from the producer.	
897	12606 BLOG	40 - 49	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	18		comment_ Please allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery stores, and also allow stores to purchase dirNeutral
							While it would certainly be more convenient to be able to access alcohol in grocery stores, is easier access and increased convenience to a potentially hazardous substance necessarily a good thing?	
537	9949 BLOG	25 - 29	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	1.56	18		comment_ In terms of public health and safety, I don't believe that increasing the availability of liquor isPositive
							I do not think it is a good idea to sell liquor at grocery/convenience stores:Long-term, it will encourage young people to consume more alcohol.	
525	9640 BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.06	18		comment_ I do not think it's a good idea to sell liquor at grocery/convenience stores:Long-term, it will ePositive
							Generates more potential revenue for the government via taxes.2) Allow Grocery stores over a certain size to carry liquor.	
431	9050 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.17	18		comment_ Hello Everyone,1) I propose that we have ONLINE ORDERING and DELIVERY of Cold Beer, WiiNeutral
							Reduce the obscene mark-up and taxes, and permit distribution in grocery stores etc.	
243	7637 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	4.11	18		comment_ I agree. Look at the evidence from other jurisdictions that have moved away from governmNegative
							Please, bring us into the 21st century and allow us to buy alcohol at least in grocery stores.	
142	7589 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	18		comment_ I wish I'd known about this site sooner (just saw on Global). Same sentiment from me as othNeutral
67	6629 BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.33	18	Sell all types of liquor in grocery stores.	comment_ First off, privatize liquor sales, government should NOT be in the business of selling liquor.Se Neutral
63	6615 BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.72	18	I was in Japan this spring and was buying beer in a grocery store.	comment_ I was in Japan this spring and was buying beer in a grocery store. When the product was scar Neutral
							Convenience stores are fine just selling a limited selection of wine and beer, and same goes with grocery stores.	
864	14135 BLOG	30 - 39	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.24	17		comment_ I don't need to go into a lot of detail of why these ideas are great, because others have alrea Neutral
							But keep it out of grocery stores...this will create a lot of headaches for food vendors!	
870	14119 BLOG	40 - 49	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.53	17		comment_ Independant cold beer and wine stores fill the need already! Fazing out government controllNegative

853	13773	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.82	17	1) There is absolutely no reason that alcohol (at a minimum beer and wine) should not be available in grocery stores, corner stores, etc.	comment_ 1) There is absolutely no reason that alcohol (at a minimum beer and wine) should not be av	Neutral
852	13760	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.65	17	Having wine and beer available in grocery stores and convenience stores is a welcome idea in my group of people. Simply go to Spain, France, Denmark, Germany, parts of the USA, etc, etc, etc and you will see how purchasing alcohol in a grocery store and having some wine in the park is a wonderful thing that does not negatively impact their society as some of the naysayers here would lead you to believe.	comment_ Having wine and beer available in grocery stores and convenience stores is a welcome idea ii	Positive
545	10509	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17	Try explaining to my Danish friends that A) we have to drive 20 city blocks to find wine, and B) that we can not drink this wine in a park in a responsible manner for a picnic on a hot summer day because Canadians can not be trusted to buy wine from a grocery store without direct government oversight, and nor can we be trusted to drink this wine in a park without causing serious social unrest.	comment_ Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the world, everywhere from Bangkok to Bosn	Neutral
545	10506	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17	I find it honestly embarrassing as a Canadian because it says to the greater world that our citizens can not be trusted or be responsible enough to purchase something such as wine from a grocery store, when to the rest of the world this simple, common practice has been in place for hundreds of years.	comment_ Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the world, everywhere from Bangkok to Bosn	Neutral
545	10505	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17	Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the world, everywhere from Bangkok to Bosnia, and I can attest that it is extremely frustrating and embarrassing as a citizen of British Columbia, compared to a large portion of the rest of the world, to not be able to buy alcohol from grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the world, everywhere from Bangkok to Bosn	Negative
545	10503	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.76	17		comment_ Good day John Yap,I have extensively travelled the world, everywhere from Bangkok to Bosn	Neutral
585	10254	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	1.94	17	With liquor sales limited to the liquor stores we do not have to deal with drunks at the grocery stores or any of the other suggested locations where families are shopping.	comment_ With liquor sales limited to the liquor stores we don't have to deal with drunks at the grocen	Neutral
604	10019	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	1.71	17	I do not support alcohol in grocery stores...too close to children. They will filter out into the streets at a slower rate. - We should be able to buy liquor in grocery and convenience stores - We should be able to drink reasonably in public (we already do)- I agree public drunkenness should still be a crime	comment_ I don't support alcohol in grocery stores...too close to children. If that is an example of archa	Negative
348	9566	BLOG	19 - 24	9/15/2013 0:00	Kootenay	4.53	17		comment_ I am so glad these archaic policies are being reformed. Personal responsibility should be the	Neutral
490	9327	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.41	17	3) Sell ALL types of liquor in grocery stores, wine stores .	comment_ Where to start regarding BC's unbelievably archaic liquor laws, and acutely embarrassing anc	Neutral
222	7790	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.29	17	Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores. I agree with Ali from Vancouver Island: It is time alcohol esp wine and beer is available for purchase in grocery stores.	comment_ Suggestions:1. Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores. It is in Quebec and many Eu	Neutral
138	7469	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.06	17	-drop the prices across the board,I go south down to the USA and prices are 1/2 what they are here- allow super markets and gas stations to sell beer and wine,they check ID for cigarettes,they can do the same for a bottle of wine-same goes for hard liqueur	comment_ I agree with Ali from Vancouver Island: It's time alcohol esp wine and beer is available for pu	Positive
81	7365	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.71	17	Buying your liquor at Costco for example while getting your groceries would save a lot of time and gas.	comment_ -drop the prices across the board,I go south down to the USA and prices are 1/2 what they ar	Neutral
89	7040	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.59	17	Example: We were getting a larger table and instead of everyone just grabbing their drink and moving over 20 feet the waitress had to grab everyone's drink in order to not break the current law.- Allow the sale of liquor in grocery stores and gas stations like Alberta and Washington.	comment_ I've been saying BC liquor laws are archaic and in need of extreme changes for years. One mi	Neutral
89	7038	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.59	17		comment_ I've been saying BC liquor laws are archaic and in need of extreme changes for years. One mi	Neutral
72	6624	BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.76	17	Allow large chain grocery stores to sell beer and wine.	comment_ Allow large chain grocery stores to sell beer and wine.Reduce markup and taxes on beer and	Neutral
733	14388	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16	There was also the issue of the UK supermarkets using checkout staff under eighteen years old - they were not old enough to sell alcohol, let alone buy it.	comment_ As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70's to the 90's, I can speak from experienc	Negative
733	14387	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16	It is obvious when children or minors are in a Liquor Store, and I would bet they are more likely to be ID checked at the checkout in the Liquor Store than a busy grocery store.	comment_ As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70's to the 90's, I can speak from experienc	Negative
733	14362	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16	Prices fell, because grocery stores are concerned with profits, not regulation.	comment_ As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70's to the 90's, I can speak from experienc	Negative
733	14361	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.81	16	Alcohol became easily accessible in grocery stores around the country.	comment_ As someone born and raised in the UK during the 70's to the 90's, I can speak from experienc	Positive
725	14301	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.19	16	I put a visit to these establishments on the same list as stopping by Home Depot, Costco and then the grocery store.	comment_ I do not disagree with the current arrangement the government has in place with private and	Neutral
884	14287	BLOG	30 - 39	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.88	16	Having said all of this I am still not for the grocery stores carrying alcohol.	comment_ This is an interesting conversation. I am very for the ease of alcohol laws in British Columbia.	Neutral
884	14285	BLOG	30 - 39	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.88	16	Someone commented earlier that the liquor stores tend to be right beside busy grocery stores anyhow.	comment_ This is an interesting conversation. I am very for the ease of alcohol laws in British Columbia.	Negative
884	14275	BLOG	30 - 39	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.88	16	Having said all of this I do not see the benefit in allowing alcohol sales in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ This is an interesting conversation. I am very for the ease of alcohol laws in British Columbia.	Positive
720	14224	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.94	16	I hope I live to see the day when I can purchase alcohol in a grocery store!	comment_ Thank you for allowing public input. I am a member of CAMRA Vancouver - a non profit socie	Neutral
720	14208	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.94	16	#NAME? I believe that liquor should be sold in grocery and convenience stores and regulated like tobacco.	comment_ Thank you for allowing public input. I am a member of CAMRA Vancouver - a non profit socie	Strongly positive
717	14105	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	16		comment_ I believe that liquor should be sold in grocery and convenience stores and regulated like tobac	Neutral
845	13678	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.69	16	2) Grocery Stores selling liquor, wine and booze - in my experience shopping for liquor and booze in the United States at grocery stores it has been fantastic, the store employees always check ID and the store systems require it.	comment_ Here is my position on some changes:酒1) The personal import laws from other countries ne	Positive

638	10565	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.5	16	Beer and wine should be available at grocery/convenience stores. I would guess that if people are purchasing beer at the grocery store, then your standard liquor stores who do stock the craft beers would lose business as would the craft distillers.	comment_ I agree on several earlier posts. Beer and wine should be available at grocery/convenience st	Neutral
633	10561	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.94	16	If a convenience/grocery store sells beer, are they going to make an effort to stock craft beers?	comment_ I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor in gas/grocery/convenience store. BC now	Negative
633	10559	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.94	16	I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor in gas/grocery/convenience store.	comment_ I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor in gas/grocery/convenience store. BC now	Positive
633	10557	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.94	16	Even when I was in Australia the liquor stores were connected to grocery stores.	comment_ I have concerns about allowing that sale of liquor in gas/grocery/convenience store. BC now	Neutral
534	9895	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.56	16	I purchased alcohol at a Wal-Mart, at a grocery store, at a corner store and at a liquor store.	comment_ I spent some time in Florida last year. I purchased alcohol at a Wal-Mart, at a grocery store,	Neutral
534	9889	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.56	16	I can not see this affecting health issues as it would be the same as going to a BC Liquor store after my grocery shopping... It is just more convenient.	comment_ I spent some time in Florida last year. I purchased alcohol at a Wal-Mart, at a grocery store,	Neutral
486	9157	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	16	I would love to be able to purchase wine in a grocery store while I shop for my dinner.	comment_ I would love to be able to purchase wine in a grocery store while I shop for my dinner. I can'	Positive
486	9156	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	16	Allow supermarkets to sell alcohol, if the concern is control of purchasing make them separate premises within the supermarket, but with the same opening hours.3.	comment_ I would love to be able to purchase wine in a grocery store while I shop for my dinner. I can'	Strongly positive
375	8570	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.44	16	I would also really like to be able to make one stop on the way home from work, and be able to pick up a bottle of wine or some beers at the grocery store along with dinner.	comment_ 1. Privatise all government alcohol stores and distribution, if they are successful they will sur	Negative
79	6755	BLOG	25 - 29	9/14/2013 0:00	North Coast	4.75	16	And one more thing - I know there will be a temptation to only allow BC wines and beer to be sold at the grocery store - do not do it!	comment_ I would love to be able to take a couple beers down to the lake and not have to act like a tee	Neutral
891	14418	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15	The large grocery chains already have a great distribution system, why not just leverage that?	comment_ I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery stores such as Thrifty's. We lived in Washing	Neutral
891	14412	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15	We lived in Washington state for 12 years, bought beer and wine with the groceries, saving so much time and gas!	comment_ I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery stores such as Thrifty's. We lived in Washing	Neutral
891	14386	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15	wine sold at grocery stores such as Thrifty's	comment_ I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery stores such as Thrifty's. We lived in Washing	Neutral
891	14385	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.53	15	I have no problems with Beer / Wine / Spirits sold in both Grocery and convenient stores in BC as well as Big Box Stores like Walmart and Costco.	comment_ I would like to see beer and wine sold at grocery stores such as Thrifty's. We lived in Washing	Neutral
732	14343	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.2	15	My outlook is if grocery stores were able to provide liquor, it would be cheaper and more convenient for families for a one stop shop.	comment_ I have no problems with Beer / Wine / Spirits sold in both Grocery and convenient stores in E	Positive
807	13330	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.93	15	Do you want to be in your grocery store with your kids and there is a drunk stumbling in to find booze then he barfs or some worse or the poor minor worker having to deal with that besides that too the underage worker would have to be fired cause u have to be 19 to sell booze.	comment_ I do believe it's time to change our liquor laws, since the BC law falls back as far as prohibitio	Strongly positive
776	13059	BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	2.6	15	I am totally in favor of grocery stores and convenience stores selling wine and beer.	comment_ Differances in opinions .I still say bc isnt ready ,I hate to say most people arent reaponaible e	Strongly negative
895	12614	BLOG	25 - 29	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.8	15	I am not sure I understand how buying beer at a grocery store and then getting in my car would promote drinking and driving any less than buying beer at a gas station and then getting in my car, or for that matter, buying beer at the BC Liquor store today, and then getting in my car.	comment_ I am totally in favor of grocery stores and convenience stores selling wine and beer. I don't tl	Positive
535	10551	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	15	In Oregon, you can buy beer in the grocery store.	comment_ I'm not sure I understand how buying beer at a grocery store and then getting in my car wou	Neutral
650	10338	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.73	15	Beers and wine should be sold in grocery stores and gas stations like most civilized countries in the world.	comment_ I disagree. In Oregon, you can buy beer in the grocery store. Oregon also has a thriving craft	Neutral
578	10184	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	4.47	15	You can buy beer or wine at the local corner store or grocery store, while spirits are sold at government liquor stores (Société des alcools du Québec) much like in British Columbia.	comment_ Beers and wine should be sold in grocery stores and gas stations like most civilized countries	Neutral
605	10066	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.73	15	Let us join other countries and make at least beer & wine available at grocery stores.	comment_ I've been living in Montreal for the past two years for university, and in Quebec the laws regi	Neutral
497	9626	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	15	To allow for the sale of liquor in those grocery stores would surely effect the future of those government stores who now supply great service, variety, and pricing.	comment_ Yes! Let's join other countries and make at least beer & wine available at grocery stores	Neutral
465	9461	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.67	15	Many BC government liquor stores are located very near major grocery stores.	comment_ It is hard to imagine that there is a need for any more liquor outlets in BC. Of all the pitfalls v	Positive
465	9460	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.67	15	All those public and private stores that rely on their sales and their employees, would be in jeopardy as a result of allowing more liquor outlets to appear, especially in grocery stores.	comment_ It is hard to imagine that there is a need for any more liquor outlets in BC. Of all the pitfalls v	Neutral
465	9459	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.67	15		comment_ It is hard to imagine that there is a need for any more liquor outlets in BC. Of all the pitfalls v	Neutral

227	9212	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.93	15	I am not in support of this liquor policy review to be totally honest we have enough issues around the safe use of alcohol and if motion is carried forward why should it be aloud in our local grocery stores its like when smoking in public places was revised the second hand smoke was unhealthy for children to inhale so the no smoking in grocery stores bars casinos and so on alcohol should be in a controlled environment people die because of alcohol use drinking and driving we have people who even boot leg in this province there is a lot to think about and the future of Canada's children and familys most alcohol related crashes kill the sober drivers or pedestrians and the drunk survives the politics are not thinking clearly the drinking and driving laws are not even all there yet these types of people should not be aloud to have a license and be charged with murder and thrown in jail for life with out parole yes the liquor act should be taken seriously but really the bars and licensed	comment_ I am not in support of this liquor policy review to be totally honest we have enough issues a	Negative
371	8418	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.47	15	Let us join the 20th century and allow the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores, at least.	comment_ Let's join the 20th century and allow the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores, at least. In th	Neutral
857	13820	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.14	14	I agree with many of the comments around more liberal availability in grocery and corner stores.	comment_ I agree with many of the comments around more liberal availability in grocery and corner str	Strongly positive
805	13360	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.57	14	And, if you do decide to treat us like adults, do not restrict it to certain supermarkets, open it up and have them compete for our business, another factor sadly lacking for consumers in our province - competition.	comment_ We're so far behind the times here in B.C. and I've yet to hear a good argument for making u	Negative
805	13359	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.57	14	I can handle having to go out of my way to buy stronger alcohol if need be, but come on guys, stop treating us like children who can not be trusted and let me buy a nice bottle or two in the supermarket.	comment_ We're so far behind the times here in B.C. and I've yet to hear a good argument for making u	Neutral
805	13342	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.57	14	It is high time we were treated like adults and be allowed to at the very least buy a couple of bottles of wine or a six pack of beer for the weekend while buying the groceries at the supermarket.	comment_ We're so far behind the times here in B.C. and I've yet to hear a good argument for making u	Neutral
786	13209	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2	14	Unlike the other posters, I see no need to sell liquor of any kind in grocery or convenience stores.	comment_ Unlike the other posters, I see no need to sell liquor of any kind in grocery or convenience st	Positive
777	13093	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.43	14	and come back to B.C. and feel like a second-class citizen because I am told I can not buy a bottle of wine with my loaf of bread and cheese in the grocery store.	comment_ It is about time! grew up in Europe, and there was liquor and wine available everywhere ...	Neutral
777	13069	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.43	14	the corner stores, supermarkets, everywhere	comment_ It is about time! grew up in Europe, and there was liquor and wine available everywhere ...	Neutral
764	12888	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.5	14	Allow grocery stores etc to sell beer, wine and liquor just like in the USA IT WILL WORK AND LOWER PRICES	comment_ BC is so far behind the rest of the world relative to where you can purchase liquor. Allow gr	Neutral
655	10373	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.29	14	Wine and beer should be available in grocery stores and they should be allowed to discount the price.	comment_ Wine and beer should be available in grocery stores and they should be allowed to discount	Negative
540	9873	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.71	14	Further I have travelled extensively in the US and Europe where grocery store liquor sales is the norm.	comment_ I live in a small community where 2 grocery stores currently offer liquor sales. This works w	Positive
540	9871	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.71	14	I live in a small community where 2 grocery stores currently offer liquor sales.	comment_ I live in a small community where 2 grocery stores currently offer liquor sales. This works w	Neutral
136	7726	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	14	The Unions of course will not like this because of all the employees they employ at the stores run by the government,But lets get real for one in my life and have these products available at groceries, and other retail outlets.	comment_ I might live long enough to see Canada act like the rest of the world when it comes to provid	Negative
136	7721	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	14	now drug addicts are everywhere but the average person has been held hostage by these people being refused the right to buy beer at a grocery store, or have children present when alcohol is being consumed	comment_ I might live long enough to see Canada act like the rest of the world when it comes to provid	Negative
229	7583	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.14	14	Quebec has been allowing the sales of beer and wine in grocery stores for decades.	comment_ I am in agreement that beer/wine and liquor should be allowed to be sold in grocery stores.	Neutral
229	7581	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.14	14	I am in agreement that beer/wine and liquor should be allowed to be sold in grocery stores.	comment_ I am in agreement that beer/wine and liquor should be allowed to be sold in grocery stores.	Negative
165	7148	BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	2.43	14	You can drink anywhere you want and buy your booze at the supermarket.	comment_ don't know what you mean 'protect children but not at the cost of a family event'? What doe	Neutral
85	6878	BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.43	14	I would like to see the government allow beer and wine sales in grocery stores and gas stations for that matter.	comment_ I would like to see the government allow beer and wine sales in grocery stores and gas statio	Neutral
735	14456	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.23	13	It really is not just about a convenience with having alcohol in any establishment (example: grocery, corner & convenience stores) that wishes to pay for a license to do so, the real reason is having so many governments over the years that are so afraid to open up licensing, location of dispensing and the simple fact that a large portion of the general public can regulate their own consumption and consume appropriately when in a public place.	comment_ Anyone who thinks the status quo is fine is living in a cave. Step outside the country and real	Neutral
893	14429	BLOG	25 - 29	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.77	13	I also would suggest a trial period, pick a region with an average amount of liquor-related problems, allow liquor sales in grocery stores for, say, six months, and measure the effect.	comment_ I'm in favour of liquor sales in grocery stores. I have always been of the opinion that a) if per	Negative
893	14391	BLOG	25 - 29	9/21/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.77	13	I am in favour of liquor sales in grocery stores.	comment_ I'm in favour of liquor sales in grocery stores. I have always been of the opinion that a) if per	Neutral
712	14052	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.92	13	However if liquor sales are decreased because of people shopping at the grocery store instead, hours and salaries will drop.	comment_ I personally think selling liquor in a grocery store or convenient store is not a good idea. First	Neutral
712	14046	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.92	13	I personally think selling liquor in a grocery store	comment_ I personally think selling liquor in a grocery store or convenient store is not a good idea. First	Neutral

700	13859	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.62	13	On the economic side of things, if BC did move towards putting liquor into convenience stores and grocery stores, this would ultimately kill the private store business.	comment_ On the economic side of things, if BC did move towards putting liquor into convenience store	Neutral
847	13662	BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	undefined	2.85	13	I think that it is time that B.C. caught up to the "real world" in terms of selling beer and wine in grocery stores.	comment_ I think that it is time that B.C. caught up to the "real world" in terms of selling beer and wine	Neutral
784	13229	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.77	13	If people want the Québec model, it would mean closing all the private liquor stores and allowing only beer and a very limited selection of overpriced, low quality wines on the grocery shelf.	comment_ I lived in Québec for over 50 years and yet, when I moved to BC, my perception was that liqu	Negative
784	13213	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.77	13	I lived in Québec for over 50 years and yet, when I moved to BC, my perception was that liquor was much more available here than there, despite always having purchased beer in the grocery store.	comment_ I lived in Québec for over 50 years and yet, when I moved to BC, my perception was that liqu	Neutral
785	13206	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.38	13	You should be able to purchase a bottle of wine in the same location as where you purchase your groceries.	comment_ I think that wine and beer should be available in all grocery and convenience stores across th	Negative
785	13204	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.38	13	I think that wine and beer should be available in all grocery and convenience stores across the province.	comment_ I think that wine and beer should be available in all grocery and convenience stores across th	Neutral
770	13009	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.46	13	I want to be able to buy alcohol in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ I would like to see more variety in our choice of liquor. There are hundreds of products avail	Positive
518	10744	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13	However, you can ensure that the liquor stores remain open and ensure that alcohol does not become potentially dangerously available by limiting what a grocery or convenience store can sell.	comment_ I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public	Positive
518	10743	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13	One of the largest issues I can see with the introduction of liquor sales in supermarkets and convenience stores, aside from greater accessibility, is the idea that they will make liquor stores, including the BCL, redundant or unnecessary.	comment_ I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public	Neutral
518	10741	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13	I think there is an amazing chance to change that here and part of the solution may lie in introducing liquor sales to supermarkets and convenience stores.	comment_ I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public	Positive
518	10737	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13	On Liquor being sold in Grocery and Convenience stores:I believe that these new laws will have far more impact on the culture of drinking in this province than anything else.	comment_ I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public	Positive
518	10717	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.23	13	I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public safety" that I adamantly believe that the culture of drinking in our province has the chance to changed for the healthier here in BC and that our current one seems to be one of an "All or Nothing" mentality.	comment_ I have already posted in the more recent blog about "Grocery stores, convenience and public	Positive
651	10343	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.46	13	I would love it if alcohol were more affordable and accessible in grocery stores.	comment_ I would love it if alcohol were more affordable and accessible in grocery stores. It's not just a	Strongly positive
575	10262	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.69	13	The fact that in some rural areas you can buy alcohol at grocery stores makes it even more farcical.	comment_ Having moved here from England, I still can't get used to the idea or understand the reasons	Negative
575	10253	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.69	13	Having moved here from England, I still can not get used to the idea or understand the reasons behind separating alcohol and groceries.	comment_ Having moved here from England, I still can't get used to the idea or understand the reasons	Negative
473	9737	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.69	13	Allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores and markets, and at places such as Costco.	comment_ I agree that BC's liquor laws are archaic, the result of puritanical and bygone Victorian values	Neutral
479	9517	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.46	13	As a person employed in the social services field, I am wary about opening up the sale of liquor, wine and beer to grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ As a person employed in the social services field, I am wary about opening up the sale of liqu	Neutral
493	9286	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.46	13	Allow sale of beer, wine and spirits in grocery stores and beer and wine in corner stores.	comment_ 1. Allow sale of beer, wine and spirits in grocery stores and beer and wine in corner stores. Neutral	
333	8320	BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.15	13	Allow for grocery / big box stores to sell alcohol.	comment_ This is an opportunity for the province of BC to lead the way in modernizing our liquor regul	Neutral
259	8117	BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.54	13	Few points to the law I would like to see changed:1) Allow the sale of liquor (at least beer and Wine) in grocery stores.2) Allow children to be with adults in neighborhood pubs/beer gardens.3) Allow dining establishments greater freedom as to when and how to sell liquor.	comment_ Few points to the law I would like to see changed:1) Allow the sale of liquor (at least beer an	Positive
224	8104	BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	13	Alcohol (any alcoholic beverage, including beer, wine, sake, hard liquor) can be purchased in grocery stores, convenience stores, stalls at fairs and festivals, and even from vending machines.	comment_ I lived in Japan for 20 years. In Japan, the drinking age is 20.Alcohol (any alcoholic beverage, Neutral	
218	7930	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	North Coast	2.46	13	As for offering it in a supermarket, perhaps not right in the market where families shop together but an attached area where adults can enter and exit as they finish their shopping.	comment_ I'm in a smaller northern community where there are many addiction issues. I don't think th	Neutral
135	7550	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.31	13	let grocery stores sell liquor+wine.	comment_ get the gov.completely out of the liquor business+open it up to competition.the u.s.+mexico Neutral	
171	7289	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Northeast	1.31	13	many BC liquor stores are already next to grocery stores	comment_ Regarding addictions, alcohol is already legal and can be bought at stores. Changing distribut	Neutral
171	7285	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Northeast	1.31	13	Grocery stores should be able to sell liquor.	comment_ Regarding addictions, alcohol is already legal and can be bought at stores. Changing distribut	Negative
736	14444	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12	It really does not make any sense to not allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine.	comment_ Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a common practice world over. So why would Briti:	Neutral
736	14443	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12	Instead of doing my grocery shopping and then having to drive to a liquor store or beer and wine store to pick up a 6 pack.	comment_ Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a common practice world over. So why would Briti:	Neutral
736	14442	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12	Really what is the problem if I go to the store and do my grocery shopping and pick up a 6 pack at the same time?	comment_ Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a common practice world over. So why would Briti:	Negative
736	14440	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.92	12	Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a common practice world over.	comment_ Buying beer and wine in grocery stores is a common practice world over. So why would Briti:	Neutral
860	14082	BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.42	12	As it is now it is not really that difficult to access if you need it but it would be much more convenient to get all items for a dinner party in one place and aside from ID'ing which is already done for cigarettes which are far more harmful and sold in grocery stores, I do not see an issue with it.	comment_ I agree with laws and fines penalizing and discouraging public drunkenness and all around rec	Neutral
860	14081	BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.42	12	I think that beer and wine should absolutely be sold in super markets.	comment_ I agree with laws and fines penalizing and discouraging public drunkenness and all around rec	Neutral

								The moratorium on liquor store licenses is ridiculous, and if the government plans to allow beer and wine sales in grocery stores (I do not support the sale of hard alcohol in grocery stores), it is unfair and restrictive to members of the community who wish to open specialty stores, or a liquor store close to their neighborhood.	
856	13988	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.83	12		comment_ I agree with other commenters here and on the other post: alcohol laws are far too restrictiv
851	13765	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.5	12	It could be set up similar to a bank inside a grocery store.	Strongly negative
851	13763	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.5	12	The first phase could be sales only in major grocery and drug stores.	comment_ I propose that liquor in BCL become slowly privatized for competition. The first phase could
								I believe that liquor sales should be permitted in all grocery / convenience stores across the province.	Positive
757	12857	BLOG	19 - 24	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.58	12	I strongly believe that all types of liquor should be available in grocery stores anywhere in the province.	comment_ I propose that liquor in BCL become slowly privatized for competition. The first phase could
640	10629	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.42	12		comment_ I believe that liquor sales should be permitted in all grocery / convenience stores across the
								I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery stores back in the 1980's, to pharmacy's and motor oil and hardware items and patio furniture and many other household items in grocery stores at the present time.	Neutral
637	10575	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.5	12		comment_ I believe that liquor sales should be permitted in all grocery / convenience stores across the
								Allow sales in grocery stores, gas stations etc.2) Allow people to consume beer and wine in public areas and enforce public drunkenness laws.	comment_ I strongly believe that all types of liquor should be available in grocery stores anywhere in th
576	10210	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								I do not think that having these products available as a grocery item will cause kids to drink, nor do I see how it would relate to snacks and lottery tickets at all.	Neutral
550	10023	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.67	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
549	9930	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.42	12	Why is it so difficult for an adult to purchase wine, spirit or beer at either a rural or government outlet rather than a grocery store.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								If beer, wine and spirits are sold in private stores or grocery stores would that make the LDB redundant and result in the loss of close to 3800 jobs in the pubic sector?	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
544	9923	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.67	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
492	9258	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.58	12	Whether these are big box stores or any national grocery chain, this convenience is LONG over due.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								I firmly believe that we should be able to purchase whatever kind of spirits we choose in the same location as we are purchasing our groceries, this is just common sense and moreover, CONVENIENT.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
492	9257	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	4.58	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								Having lived in Quebec and the UK I can certainly testify to the convenience and pleasure it is to buy wine along with groceries or pick up a 6 pack of beer when refueling.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
496	9253	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
496	9252	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	12	At present, I am forced to make an extra trip to purchase wine when I buy my groceries - wasting fuel and time.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
496	9250	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.08	12	Allowing beer/wine sales in grocery, convenience, big box stores, etc.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
247	8122	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.83	12	lighter wines for sale at some grocery stores	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								As well, Alberta has giant liquor superstores on premises at many grocery stores... no issues there.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
285	7958	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
285	7957	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	12	Most US jurisdictions sell liquor, wine, and beer from grocery stores and do not have an increase in the problems you mention.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
214	7866	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	12	My guess is if we do not have booze in the grocery/convenience stores by 2015	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
214	7864	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	12	How is Marijuana going to be decriminalized in B.C. if one can not buy a bottle of beer or wine in a grocery store?	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
214	7859	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	12	All one has to do is download a grocery store flyer from anywhere in the world	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								Twenty Five years ago I remember seeing a man with an empty shopping buggy going up and down the isles at my local grocery store.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
214	7838	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.92	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
233	7803	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.58	12	liquor laws should be amended to allow beer/wine to be available at grocery stores, drug marts or where food is sold.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								I travel to Southern California every couple of years and the ease of being able to go to the grocery store and get ALL my shopping done is so...civilized...?	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
197	7650	BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.25	12		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
231	7599	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	4	12	Quebec has allowed beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores for decades.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
231	7597	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	4	12	I have no problem with beer/wine and liquor being sold in grocery stores.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
102	7022	BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.67	12	Wine and beer should be allowed to be purchased at grocery stores.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
874	14139	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.82	11	We spend 6 months each year where liquor is sold in grocery stores, convenience stores etc.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								If the law of selling beer and wine at grocery stores does not change then government liquor stores should be open on Sundays and longer hours 7 days a week, plus ten should sell chilled beer and wine.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
866	14114	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.36	11		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
855	13836	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11	#NAME?	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
855	13835	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11	Additionally beer/wine is basically treated as a grocery item in our house.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
855	13834	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11	so the convenience of grocery stores is less of a personal time saver	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								Being able to purchase beer and wine with my groceries would be a time (and money) saver.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
855	13798	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.09	11		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
								I really do not think having liquor available in corner stores or grocery stores is the answer.	comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery
683	13708	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.45	11		comment_ I have seen changes in retail throughout my adult lifetime, from Sunday openings in grocery

671	13562	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	2	11	If the consensus is to take alcohol out of Liquor Stores and into grocery stores, then the tax should be increased substantially. Grocery store line-ups are a caotic environment as it is, to add "ID ing" and judging whether or not a person is suitable to buy liquor to the "mix" is crazy.	comment_ If alcohol abuse creates costs to our already expensive and stretched healthcare system, thei	Negative
828	13507	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.73	11	Putting any alcohol in grocery/covenience stores would be very difficult.	comment_ Putting any alcohol in grocery/covenience stores would be very difficult. As a seasoned empl	Neutral
828	13476	BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.73	11		comment_ Putting any alcohol in grocery/covenience stores would be very difficult. As a seasoned empl	Strongly negative
821	13443	BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.45	11	I am not interested in going " American " where booze is available in grocery stores etc.	comment_ I think there are plenty of places to purchase liquor and the hours are adequate. Personally I	Neutral
821	13442	BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.45	11	Personally I do not want to see liquor in grocery stores, convenience stores.	comment_ I think there are plenty of places to purchase liquor and the hours are adequate. Personally I	Positive
810	13353	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.45	11	Having beer and win available in grocery and/or convenience stores would be so much better than having to go into liquor stores and trying to avoid the drunks while making my choice.	comment_ Having beer and win available in grocery and/or convenience stores would be so much bette	Neutral
781	13162	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.73	11	Allow beer and wine to be sold in any grocery store in the Province. a stand alone building separate from the main groceries store would make most sense.	comment_ Allow beer and wine to be sold in any grocery store in the Province. Society in Wash. USA h	Neutral
911	12862	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.09	11	i always thought liquor could be purchased at the local grocery store until i moved here	comment_ i grew up in Quebec and i always thought liquor could be purchased at the local grocery stor	Neutral
911	12837	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.09	11		comment_ i grew up in Quebec and i always thought liquor could be purchased at the local grocery stor	Neutral
597	10598	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.82	11	In an ideal world, BC would model itself after Europe and allow sales of any liquor at any grocery store, corner store, gas station, etc. if these issues could be resolved then I would support beer & wine sales in grocery stores as well, I j	comment_ It is my opinion that liquor laws in British Columbia are extremely outdated and a complete	Strongly positive
485	10491	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11	can not see how it can be done.	comment_ 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm for brunch or lunch but at night, I like to	Negative
485	10486	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11	A lot of grocery stores are now open until 10pm or midnight. Go into a large grocery store after about 8pm and there is usually only a few people working and they are usually all high school or college kids.	comment_ 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm for brunch or lunch but at night, I like to	Neutral
485	10485	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11		comment_ 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm for brunch or lunch but at night, I like to	Neutral
485	10483	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1.45	11	There are numerous problems at these places in the US and there is no reason to believe we would be any different.6) Finally, the sale of alcohol in grocery stores is where I can not really decide but I do not support them being allowed to sell hard liquor.	comment_ 1) I support allowing families into pubs before 6pm for brunch or lunch but at night, I like to	Negative
656	10400	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.27	11	If gas stations can sell alcohol, then why not grocery stores?	comment_ I agree with alcohol sales in grocery stores. This is the norm throughout most of the U.S. It is	Negative
656	10393	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.27	11	I agree with alcohol sales in grocery stores.	comment_ I agree with alcohol sales in grocery stores. This is the norm throughout most of the U.S. It is	Positive
481	9159	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.91	11	A person can also purchase all alcohol products in grocery stores as well as private stores.	comment_ After visiting Europe this past summer I was pleased to see families dinning in pubs each day	Neutral
362	8770	BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.64	11	Alcohol is sold in grocery stores (and gas station in Quebec) as well as longer sale hours and I saw less public drunken behavior despite people being allowed to drink on the beach and at certain parks.	comment_ I spent five years living in Ontario/Quebec where there are more modern liquor laws. I coul	Neutral
323	8386	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.73	11	I do not care if liquor is sold on grocery and corner stores.	comment_ I dont care if liquor is sold on grocery and corner stores. I know alcohol is easy for kids to get	Negative
149	7466	BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.73	11	I would like to see wiine/beer made available in grocery stores (not convenience stores/gas stations) If I can get a bottle of quality wine in a local wine/beer store in my neighborhood, what difference does it make where in town I purchase it.	comment_ I would like to see wiine/beer made available in grocery stores (not convenience stores/gas	Positive
112	7006	BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.45	11	Adopt a similar approach as Alberta as far as allowing Supermarkets to sell Alcohol, ie, they may sell but in a separated facility with longer hours than we are used to here in BC, I like this approach in Alberta as they have weekly specials at each Supermarket, what is the word for that, oh yes, competition!	comment_ Adopt a similar approach as Alberta as far as allowing Supermarkets to sell Alcohol, ie, they r	Positive
88	6902	BLOG	60+	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.27	11	I agree beer and wine should be in the grocery store. I would allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine while consumers are purchashing their groceries.	comment_ I agree beer and wine should be in the grocery store. I don't think underage drinkers will be	Positive
127	6866	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.18	11		comment_ I would allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine while consumers are purchashing their groc	Neutral
109	6812	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	11	I have three suggestions for changes:(1) Allow grocery stores and other general retail outlets (corner stores, gas station stores etc) to sell alcoholic products.(comment_ I have three suggestions for changes:(1) Allow grocery stores and other general retail outlets	Neutral
82	6767	BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.45	11	I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery stores I fully support the expansion of sales of all alcohol to grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery stores, as these beverages are natural accor	Neutral
739	14472	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	10		comment_ Unfortunately for many, the conclusion that John Yap and the commission will draw has likel	Positive
826	13516	BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.5	10	I think alcohol should be readily available in grocery and other stores (ie: London Drugs).	comment_ I think alcohol should be readily available in grocery and other stores (ie: London Drugs). To	Negative
919	12952	BLOG	40 - 49	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.1	10	Beer, wine, and spirits should be available through any licensed grocery store.	comment_ Beer, wine, and spirits should be available through any licensed grocery store. Same goes fo	Negative
635	10549	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.8	10	I think it is a great idea to have it sold in grocery stores, it would save one more trip somewhere else and i do not see what the difference is.	comment_ I think it is a great idea to have it sold in grocery stores, it would save one more trip somewh	Positive
577	10181	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	4.2	10	Beers and wine should be sold on grocery stores and gas stations like most civilized countries in the world.	comment_ Beers and wine should be sold on grocery stores and gas stations like most civilized countrie	Neutral
548	9906	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.6	10	I support beer and wine grocery/corner stores. That is how it is done in Australia and it is much better for the consumer for purchasing groceries.	comment_ I support beer and wine grocery/corner stores. I have traveled the world, in Europe, the U.S	Neutral
539	9860	BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	4.5	10		comment_ I wish we had the price including tax on the price tag for everything we purchase.That is how	Neutral
524	9594	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.8	10	I would love to have alcohol available in the grocery store. First of all, beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores and convenience stores.	comment_ I would love to have alcohol available in the grocery store. Many recipes call for beer, wine,	Strongly positive
476	9540	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	10		comment_ First of all, beer and wine should be sold in grocery stores and convenience stores. Also, drin	Neutral
458	9020	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	10	I would love to see liquor sold in supermarkets like they have in USA for I believe it would reduce our current tax burden and open up the market to more competitive pricing...	comment_ I would love to see liquor sold in supermarkets like they have in USA for I believe it would re	Positive
319	8956	BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	10	I also agree with all previous posts calling for alcohol sales at grocery stores and allowing for consumption in public places.	comment_ Children should be allowed in pubs that serve food until a reasonable time in the evening (9	Positive

269	8175	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.8	10	If instituting the regulation of grocery type stores being allowed to sell wine and beer is the first step, hurrah!	comment_ It is time to abolish the distance requirement between liquor outlets. If instituting the regula	Neutral
236	7770	BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.6	10	Allow grocery and convenience stores to sell beer and wines.	comment_ Allow grocery and convenience stores to sell beer and wines. Allow beer or wines to be t	Positive
237	7643	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.5	10	ALLOWING GROCERY STORES TO SELL LIQUOR WILL NOT MAKE SENSE IN BC TO KEEP SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY STRONG.	comment_ I AGREE WITH STACEY. THE PRIVATE RETAIL LIQUOR STORES,PUBS WITH OFF SALE AND RAS /	Neutral
148	7444	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	undefined	4.6	10	I think we need more beer and wine stores or availability throughout our grocery stores.	comment_ I think we need more beer and wine stores or availability throughout our grocery stores. Pric	Neutral
175	7241	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.6	10	I can see points against allowing beer/wine to be sold at supermarkets (security issues with theft, the potential for cashiers to be less attuned to how boozed up a customer already is...)	comment_ Yes! Having neighbourhood pubs in more neighbourhoods would be great in so many ways. I	Negative
743	14564	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.89	9	This is much easier to do with beer bought from a grocery store late at night on the way home from an event or while "cruising" a neighbourhood.	comment_ There is no real reason for a change in the liquor sale and distribution process, for it works sc	Negative
743	14563	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.89	9	It is possible that sales in grocery stores will increase the number of beer cans easily tossed out of the car window and littering the streets after an impulse buy of a "six pack."	comment_ There is no real reason for a change in the liquor sale and distribution process, for it works sc	Neutral
743	14552	BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.89	9	Making liquor available in grocery stores acts as a much too easy incentive to impulsively spend/divert money away from uses that may be more useful to the individual or the family.	comment_ There is no real reason for a change in the liquor sale and distribution process, for it works sc	Positive
834	13532	BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.67	9	I feel that alcohol should be more readily available in grocery stores/convenient stores and be offered at a cheaper price.	comment_ I feel that alcohol should be more readily available in grocery stores/convenient stores and b	Neutral
824	13466	BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.56	9	I favour booze in grocery stores.	comment_ I favour booze in grocery stores. What we have now is a nightmare with wine stores that can	Neutral
922	13064	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9	I am one for the inclusion of beer, spirits and wine in grocery stores and in convenience stores as it will move alcohol out from BCL's taboo store fronts and into the public eye.	comment_ It seems that a common thread throughout these posts is the virtue of responsibility; by the	Positive
922	13062	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9	But, the grocery store idea is a move in the right direction.	comment_ It seems that a common thread throughout these posts is the virtue of responsibility; by the	Neutral
922	13058	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9	Having alcohol in grocery stores is not going to change society's problems over night for better or for worse.	comment_ It seems that a common thread throughout these posts is the virtue of responsibility; by the	Negative
775	13017	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.67	9	There are a large amount of citizens in this province that struggle with addiction and those trying to recover should at least be able to go to the store to get groceries without having liquor there.	comment_ I strongly feel that liquor does not need to be sold in grocery stores. Since all the pubs have	Negative
775	13015	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.67	9	I strongly feel that liquor does not need to be sold in grocery stores.	comment_ I strongly feel that liquor does not need to be sold in grocery stores. Since all the pubs have	Neutral
922	13002	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9	notion However, the grocery store solution is a cost effective, plausible and responsible way for the government to reduce the inefficient and exorbitant system that is in place today.	comment_ It seems that a common thread throughout these posts is the virtue of responsibility; by the	Neutral
922	12998	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9	I think people should also understand that consolidating the sale of liquor into grocery stores will undoubtedly cause some problems in the short term.	comment_ It seems that a common thread throughout these posts is the virtue of responsibility; by the	Negative
922	12997	BLOG	19 - 24	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.56	9	beer and spirits available in convenience stores and grocery stores to be an adequate solution to inefficient distribution branches BC Liquor has in place now	comment_ It seems that a common thread throughout these posts is the virtue of responsibility; by the	Neutral
752	12674	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	9	I propose that not only should liquor be kept out of grocery stores	comment_ Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy items? We don't NEED to buy those from the	Neutral
752	12652	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.22	9	We do not NEED to buy those from the grocery store either.	comment_ Yes, I agree. And further, what about Pharmacy items? We don't NEED to buy those from the	Neutral
630	10713	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	4.11	9	While I do not mind the idea of opening up retail to include grocery stores, corner stores, etc., it is not personally so important to me.	comment_ While I don't mind the idea of opening up retail to include grocery stores, corner stores, etc.,	Neutral
592	10290	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	undefined	1.44	9	Currently, recovering alcoholics can buy their groceries in an alcohol free environment.	comment_ I would benefit from the convenience and lower prices if liquor is to be sold everywhere. Hc	Neutral
459	10098	BLOG	25 - 29	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	9	Secondly, I definitely feel that alcohol should be made available in convenience stores, and supermarkets.	comment_ I really think that, to move forward, we need to examine what works elsewhere in the world	Neutral
536	9862	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	9	Wine and beer in grocery stores makes sense to me (esp.	comment_ Wine and beer in grocery stores makes sense to me (esp. wine as it is normally served with a	Neutral
552	9790	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.44	9	I feel that the BC has a good balance in terms of its current alcohol policies whereas in the UK - where all alcohol is widely available in large grocery stores - there are serious alcohol issues in most communities.	comment_ I came to Canada from the UK 5 years ago and I have been involved in the pub and restauran	Neutral
527	9616	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	9	It is about time we were able to purchase beer and wine with our groceries.	comment_ It is about time we were able to purchase beer and wine with our groceries. This would be g	Neutral
513	9422	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.56	9	Like in about all countries in the world, alcohol is sold in grocery stores etc.	comment_ It is high time that our outdated liquor laws get a badly needed overhaul. Like in about all co	Neutral
199	7619	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.56	9	While I do not agree with some of the very low prices available in the UK, the ability to pick up a bottle of wine with your normal grocery purchase would provide much more convenience and save the need to make another journey to find a liquor store.	comment_ As a fairly recent immigrant to Canada I do think the province should allow supermarkets to	Positive
199	7618	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.56	9	As a fairly recent immigrant to Canada I do think the province should allow supermarkets to sell alcohol.	comment_ As a fairly recent immigrant to Canada I do think the province should allow supermarkets to	Neutral
93	7255	BLOG	40 - 49	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.22	9	1) Allowing the sale of beer/wine/liqueur in grocery stores.	comment_ Somel early trends have appeared that I agree with, namely;1) Allowing the sale of beer/win	Neutral
76	6728	BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.44	9	Sell in grocery stores and corner stores and reduce taxes ..	comment_ Sell in grocery stores and corner stores and reduce taxes ..	Neutral
932	22247	BLOG	50 - 59		undefined	4.13	8	A visit to grocery stores in Washington State shows that this can be done with minimal fuss and impact.	comment_ Sales of Beer, wine, cider and coolers at convenience stores are long overdue. One shouldn't	Negative
932	22242	BLOG	50 - 59		undefined	4.13	8	Sales of Beer, wine, cider, coolers and spirits at grocery stores are also long overdue.	comment_ Sales of Beer, wine, cider and coolers at convenience stores are long overdue. One shouldn't	Neutral

							as a frequent traveller to Europe, I just flip into their practice and pick up beer or wine in local stores - no big deal - I am reminded of how far we have to go to treat our citizens like responsible people - remember, it was not long ago that the religious types finally got overruled and we could enter pubs and/or buy liquor on Sundays - of course, we should be able to purchase beer or wine in grocery markets any day of the week ... however, its probably a good idea to limit the sales to beer or wine and leave the hard stuff in liquor stores while we adapt ... further, the wide variation of ownership in mom and pop grocery stores might require them being part of 'the next step'...		
894	14496	BLOG	60+	9/21/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.63	8	I am from the UK, the last aisle of any supermarket is the booze, you do not want it you do not need to	comment_ ... as a frequent traveller to Europe, I just flip into their practice and pick up beer or wine in I Neutral
724	14220	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	8	go near it.	comment_ OK let's spin it on it's head -- why not sell alcohol, subject to license in ANY store. We current Neutral
877	14177	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	8	As for convenience, in my community the government run liquor store is in the same mall as the grocery store, that is pretty convenient.	
877	14174	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	8	Grocery stores will keep the profit	comment_ Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in grocery stores is going to be any cheaper. If y Strongly positive
877	14165	BLOG	60+	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.13	8	Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in grocery stores is going to be any cheaper.	comment_ Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in grocery stores is going to be any cheaper. If y Neutral
709	14040	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.5	8	When I travel to the usa, I can buy liquor in any grocery store, which is very convenient, and I do not hear anything on the news about a vastly higher rate of drunken behaviours than we have at home.	comment_ Does anyone truly believe that selling liquor in grocery stores is going to be any cheaper. If y Neutral
709	14008	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.5	8	We should be able to buy liquor in any grocery store.	comment_ We should be able to buy liquor in any grocery store. If the employees id everyone then it w Strongly positive
780	13159	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.5	8	Allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine across the province.	comment_ We should be able to buy liquor in any grocery store. If the employees id everyone then it w Negative
778	13077	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.25	8	It is reasonable that wine and beer be available in grocery and corner stores since these are often consumed as an accompaniment to meals.	comment_ Allow grocery stores to sell beer and wine across the province. It hasn't caused society in wa Neutral
765	12927	BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	3.5	8	We are all grown ups, sell ALL types of alcohol in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ It is reasonable that wine and beer be available in grocery and corner stores since these are r Positive
765	12915	BLOG	undefined	9/18/2013 0:00	undefined	3.5	8	If you do not think we can control ourselves if you sell it in grocery stores, then you may as well start issuing "liquor licenses" to individuals who can prove they are responsible!	comment_ So you want to continue with the nanny state? The archaic liquor laws basically label all BC'r: Positive
606	10035	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	1.88	8	Answer: They do not Its a much bigger issue to open up sales in grocery stores and convenience stores then you think.	comment_ So you want to continue with the nanny state? The archaic liquor laws basically label all BC'r: Neutral
531	9843	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.38	8	Liquor should be available in grocery stores (including Walmart and Costco).	comment_ There is a liquor store on every corner in Alberta! Easy access, but how does any of the store Negative
522	9599	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Kootenay	1.63	8	grocery store is necessarily the way to go other than in some remote communities where other options are limited	comment_ Liquor should be available in grocery stores (including Walmart and Costco). This model wor Negative
332	8239	BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.5	8	Get out of the retail market re liquor, the Gov could collect the taxes without the expense of maintaining the stores, 40 years ago in Australia you could buy wine with your groceries and they had drive through beer stores, also in the UK they have beer stores in the Malls, so BC get with Times, !!!	comment_ I don't agree that liquor sales in a convenience or grocery store is necessarily the way to go c Neutral
131	7327	BLOG	undefined	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.75	8	Step three not drive to the USA to be able to buy some wine or beer at said grocery store to enjoy with dinner.	comment_ Get out of the retail market re liquor, the Gov could collect the taxes without the expense of Neutral
936	22230	BLOG	30 - 39		Mainland /	4.43	7	Grocery stores, Stanley park concession, gas stations, Costco, theatres, farmers markets, sporting events, music festivals, etc	comment_ What would beg great is this.Step one not drive to the USA to get cheaper gas when it come: Positive
881	14256	BLOG	25 - 29	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.43	7	Open up sales to grocery stores, corner stores etc.	comment_ Again, keep it simple!Let it be sold anywhere, as long as the sale is to adults. Grocery store Neutral
875	14152	BLOG	undefined	9/20/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.71	7	On our trips to the Montreal area to visit family, we have on several occasions purchased beer or wine from the grocery stores there.	comment_ First off, I would like to thank Mr. Yap for putting this together. Online discussion allows us " Neutral
876	14150	BLOG	25 - 29	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.43	7	There are already plenty of things that some grocery stores sell, but not all.	comment_ On our trips to the Montreal area to visit family, we have on several occasions purchased bei Neutral
876	14149	BLOG	25 - 29	9/20/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.43	7	If a grocery store owner thought it would be too much headache as you describe, they could choose not to sell it.	comment_ There is a difference between "allowed to sell" and "required to sell". If a grocery store own Positive
703	14062	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.71	7	The time is well overdue to allow the sale of all types of alcoholic beverages in the major grocery outlets- this is virtually the norm throughout the civilized world- why should it be an exception here?	comment_ There is a difference between "allowed to sell" and "required to sell". If a grocery store own Strongly negative
707	13994	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7	Full access in grocery or convenience stores.	comment_ When I emigrated from Scotland to Manitoba in 1971 I was immediately struck by the fronti Neutral
696	13846	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.14	7	alcohol should not be available in grocery or convenience stores	comment_ Full access in grocery or convenience stores. Fully privatize sales, keep control of distribution Positive
678	13659	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	7	I do not need it in grocery stores but would like it to be available there, but more selection, better prices, more convenience with increased tax revenue seems like a no brainer to me?	comment_ I think that liquor sales are correct as they are now and alcohol should not be available in grc Positive
846	13641	BLOG	60+	9/19/2013 0:00	undefined	2.14	7	I think B.C. should catch up with the "real world" as regards the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores.	comment_ I moved here 5 years ago from AB and it is like I am living in a different world when it come t Strongly positive
787	13327	BLOG	30 - 39	9/18/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	7	Juice beverage companies that give samples at Grocery Stores and Costco go through hundreds of liters a year dwarfing what BC alcohol producers sample amounts.	comment_ I think B.C. should catch up with the "real world" as regards the sale of beer and wine in groc Neutral
923	12972	BLOG	50 - 59	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.29	7	Many countries in world sell alcohol in grocery stores except Canada.	comment_ TOPIC: BC Liquor Sales Agents & BC Off-Shore Manufacturers alcohol marketing allowar Neutral
923	12969	BLOG	50 - 59	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.29	7	I have worked for a major grocery company for 25 years and would like to see changes in the bc liquor laws to include beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores.	comment_ I have worked for a major grocery company for 25 years and would like to see changes in the Neutral
916	12940	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	7	BC already allows the sale of tobacco at private grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ I have worked for a major grocery company for 25 years and would like to see changes in the Neutral
918	12937	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7	Grocery stores, convenience stores, ad nauseum all sell liquor.	comment_ The free sale of liquor in grocery stores and other private non-liquor primary shops is widely Positive
918	12935	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7	The idea that we can not even buy beer or whatever else in grocery stores is ridiculous.	comment_ The idea that we can't even buy beer or whatever else in grocery stores is ridiculous. I've be Positive
									comment_ The idea that we can't even buy beer or whatever else in grocery stores is ridiculous. I've be Negative

916	12932	BLOG	25 - 29	9/22/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.86	7	The free sale of liquor in grocery stores and other private non-liquor primary shops is widely accepted in many American states, Mexico and Latin America, and most of Europe.	comment_ The free sale of liquor in grocery stores and other private non-liquor primary shops is widely Neutral
766	12901	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1	7	A possibility to consider, is allowing only BC made beer and wines to be featured and sold through grocery stores.	comment_ A possibility to consider, is allowing only BC made beer and wines to be featured and sold thiNeutral
628	10595	BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	7	If you can tolerate the sale of a highly addictive product with no known benefits by huge health impacts in pharmacies, grocery and convenience stores, then the case against alcohol in the same places is illogical.	comment_ The availability of alcohol has nothing whatever to do with its misuse. The idea that somehowPositive
491	9244	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.43	7	Private outlets whether corner stores, supermarkets or service stations must be diligent in ensuring product will not be sold to minors.	comment_ We don't have to reinvent the wheel. Look to other successful models around the world to cPositive
340	8209	BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	7	Consumers should be able to buy legal alcohol products as people in neighbouring Washington State can - at Costco's, grocery chain stores and other retail outlets.	comment_ We don't need the government retailing booze. Consumers should be able to buy legal alcohNegative
110	6799	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.86	7	Such as:-liquor stores (private and government) stay open later than 11p. -liquor sold in grocery and or corner stores.	comment_ Would love to see more convenience. Such as:-liquor stores (private and government) stay Neutral
955	22268	BLOG	40 - 49		Mainland /	2.83	6	I do not agree with selling alcohol of any kind in grocery stores.	comment_ I do not agree with selling alcohol of any kind in grocery stores. It will make it much easier foNeutral
710	14025	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.33	6	I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocery and corner stores as well as gas marts.	comment_ I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocery and corner stores as well as gas martsPositive
708	14002	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.33	6	i think if liquor were to be sold in other venues such as grocery or convenience stores they must be willing to have a dedicated section in their shop that children or under age patrons may not enter,and possibly have a dedicated cashier to deal with such sales.	comment_ i think if liquor were to be sold in other venues such as grocery or convenience stores they rPositive
689	13734	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	6	YES you should be able to buy beer, wine, liquor at grocery stores.	comment_ BC Liquor laws are archaic and need to me changed. YES you should be able to buy beer, winNegative
676	13603	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.33	6	This is a reflection of what the whole Province would look like if the government let grocery stores control booze sales.	comment_ There is a Liquor Store on UBC campus. The whole idea was so that students do not get the uNeutral
676	13602	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	2.33	6	One can only imagine if alcohol was available 24/7 at any grocery store on campus.	comment_ There is a Liquor Store on UBC campus. The whole idea was so that students do not get the uNeutral
677	13590	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	6	Beer, wine and spirits sold in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ I'm really glad the government is taking the time to speak to the people about what they woPositive
829	13511	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	US grocery store employees diligently check I.D.'s and face disciplinary action and dismissal if they skip the step.	comment_ BC liquor employee statements sounds a bit self serving, like Air Canada's flight attendants "\Positive
822	13433	BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	6	beer and wine is available in grocery store aisles alongside everything else	comment_ I totally agree. I much prefer the Washington state model to the Alberta one. Hard liquor is Neutral
761	12889	BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.33	6	I do believe liquor sales should be available in grocery stores/ Big box stores much like the model I have seen in the Usa.	comment_ I do believe liquor sales should be available in grocery stores/ Big box stores much like the mNegative
631	10705	BLOG	40 - 49	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	6	I have lived in the US and traveled extensively throughout the Western world and have rarely seen a restriction on selling alcohol at grocery/convenience stores, yet those places are all able to cope with it.	comment_ I have lived in the US and traveled extensively throughout the Western world and have rarehPositive
629	10464	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3.67	6	I agree beer n wine from grocery stores and gas station like other countrys be great then driving all over the place to setup ur bbq or evening with ur friesnds and drinkin in public should be allowed as well but public intoxication still be delt with as it is now	comment_ I agree beer n wine from grocery stores and gas station like other countrys be great then driNeutral
588	10285	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.83	6	I agree that beer, wine, and spirits should be made available in grocery and convenience stores.	comment_ I agree that beer, wine, and spirits should be made available in grocery and convenience storNeutral
621	10199	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	5	6	Additionally, what is the stop a drunk guy from grocery shopping right now?	comment_ Is this a regular occurrence where you live? I feel like we'd be hearing about this in the newsNeutral
446	9166	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.17	6	I wholeheartedly support the sale of alcoholic beverages in grocery stores.	comment_ I wholeheartedly support the Royal Canadian Legion's desire to allow minors on special occa:Neutral
389	8889	BLOG	40 - 49	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.83	6	The changes I would like to see most are:1) alcohol sales in grocery stores/convenience stores.	comment_ I am repeating what many, thankfully, have already stated. Our liquor laws are archaic and cPositive
351	8494	BLOG	60+	9/15/2013 0:00	Kootenay	3.67	6	Re beer & wine being sold in grocery stores ,I do like the variety offered by the big BCLCB Signature stores but BC is long past due in catching up with civilized countries ,I would very much welcome beer & wine being offered in our grocery outlets	comment_ Re beer & wine being sold in grocery stores ,I do like the variety offered by the big BCLPositive
211	7894	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.33	6	A few thoughts, a lot in line with the others.1) People SHOULD be able to buy beer, wine and even harder alcohol in grocery stores/gas stations/box stores wherever food is sold.	comment_ A few thoughts, a lot in line with the others.1) People SHOULD be able to buy beer, wine andNeutral
283	7887	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	6	I, also, would like to be able to purchase wine at my local grocery store.	comment_ I, also, would like to be able to purchase wine at my local grocery store. I did that when I livNeutral
190	7448	BLOG	30 - 39	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.33	6	For the simplicity of convenience, being a working professional and family member, with small amounts of free time for errands, it would be grand to be able to do one stop shopping in grocery stores or large chain stores for food and alcohol.	comment_ For the simplicity of convenience, being a working professional and family member, with sm:Positive
94	7407	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	gas stations and supermarkets will have increased revenues from lease or percentage of sales	comment_ I think this is a great opportunity for our province to catch up to the rest of the world and evNeutral
94	7403	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	As people have mentioned above, if liquor distribution is granted to large conglomerates based in the US (as many of our supermarkets are), a large portion of revenues and profits would potentially flow out of our economy.	comment_ I think this is a great opportunity for our province to catch up to the rest of the world and evNeutral
94	7402	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	Liquor sales in existing supermarkets and gas stations would be a very common sense solution, applying the concept of synergy.	comment_ I think this is a great opportunity for our province to catch up to the rest of the world and evNeutral
94	7401	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	This increases convenience and makes each business more viable, while freeing up an expensive corner lot that the gas station would have taken up if it was not leasing that space from the supermarket.	comment_ I think this is a great opportunity for our province to catch up to the rest of the world and evNeutral

94	7400	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	The high volume of people following to the supermarket brings exposure to the gas bar, and vice versa. There is a concept called synergy in retail real estate, where two businesses can locate near each other or work with each other to reduce operating costs while taking advantage of locational advantages and increasing sales for each businesses without detriment to the other, such as gas bars located leased supermarket land (i.e. Superstore gas bars).	comment_ I think this is a great opportunity for our province to catch up to the rest of the world and ev	Neutral
94	7399	BLOG	19 - 24	9/14/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	6	Oregon has requirements for supermarkets to give preferential stocking to Oregon beers, and while this is a distorting effect on the market, I feel that it would be an appropriate support for BC businesses that would, on the whole, also help the supermarket's bottom line.	comment_ I think this is a great opportunity for our province to catch up to the rest of the world and ev	Positive
931	22251	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	4.2	5	I am a huge supporter of BC brewers and vintners, and I would hate to see them squeezed out of a market because they are unable to pay a supermarket for the shelf space required.	comment_ I would very much appreciate the ability to buy beer and wine in a grocery store, but I don't	Neutral
931	22243	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	4.2	5	I would very much appreciate the ability to buy beer and wine in a grocery store, but I do not want the typical grocery store practice of selling shelf space to dictate the type of beers that are available to me.	comment_ I would very much appreciate the ability to buy beer and wine in a grocery store, but I don't	Negative
931	22222	BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	4.2	5	I support the sale (and sampling) of wine, beer, and cider at farm markets, street festivals, and grocery stores.	comment_ I would very much appreciate the ability to buy beer and wine in a grocery store, but I don't	Positive
937	22219	BLOG	30 - 39		Vancouver	4.2	5	I have personally been ID'd more times in the grocery stores and convenience stores in the US than I have been at the government stores up here.	comment_ I support the sale (and sampling) of wine, beer, and cider at farm markets, street festivals, ar	Neutral
867	14115	BLOG	30 - 39	9/20/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	5	NO to liquor in our grocery stores/convenient store.	comment_ I've personally been ID'd more times in the grocery stores and convenience stores in the US	Positive
692	13890	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	5	Once you introduce liquor into grocery stores, think of how many business's will have to close shop, or cut back employees.	comment_ I have to agree with most of the comments on making liquor laws less strict when it comes to	Negative
692	13887	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.4	5	I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocery and corner stores as well as gas marts.	comment_ I have to agree with most of the comments on making liquor laws less strict when it comes to	Neutral
702	13870	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	5	We sell cigarettes in the grocery stores, and cigarettes are far more hazardous to our health then wine or beer!	comment_ I agree to wine, ciders and beers being sold in grocery and corner stores as well as gas marts	Positive
854	13791	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	5	These beverages can be sold in a separate area of the grocery store, where ID is requested.	comment_ I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcohol in grocery stores. We are encouraged to	Strongly negative
854	13790	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	5	I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcohol in grocery stores.	comment_ I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcohol in grocery stores. We are encouraged to	Neutral
854	13787	BLOG	50 - 59	9/19/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3	5	Liquor or beer should be sold at the grocery store or corner stores,it would be no different in asking for ID when someone is purchasing cigarettes in BC which can be easily regulated by the province Prices need to be reduced or taxes on liquor and beer the same amount of tax revenue will be collected probably more overall Minors should be allowed in the bar with their parents for brunch Bars,pubs and restaurants should also be able to have happy hour(s) again,several provinces in Canada have happy hours, in BC it is only certain liquors or alcohol on certain days,more options should be offered to the paying customer instead of the token 2 or 3 drinks specials max per day BC is way behind the rest of the world and Canada with its liquor laws which need to be updated and reflect what the paying customer/taxpayer wants in this province	comment_ I see nothing wrong with the sale of "some" alcohol in grocery stores. We are encouraged to	Neutral
684	13771	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	5	After you save that and then add the operating expenses for the grocery store (rent, administration, wages) how much are you saving if the government maintains its current tax revenue.	comment_ Liquor or beer should be sold at the grocery store or corner stores,it would be no different in	Neutral
819	13449	BLOG	undefined	9/19/2013 0:00	undefined	2.6	5	Most clientele at the grocery store are not interested in these products anyhow.	comment_ Take a look at the actual financial reports. Getting rid of the expenses you mention will not b	Neutral
664	12802	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	5	The government could prohibit 'caffeine' drinks from grocery stores.	comment_ The debate about health vs. convenience needs some perspective and an appreciation of wh	Neutral
664	12801	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	5	Following this point, it is possible to allow grocery stores to sell certain kinds of liquor but not others in order to reduce risk.	comment_ The debate about health vs. convenience needs some perspective and an appreciation of wh	Neutral
664	12798	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.2	5	Either that, or put them all into grocery stores like other countries do.	comment_ If we are going to continue having liquor stores, then why not put cigarettes there? Why is it	Neutral
748	12663	BLOG	40 - 49	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	5	However, you can ensure that the liquor stores remain open and ensure that alcohol does not become potentially dangerously available by limiting what a grocery or convenience store can sell.	comment_ I believe that these new laws will have far more impact on the culture of drinking in this prov	Positive
494	9680	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	5	One of the largest issues I can see with the introduction of liquor sales in supermarkets and convenience stores, aside from greater accessibility, is the idea that they will make liquor stores, including the BCL, redundant or unnecessary.	comment_ I believe that these new laws will have far more impact on the culture of drinking in this prov	Neutral
494	9673	BLOG	19 - 24	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.4	5	I think there is an amazing chance to change that here and part of the solution may lie in introducing liquor sales to supermarkets and convenience stores.	comment_ I believe that these new laws will have far more impact on the culture of drinking in this prov	Positive
500	9623	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	5	I are no reason that I can not purchase alcohol while I buy my groceries.	comment_ I are no reason that I can't purchase alcohol while I buy my groceries. I think it is more conve	Neutral
467	9305	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.8	5	I think every thing should be sold in grocery stores including hard liquor..	comment_ Hi, This sales of liquor law is out dated. Even third world country have batter laws than this. I	Negative
463	9237	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.4	5	it would just be more convenient when grocery shopping.	comment_ I think we should be able to purchase alcohol at convenient stores gas stations and shopping	Strongly positive
454	8921	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	5	There should be wine and beer available in grocery stores.	comment_ As responsible adults, I do not see why we can not enjoy a drink on the beach or even in a pa	Neutral
388	8862	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	5	The ability to pick up a bottle of BC wine, or locally brewed beer with my groceries would be wonderful.	comment_ B.C. needs to drop the puritan liquor laws. In Europe you can buy liquor in any grocery store	Positive

388	8860 BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	5 In Europe you can buy liquor in any grocery store Short and sweet:-Allow the sale of ALL alcohol in grocery stores, convenience stores, and gas stations- Allow kids into pubs with their parents-Allow consumption of alcohol in public places (no beergarden fences)-Allow restaurants and bars to offer "Happy Hour" specials.-Lower legal drinking age to 18.	comment_ B.C. needs to drop the puritan liquor laws. In Europe you can buy liquor in any grocery storeNeutral
393	8778 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.8	5	comment_ Short and sweet:-Allow the sale of ALL alcohol in grocery stores, convenience stores, and gas Positive
715	14109 BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 Also it would mean less emissions because you could get your groceries and beer in one stop instead of two.	comment_ What about people trying to quit smoking? Cigarettes are available at grocery stores, should Neutral
706	13915 BLOG	60+	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2	4 I agree with wine and beer in grocery stores. Most people are reasonable, the few bad apples will always be present but they are in the minority, and whether we sell liquor at a designated liquor store or the grocery store that will make no difference.	comment_ I agree with wine and beer in grocery stores. Separate till where the cashier is trained to not Positive
850	13803 BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.75	4 Perhaps we should look at this from a greenhouse gas emissions perspective, how much less fuel would BC burn if we eliminated the need to drive to a liquor store, if we could just buy our beer at the grocery store?	comment_ This type of approach to all aspects of life would ensure we still use horses as the main modeNeutral
850	13802 BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.75	4 I have grown up in Europe where liquor is everywhere including grocery stores and no one cares.	comment_ This type of approach to all aspects of life would ensure we still use horses as the main modeNegative
850	13783 BLOG	30 - 39	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2.75	4	comment_ This type of approach to all aspects of life would ensure we still use horses as the main modeNegative
817	13425 BLOG	40 - 49	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	4 Privatization is neither necessary nor is being able to buy liquor or beer at grocery stores or convenience stores.	comment_ The Government stores need to open on Sundays as well as having refrigerator's installed in Positive
814	13385 BLOG	50 - 59	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	2	4 Employees hired by BCL are not physic tested to read minds any better than a grocery store clerks can judge cigarette sales.	comment_ I have never understood the logic of a government run liquor store. It does not stop or redu Positive
783	13198 BLOG	60+	9/18/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.25	4 Would love to by a bottle of wine where I buy my groceries. I travel to Europe and Asia five or six times per year and it always amuses me that alcohol is pretty much available 24-7 in convenience and grocery stores.	comment_ How about allowing local retailers (private and chain) to sell BC local wines and Cottage Beer Strongly positive
514	9682 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 We visited Seattle in August and found that Washington State has dismantled its old government liquor stores and now allow sales of beer, wine and spirits in grocery stores.	comment_ I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in grocery stores and in most larger convenStrongly positive
514	9676 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in grocery stores and in most larger convenience stores.	comment_ I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in grocery stores and in most larger convenNeutral
514	9668 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 I agree with beer and wine, at a minimum, should be sold in grocery stores.	comment_ I am completely in favor of selling beer and wine in grocery stores and in most larger convenPositive
506	9659 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	4 I have no preference about the sale of liquor in grocery stores one way or the other.	comment_ I agree with beer and wine, at a minimum, should be sold in grocery stores. This is now com Neutral
523	9586 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.75	4 It would be convenient to be able to choose from a selection of beers and wines at the same time I was doing the grocery shopping.	comment_ I support selling beer and wine in grocery stores, because these are very often associated wil Neutral
523	9585 BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1.75	4 There is nothing wrong with being able to buy a bottle of wine or some beer while getting your grocery.	comment_ I support selling beer and wine in grocery stores, because these are very often associated wil Negative
516	9575 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	4 Perhaps grocery stores can have a separate section for alcohol so that minors are not tempted to steal it.	comment_ I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery stores will make any difference to alcohc Positive
516	9574 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	4 I do think that sales should be limited to grocery stores rather than convince stores because grocery stores often have more security and they are not open after hours.	comment_ I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery stores will make any difference to alcohc Neutral
516	9572 BLOG	undefined	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	4 While I am cautious about opening up liquor sales to grocery stores, etc., there are already a plethora of outlets in rural areas that combine liquor sales with common store sales.	comment_ I don't think that bring able to buy liquor in grocery stores will make any difference to alcohc Negative
484	9215 BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Thompson	4.25	4 We should allow grocery stores/gas stations etc to sell alcohol.	comment_ While I am cautious about opening up liquor sales to grocery stores, etc., there are already a Neutral
387	8872 BLOG	19 - 24	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4.75	4 If the BC Government really wanted to encourage healthy consumption and reduce drunk driving, it would seem to make more sense if we were able to purchase from the local grocery store.	comment_ The last few years I spent quite a few months travelling around Europe. After being there lor Neutral
384	8858 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.75	4 I think we should be able to purchase in grocery stores.	comment_ I find it embarrassing to explain to overseas guests that we're required to buy from a state li Positive
384	8851 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4.75	4 currently there are mayor problems in UK and Ireland because of the easy access to alcohol especially in supermarkets and gas stations	comment_ I find it embarrassing to explain to overseas guests that we're required to buy from a state li Negative
364	8393 BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	undefined	1	4 Let the grocery stores sell ALL TYPES of alcohol.	comment_ I agree, currently there are mayor problems in UK and Ireland because of the easy access to Neutral
194	7487 BLOG	50 - 59	9/14/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.25	4 Most government liquor stores are located right by a grocery store for convenience.	comment_ I agree with Wendy. Let the grocery stores sell ALL TYPES of alcohol. I can already buy alcohi Neutral
949	22515 BLOG	undefined		undefined	2.33	3 I strongly believe that selling liquor and wine in grocery	comment_ I strongly believe that selling liquor and wine in grocery and convenience is absurd. Most gov Positive
949	22513 BLOG	undefined		undefined	2.33	3 I see no good reason why beer and wine should not be sold at grocery stores and convenience stores.	comment_ I strongly believe that selling liquor and wine in grocery and convenience is absurd. Most gov Neutral
938	22500 BLOG	50 - 59		Kootenay	3.67	3 Responsibility on part of the licensing authority to ensure the licenses even to grocery stores are at a minimum prescribed distance from the schools.	comment_ I see no good reason why beer and wine shouldn't be sold at grocery stores and convenience Neutral
957	22402 BLOG	30 - 39		Mainland /	2.33	3 Based on this simple analysis, in my opinion, it would be detrimental if alcohol would be introduced into supermarkets, convenient stores, or any other place where it is easily accessible as this would jeopardize the health and safety everyone around and it would also break the social fabrics of society.	comment_ Sales off Liquor stores or Grocery stores is secondary. Primarily the focus of the new liquor p Neutral
948	22376 BLOG	Wed Dec 18 00:00:00 PST 2013		Mainland /	1	3 While each individual liquor source needs to be evaluated on its own, both options mentioned seem relatively simple to implement, especially compared to selling in grocery stores.	comment_ Going to a Secondary School right next to a Mac's Convenient store, it is pretty convenient fc Neutral
933	22220 BLOG	25 - 29		Mainland /	5	3 I do not see how opening up liquor sales to the grocery stores would really change anything, therefore there is no purpose served by banning it, therefore it should be allowed.	comment_ While each individual liquor source needs to be evaluated on its own, both options mention Neutral
836	13576 BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	3	comment_ I've been giving most comments a rating, and leaving it at that. However since you made 2 f Negative

836	13574	BLOG	25 - 29	9/19/2013 0:00	Vancouver	5	3	The reason I support selling alcohol in grocery stores goes back to the reason that I think should be behind all law making: unless there is a specific reason for something to be illegal, the default should be for it to be legal.	comment_ I've been giving most comments a rating, and leaving it at that. However since you made 2 f Neutral	
670	12713	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	3	Grocery, convenience stores, and big-box formats are the most obvious and likeliest additional applicants for this, but why limit it?	comment_ There shouldn't be any restriction on the types of stores that can sell liquor products provide Positive	
507	9654	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	5	3	I would love to have all types of liquor available in grocery stores. We have the toughest and un-fairest drink driving laws in the country so lets make it easier for every body to get beer and liquor, lets sell it in grocery stores, coffee shops, shoe stores and "O" yes gas bars.	comment_ I would love to have all types of liquor available in grocery stores. It would make shopping a Strongly positive	
509	9567	BLOG	60+	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.67	3		comment_ We have the toughest and un-fairest drink driving laws in the country so lets make it easier f Neutral	
390	8787	BLOG	50 - 59	9/15/2013 0:00	Thompson	3.33	3	I would also encourage consideration of the idea of selling beer and wine in grocery outlets.	comment_ For starters, the Provincial Government should be out of the alcohol retail business. I point t Neutral	
377	8527	BLOG	25 - 29	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.67	3	Furthermore, I agree with a need for new taxation policies and the availability of alcohol in grocery stores. Yes, putting alcohol in grocery stores does increase exposure of alcoholic beverages to a younger audience, however this does not necessarily create an increase in under age drinking.	comment_ As a young (but over legal drinking age) person myself, I want to address the concern for inci Positive	
377	8518	BLOG	25 - 29	9/15/2013 0:00	Vancouver	3.67	3	Allow beer/wine to be sold in grocery stores,gas stations or any other store that wishes to do so.	comment_ As a young (but over legal drinking age) person myself, I want to address the concern for inci Neutral	
300	8241	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	3.67	3		comment_ Allow beer/wine to be sold in grocery stores,gas stations or any other store that wishes to dc Neutral	
952	22535	BLOG	30 - 39		Thompson	1	2	I do not think having tobacco sales in my local grocery/convenience A busy grocery/convenience/corner/big-box store, likely staffed with some minors, is not the venue to sell age restricted substances our society deems detrimental to the health and welfare of its citizens.	comment_ Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-box stores for the sake of convenience ar Positive	
952	22534	BLOG	30 - 39		Thompson	1	2	Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-box stores for the sake of convenience and lower prices seems petty and unimportant to me...	comment_ Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-box stores for the sake of convenience ar Neutral	
952	22529	BLOG	30 - 39		Thompson	1	2	Opinion: Sale alhocol in grocery stores or let extend the working hours of liquer stores (Sunday as well).	comment_ Putting alcohol in grocery/convenience/corner/big-box stores for the sake of convenience ar Neutral	
701	13864	BLOG	19 - 24	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1	2		comment_ Opinion: Sale alhocol in grocery stores or let extend the working hours of liquer stores (Sun Neutral	
607	10114	BLOG	30 - 39	9/16/2013 0:00	Cariboo	3	2	You need to understand that Rural stores have to sell groceries as a condition of being able to sell liquor not the other way around.	comment_ You need to understand that Rural stores have to sell groceries as a condition of being able t Neutral	
940	22503	BLOG	undefined		undefined	5	1	Selling liquor inside grocery stores has no impact on shoppers who are there to buy food only.	comment_ Please don't follow Alberta by putting liquor stores in grocery store parking lots. Look instea Neutral	Washington and Quebec model better vs. Alberta
940	22501	BLOG	undefined		undefined	5	1	Please do not follow Alberta by putting liquor stores in grocery store parking lots.	comment_ Please don't follow Alberta by putting liquor stores in grocery store parking lots. Look instea Neutral	
662	10367	BLOG	undefined	9/17/2013 0:00	undefined	4	1	under the new model, liquor would be distributed through the grocery network, so costs would go down for retailers, as well as customers. I would consider allowing moderate drinking in public, selling limited amounts with food at supermarkets, easing up on establishment licensing, and lowering the drinking age for beer/wine.	comment_ under the new model, liquor would be distributed through the grocery network, so costs wo Neutral	
574	10296	BLOG	25 - 29	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	4	1		comment_ I couldn't agree more with with this thoughtful comment. Lets look at reform opportunities Neutral	
504	9756	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver	1	1	Do not want to see alcohol in groceries and other stores as we have adequate off sale opportunity at pubs/bars.	comment_ Living in a rural community we can not take our children to local restaurants if they sell alcol Positive	
515	9466	BLOG	50 - 59	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland /	4	1	Yes, I definitely would like to be able to purchase wine and beer at a grocery store.	comment_ Yes, I definitely would like to be able to purchase wine and beer at a grocery store. I still dor Neutral	
359	8705	BLOG	30 - 39	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland /	1	1	I am not in favour of having alcohol for sale in grocery stores/box stores	comment_ A couple of ideas from someone who actively supports the BC wine, craft beer and distillers: Neutral	
969	22476	BLOG	50 - 59		Mainland / Southwest	0	0	I think that beer and wine, locally produced or other, should be available in larger grocery stores and places like Costco, if those vendors want to do this. If I wanted to move quickly with selling wine, beer and liquor in grocery stores I would copy the policy in effect at Waitrose UK, a John Lewis Partnership.	comment_ I think that beer and wine, locally produced or other, should be available in larger grocery str Negative	Local only
967	22462	BLOG	60+		Thompson Okanagan	0	0		comment_ If I wanted to move quickly with selling wine, beer and liquor in grocery stores I would copy i Positive	Waitrose UK model
962	22454	BLOG	50 - 59		Vancouver Island / Co	0	0	It is not a big draw for me to have liquour sold in grocery stores; Allow sales of beer and wine in grocery and convenience store locations.	comment_ It's not a big draw for me to have liquour sold in grocery stores; I live in Victoria where there's Neutral	
953	22240	BLOG	19 - 24		Mainland / Southwest	0	0		comment_ 1. Take the control from the provincial government and allow direct distribution.2. Allow sa Positive	
687	13727	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co	0	0	Just about every grocery store in the US can sell alcoholic beverages (at least beer & wine) and there you have to be 21.	comment_ Just about every grocery store in the US can sell alcoholic beverages (at least beer & wii Neutral	
634	10677	BLOG	50 - 59	9/17/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co	0	0	Supermarkets that would be willing to construct a separate space in their store for alcohol sales should not be a problem.	comment_ I'm curious as to what the studies tell us of societies who enjoy different legislation. Are ther Positive	
627	10499	BLOG	25 - 29	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest	0	0	to have liquors in a grocery or convenience store would be just for the convenience of having another place to buy I do think lines need to be drawn as to where alcohol is sold, but that would be to require a separate license for it that is available to grocery/convenience stores.	comment_ I don't mind going to a liquor store, to have liquors in a grocery or convenience store would I Positive	
609	10264	BLOG	30 - 39	9/17/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest	0	0		comment_ I do think lines need to be drawn as to where alcohol is sold, but that would be to require a s Positive	
556	9727	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co	0	0	So, in a grocery or convenience store context, would the 'seller' have to be 19+?	comment_ I find this an interesting perspective: young people selling alcohol in grocery or convenience Positive	
556	9721	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Vancouver Island / Co	0	0	I find this an interesting perspective: young people selling alcohol in grocery or convenience stores.	comment_ I find this an interesting perspective: young people selling alcohol in grocery or convenience Positive	
477	9387	BLOG	40 - 49	9/16/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest	0	0	Two changes I would like the government to consider making in BC are to be able to purchase beer and wine in grocery stores and the second change would be for the liquor stores to sell cold beer/wine/cider.	comment_ Two changes I would like the government to consider making in BC are to be able to purchas Negative	
443	8834	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest	0	0	Also I would like to see beer and wine sold at local groceries like safeway etc..	comment_ I want to see a law pass that allows British Colombians be able to freely drink alcohol in publ Neutral	

378	8452	BLOG	undefined	9/15/2013 0:00	Mainland / Southwest	Time to get with the times and be able to purchase ALL liquor in grocery stores, convenience, stores, and gas stations. We all go to the grocery store and then the liquor store on the same trip	comment_	I would absolutely agree. Government liquor stores have passed their sell-by date. Time to .	Positive
1336_2013	22053	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				Grocery stores, particularly small stores, may be in residential neighborhoods.	Body	To whom it may concern; I am very glad we are finally considering changes to our liquor la	Neutral
1334_2013	22047	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				#NAME?	Body	At the moment I understand community support and input is an important part of issuing liq	Neutral
1331_2013	21859	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				in my opinion people of legal drinking age in BC ought to be able to purchase beer and wine in corner stores, and beer, wine and spirits in grocery stores.	Body	-Please privatize the liquor distribution system employees at government liquor stores are	Neutral
1321_2013	21836	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I believe we should be treated as adults and at least be able to purchase wine beer and cider at the grocery store	Body	Hello. IMO people of legal drinking age in BC ought to be able to purchase beer and wine i	Neutral
1324_2013	21821	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				Particularly the ability to purchase alcoholic drinks in various convenient locations, ie Grocery Stores, Drug Stores, Convenience Stores and also designated liquor stores.	Body	Hello. I am glad this review is in progress. I believe we should be treated as adults and at lea	Negative
1316_2013	21572	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				Grocery stores are too big as it is.	Body	Mr. Minister: Thank you for the opportunity to submit my opinions on Liquor Law changes	Positive
1317_2013	21563	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I think it is time B.C.'s liquor laws caught up with the "real world" and that beer and wine should be available and sold in grocery stores.	Body	I prefer to maintain the current system of liquor stores. However, I would wish to see the prr	Negative
1312_2013	21548	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				2) I would permit major super markets to sell beer and wine, not convinence stores.	Body	Dear L.C.B. I think it is time B.C.'s liquor laws caught up with the "real world" and that beer	Negative
1310_2013	21529	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I would like to be able to buy alcohol in grocery and big box stores like Costco.	Body	Dear Mr. John Yap, There are two things I would strongly request be change,	Neutral
1311_2013	21512	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				Plus cold beer and wine in all grocery stores in B.C.	Body	I would like to be able to buy alcohol in grocery and big box stores like Costco. I would also	Neutral
1314_2013	21506	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I do not agree with selling liquor in grocery stores.	Body	I have another suggestion in addition to my idea last week. We must start modelling liqi	Neutral
1174_2013	21333	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				purchased our beer and wine at the grocery store along with our groceries (saving time and gas)	Body	Dear Sir or Madam, re: liquor policy review 1. I think Liquor sale policies continue to pose c	Negative
1149_2013	20458	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				therefore, my question is, "How can the government ensure that the grocery shopper picking up food and ingredients to feed his/her family will not end up spending less of the grocery budget on food than they do now, and substituting alcoholic beverages for some of the purchases, if these beverages become available in urban grocery stores?	Body	Hello! Have you compared BC to Washington state? We lived there for 12 years, purchasi	Neutral
1117_2013	19980	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I would not like to see the small corner grocery store allowed to sell alcohol.	Body	The British Columbia government's Liquor Policy Review is of great concern to me regarding	Neutral
1125_2013	19666	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				This sale should be restricted to large grocery stores such as Pricesmart, Safeway, Walmart etc.	Body	I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores as is done in Washington state. This sale sh	Negative
1125_2013	19611	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores as is done in Washington state.	Body	I feel that alcohol should be sold in grocery stores as is done in Washington state. This sale sh	Negative
1125_2013	19594	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				If the licensee says no then the grocery store should not be permitted to sell liquor until 2022 when my government will possibly lift the moratorium.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1035_2013	19074	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I think they should only be permitted to approach the closest Licensee to their grocery store to purchase their LRS license.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1035_2013	19073	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I think to be fair to myself and the other 669 LRS owners through out the province that have invested all their life savings into their Licensee retail stores, the grocery stores should have to purchase our licenses from us up until 2022 to honor the moratorium promised by my government.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Positive
1035_2013	19017	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				How will this be possible for a grocery store?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1035_2013	19010	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				There will also be more liquor inspectors necessary to hold these grocery stores to the same standards of public safety as well as police.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1035_2013	19008	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				Big box stores and grocery stores like Costco, Superstore, Save on Foods, and Mr. G's will wipe us out with their extremely low margins but huge volume.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1035_2013	18999	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				If that happens the grocery store which is 1 flight of stairs above me will be my competition.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1035_2013	18991	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I do not have very high margins, I have to pay my lease, buy product that I pay for a week in advance, pay my staff and now people want beer and wine in grocery stores for convenience.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Positive
1035_2013	18989	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				By allowing liquor in grocery stores how will I survive?	Body	Dear Mr. Yap, I am a 45-year-old woman that has worked in the liquor industry for 25 year:	Neutral
1246_2013	18578	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				I would like to see VQA B.C. wine, along with wines from other countries (and beer) available in supermarkets, be it Safeway, specialty, or Costco stores.	Body	I would like to see VQA B.C. wine, along with wines from other countries (and beer) available	Neutral
1212_2013	17701	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				IF the Zero tolerance is in effect then, and only then, should Beer and Wine be introduced to the BC Grocery Stores.	Body	Any changes to BC liquor laws should only be undertaken after the issuance of a ZERO tolera	Positive
1023_2013	17578	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				It makes no sense, but this brings me back to my previous comment that wine and beer should be available in grocery stores, just like it is in Washington State and most other places, at competitive prices.	Body	I am writing to share my views on liquor regulation reforms in BC. While I feel that regulatio	Neutral
1023_2013	17480	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				We might wonder what it would look like for alcohol to be sold in a supermarket alongside milk and eggs, but we do not have to imagine it at all because we only have to drive an hour and visit Trader Joe's or Costco or Target in the US.	Body	I am writing to share my views on liquor regulation reforms in BC. While I feel that regulatio	Neutral
1023_2013	17438	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX				Most of the western world seems to cope very well with wine and beer sales in supermarkets.	Body	I am writing to share my views on liquor regulation reforms in BC. While I feel that regulatio	Neutral

		With large floor plate stores (10,000 square feet and up) located in key markets, supplemented by smaller (5000 square foot and less) stores, grocery retailers would have to meet the above mentioned space requirement along with municipal support and would be unlikely to achieve market domination.		
1032_2013	17238	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Sirs/Mesdames,☹️☹️Back in 1993, when Mr. Campbell was looking at privatization of the retNegative
		i think we should get modern and put all liquor in grocery stores --we go to mesa , California --when we go to coscto or the corner store we pick up what ever we need in spirits---then there is private specialty stores to get different wines etc.-----seems so simple says gas and time -----brian plews----bpplews@gmail.com		
1034_2013	17209	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	We are forwarding the following e-mail for your attention. Please respond to the original sePositive
		Back in 1993, when Mr. Campbell was looking at privatization of the retail component, I was involved with a group of significant industry types (VQA Store Owners and Grocery store owners) that were planning for a “big box” retail store concept.		
1032_2013	17182	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Sirs/Mesdames,☹️☹️Back in 1993, when Mr. Campbell was looking at privatization of the retNeutral
1185_2013	17170	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Hello☹️Having moved to Vancouver from the UK 15 years ago both the rules and cost of wine Strongly positive
		I have really appreciated the convenience in the UK of being able to buy wine in the grocery store where I was doing my shopping.		
		I think new licenses should be given to the big grocery stores only if the entrances are separate from the grocery store with maybe some other conditions such as a lower rate of discount because of the large diversity they have, the separate entrance would warrant more staff and better control over minors, theft etc..		
989_2013C	17162	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	To Whom It may concern:☹️☹️ I have owned both a Pub and private liquor store, the pub for (Negative
		If a child grows up seeing liquor beside food in the grocery store, or seeing it at the beach and the parks, or at lunch at the Pub, they will not know that there is a profound difference between a beer and a glass of milk.		
1027_2013	17082	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	My first question is, What is wrong with our current conservative Liquor Policies??☹️☹️ am prNeutral
1022_2013	17066	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	We are forwarding the following e-mail for your attention. Please respond to the original seNeutral
		There is also the potential for under age people buying liquor from grocery stores as well.		
		I do not believe that grocery stores should be selling liquor as they would not have the knowledge about product that liquor store employees have.		
1022_2013	17065	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	We are forwarding the following e-mail for your attention. Please respond to the original sePositive
		However I do not think hard liquor should be sold in fore mentioned stores nor do I think any liquor to all should be sold in corner 'mom & pop' corner stores, only the major grocery chain stores. L. Whiting 12977 61B Ave., Surrey, B.C.		
1026_2013	17014	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I am in favor of allowing beer, coolers and wine sales in major grocery chains and warehouseNeutral
1026_2013	17013	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I am in favor of allowing beer, coolers and wine sales in major grocery chains and warehouseNeutral
		As a concerned mother, grandmother and citizen, I would not wish to see alcohol available for purchase in grocery or convenience stores.		
1025_2013	16964	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	As a concerned mother, grandmother and citizen, I would not wish to see alcohol available frNeutral
994_2013C	16390	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	As a member of the public who is not only a recovering alcoholic, but a graduate student in fNeutral
		Every grocery store, corner store, gas station, happy hour bar had cheap and flowing alcohol.		
		* beer, wine, and spirits to be sold in grocery stores * minors accompanied by an adult to eat together in a pub * bars to have a “happy hour” * consumption of a alcohol in public places, i.e., parks and beaches, and at special events, i.e., fireworks shows (Note, people who do not act in a responsible manner when consuming alcohol in a public place should be dealt with as per laws currently in place.)		
1004_2013	16382	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I’m tired of government assuming I can’t be responsible for my own actions in regard to the Negative
		It would be wrong to share the profits with the private sector – especially the multi-national grocery stores who are based out of province.		
996_2013C	16204	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Sir:☹️☹️ I am opposed to the idea of allowing the sale of beer and wine etc. in grocery stores inNegative
996_2013C	16179	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Sir:☹️☹️ I am opposed to the idea of allowing the sale of beer and wine etc. in grocery stores inNegative
		Very few items available in grocery stores have this kind of danger.		
		I agree that liquor should be sold in grocery stores because of convenience as well as competitive pricing, I have a hard time believing that it would create more alcoholic related problems, as we have already seen under age people getting drunk, alcohol related traffic accidents, and of course over dose, we already have these problems and the government is the ones selling alcohol, I can see that if any of the above problems occur because alcohol was sold to the under aged, that the offending store be fined more than 10,000 dollars.		
1091_2013	15947	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	To whom it may concern:☹️☹️ I agree that liquor should be sold in grocery stores bNeutral
1107_2013	15897	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I believe it is time that we British Columbians got into the 21st century and followed what allNeutral
		It would make it too easy for some who should not be spending what little money they do have to pass up groceries for their families in favor of their alcohol.		
1086_2013	15575	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on review of B.C. liquor policy/laws:☹️☹️Negative
		Allowing sales in regular grocery stores will impact workers ie: there are many younger workers who would not be allowed to sell, this could impact employment for those persons.		
1086_2013	15574	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on review of B.C. liquor policy/laws:☹️☹️Neutral
1086_2013	15572	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on review of B.C. liquor policy/laws:☹️☹️Neutral
		#NAME?		
		If government can not bring itself to this logical conclusion, there should be a large increase in the number and kind of private sellers, including grocery and corner stores.		
1078_2013	15520	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	BC Liquor Policy Review☹️☹️Free trade within Canada. BC should not discriminate against wNeutral
1081_2013	15254	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	To whom this may concern:☹️☹️ Just wondering how these liquor laws will be implemented iNeutral
		The grocery stores are the great way to sell liquor, as it is done in Quebec, so why not here in British Columbia...it is about time.		
1079_2013	15183	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I found the exclusion of beer and wine from grocery shops ridiculous.
				Just to share a personal view about how the beer and wine is sold here in Canada – B.C.☹️☹️ a Negative

1074_2013	15179	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		I think that people should be able to purchase alcoholic products in grocery and convenience stores.	Body	Hello,👋👋 I do appreciate the opportunity to participate and provide comments on the refo	Neutral
1063_2013	15144	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		I would be in favour of allowing beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores like Safeway and large box stores like Costco.	Body	Hello,👋👋 I would be in favour of allowing beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores like Safew	Neutral
1036_2013	15105	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Allow the grocery stores to become agencies liquor stores in rural BC and close all of the Class C LDB stores.	Body	Here are some ideas to improvement customer service - 📌#1 - Get rid of the two tier system	Neutral
1036_2013	15089	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		#4 - If wine and beer were available in grocery stores it would have a negative effect on the current Private Liquor Stores.	Body	Here are some ideas to improvement customer service - 📌#1 - Get rid of the two tier system	Negative
1046_2013	14993	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		6) Please allow the sale of wine, beer and spirits at grocery stores and convenience stores, such as they are in the United States.	Body	Dear John Yap,👋👋Thank you for asking for input on our archaic liquor policy.👋👋I am writing to	Positive
1042_2013	14674	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		To pick up all these items at the grocery store in one stop would be great.	Body	Hello, Would like to say that I welcome the change away from our draconian system. Will be	Positive
1045_2013	14604	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Hi there, I would like to see alcohol being sold in grocery stores across BC.	Body	Hi there, I would like to see alcohol being sold in grocery stores across BC. Employees should	Neutral
3.8E+17	12550	BCLIQUOR	9/17/2013 15:35	#####	Verbatim 1	@John_Yap allow Happy Hours and beer/wine in grocery stores.	Neutral
3.81E+17	12064	BCLIQUOR	9/19/2013 22:11	#####	Verbatim 1	@John_Yap living in Nanaimo and I am in favour of liquor sold in conv/grocery stores during certain hours, say until 6pm.	Neutral
3.81E+17	11913	BCLIQUOR	9/19/2013 20:49	#####	Verbatim 1	#bcliquor Selling beer/wine/cider at grocery stores means less driving around, promotes safety and health of environment.	Neutral
365_2013C	2281	NOT SPECIFIED		Alcohol should be available in grocery stores and convenience stores.	Body	Hello,👋👋I am a 34 year old resident of Vancouver. I would like to see the following changes t	Neutral
336_2013C	2234	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Alcohol should be available in the supermarket.	Body	Dear Sirs👋👋I have lived in many jurisdictions from Ireland to Canada to Saudi Arabia.👋👋People v	Negative
359_2013C	2189	NOT SPECIFIED		In Europe, beer and wine is available in supermarkets, but the cashier has to adhere to policy to verify eligibility of purchase for teenagers, and buyers should proof their age of 16+ by government issued Photo ID.	Body	Dear John,👋👋As a permanend resident coming form Europe, where liquor policies are differe	Negative
359_2013C	2188	NOT SPECIFIED		With the new Classification of Alcoholic Beverages (low% up to x%) and Liquor (high% above x%), Distribution could be considered to be expanded into supermarket and groceries stores where young people could be allowed to buy and use Alcoholic Beverages, while maintaining BC Liquor Stores for both types of low and high % level of alcoholic products.	Body	Dear John,👋👋As a permanend resident coming form Europe, where liquor policies are differe	Neutral
334_2013C	2181	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		with less problems than Canada, as people get their alcohol at the same time as their other consumer goods, groceries etc	Body	First of all do away with govt. liquor stores! 📌I think all alcohol should be conveniently locate	Negative
359_2013C	2167	NOT SPECIFIED		In contrast, in Europe, as well as in the US, lower level alcoholic beverages as beer and wine are available in supermarkets.	Body	Dear John,👋👋As a permanend resident coming form Europe, where liquor policies are differe	Neutral
331_2013C	2109	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		We should be able to get bottle of wine while picking up groceries as well as take our children to lounge/bar and enjoy a meal as a family	Body	We should be able to get bottle of wine while picking up groceries as well as take our childre	Neutral
330_2013C	2059	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocery stores – just like everywhere else on earth – In fact we already do it to some extent in remote communities.	Body	1. Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocery stores – just like everywhere else on earth – In fai	Neutral
326_2013C	2020	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		As such, any move that puts alcoholics beverages for sale in grocery stores, corner stores, gas stations and the like I am in favour of.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap:👋👋My thanks to the Government of British Columbia for being open to hearing	Neutral
357_2013C	1997	NOT SPECIFIED		All liquor shall be available in Grocery- Stores and not taxed more than food.	Body	Please step out of these old English Liquor Laws. I have been born in Austria some 60 Yrs ago	Negative
357_2013C	1960	NOT SPECIFIED		Liquor was available in any Grocery -store and in Europe it was always cheaper than Pop!	Body	Please step out of these old English Liquor Laws. I have been born in Austria some 60 Yrs ago	Neutral
356_2013C	1955	NOT SPECIFIED		One of the pleasures of travelling to the United States-including Hawaii-is the ability to buy wine in grocery stores while you are buying a steak for the barbecue.	Body	My basic point is this. The sale and consumption of liquor is lawful in British Columbia. Unles	Positive
353_2013C	1917	NOT SPECIFIED		1) As I am sure you have heard from many people for years allow beer and wine to be purchased in grocery stores.	Body	First, congratulations for reviewing BC's liquor laws. I believe that a👋👋review is overdue.👋👋Her	Neutral
354_2013C	1894	NOT SPECIFIED		Grocery stores over there have aisles just for beer.	Body	I go to the States all the time for vacations and It's nice to be able to go to Wal-Mart and buy	Neutral
355_2013C	1885	NOT SPECIFIED		we would also like to be able to buy booze where we grocery shop and in convenience stores please	Body	We would like liquor stores to be open later and on Sundays.👋👋we would also like to be able	Neutral
354_2013C	1877	NOT SPECIFIED		I go to the States all the time for vacations and It is nice to be able to go to Wal-Mart and buy my beer and spirits (at very reasonable prices) along with my other groceries.	Body	I go to the States all the time for vacations and It's nice to be able to go to Wal-Mart and buy	Strongly positive
351_2013C	1862	NOT SPECIFIED		Liquor should be sold in grocery stores like in the rest of the Western World	Body	Good day!👋👋👋Thank you for letting me engage in a discussion about BC's outdated Liquor La	Negative
348_2013C	1857	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		#NAME?	Body	September 14, 2013👋👋Hi,👋👋Things I'd like to see change in BC liquor laws:👋👋-more and bette	Neutral
352_2013C	1844	NOT SPECIFIED		I would like to see wine & beer sales in grocery stores.	Body	I would like to see wine & beer sales in grocery stores.	Neutral
344_2013C	1793	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		September 14, 2013 I would like to be able to buy beer and/or wine from my grocery store.....	Body	September 14, 2013👋👋 I would like to be able to buy beer and/or wine from my grocery store	Neutral
346_2013C	1782	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		I think that you should be able to purchase alcohol in the supermarkets as has been done in other locations for quite some time, although I also think that we SHOULD NOT privatize!	Body	Time for a change!!...I think that you should be able to purchase alcohol in the supermarkets	Negative
342_2013C	1766	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		I would like to see the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores, and also hard liquor, it makes no sense to be driving from one end of town to the other, just to buy a bottle of wine.	Body	I would like to see the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores, and also hard liquor, it makes	Negative
343_2013C	1765	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		sell beer wine in grocery stores allow selling of cold beer in liquor stores with no increase of price.	Body	sell beer wine in grocery stores allow selling of cold beer in liquor stores with no increase of	Negative
338_2013C	1758	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocery stores – just like everywhere else on earth – In fact we already do it to some extent in remote communities.	Body	My Ideas for a “grown up” BC liquor industry:👋👋👋1. Sell beer, wine and spirits in Grocer	Neutral

304_2013C	1750 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I have a friend that works at Safeway and she told me that the number of tourists that can not understand why they can not get their beer and wine with their groceries is huge.	Body	I think that beer and wine should be available in grocery stores. I have a friend that works at Negative
304_2013C	1749 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I think that beer and wine should be available in grocery stores.	Body	I think that beer and wine should be available in grocery stores. I have a friend that works at Negative
302_2013C	1745 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Beer and wine should be available in grocery stores and available at outdoor events where chidren are with parents.	Body	Changes are long over due. Beer and wine should be available in grocery stores and availabl Negative
325_2013C	1713 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow beer and wine only to be sold at grocery (and other large) retail stores at higher prices than at government liquor stores.	Body	My suggestions for the liquor policy review:1. Use the B.C. Liquor Distribution Board's pow Neutral
322_2013C	1689 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	2) Allow beer, liquor and spirits to be sold in supermarkets in a controlled and regulated manner.	Body	To whom it may concern, I am a Vancouverite who has noticed the draconian laws we h Neutral
300_2013C	1686 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am in favor of having liquor sold in grocery stores.	Body	I'm in favor of having liquor sold in grocery stores. It works in Quebec and in the USA. It's m Neutral
		I would just like to be able pick up a bottle of wine with my groceries without having to get in my car, drive, park and go to a liquor or wine store.		
299_2013C	1676 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Please consider allowing grocery stores to sell beer and wine as they have done for many years in the Province of Quebec including Costco.	Body	I'd just like to be able pick up a bottle of wine with my groceries without having to get in my Positive
321_2013C	1629 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	i would like to buy my beer and wine @ my supermarket please make it happen we are all adults and understand the lobbying that goes on by industry to protect their exclusiveness but those Days are over - people tell their Gov what to do & it better happen i'don't know why you do not have a survey form to fill out regarding the liquor issues (24/7/365) all Gov departments should ask anybody that visits on-line - if they would like to fill in a survey regarding their industry with a comment section thanks, Richard	Body	Please consider allowing grocery stores to sell beer and wine as they have done for many ye: Neutral
310_2013C	1625 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Open up competition by expanding liquor sales to more consumer outlets including Grocery Stores, Costco, local markets and gas stations with mini marts.	Body	i would like to buy my beer and wine @ my supermarket please make it happen we are all i Negative
313_2013C	1622 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am In favour of liquor sales in grocery stores	Body	I believe that our liquor laws in BC are antiquated. Restricting "Happy Hour" in establishmen Neutral
319_2013C	1602 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	* sell alcohol and beer at grocery stores or corner stores as in other states.	Body	I am In favour of liquor sales in grocery stores Sent from. dwdougwendy@gmail.com Neutral
315_2013C	1598 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Collect the taxes, I get that, big country and no one lives here we have to pay for our socialized programs somehow, but absolutely no reason for Govt to be retailing alcohol. - beer and wine should be available in grocery stores, again no reason why this can not happen quickly.	Body	I feel BC liquor laws are very antiquated. The changes I would like to see are: would li Neutral
317_2013C	1591 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I support easier access such as sales at Costco and supermarkets as well as more access for a family meals at neighbourhood pubs Sent by David Hague	Body	Just a few points that should be under consideration it's amazing that govt is still involve Neutral
316_2013C	1581 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We quite often travel to the US and find it very convenient to purchase our beer, wine and liquor while we are purchasing our groceries.	Body	I support easier access such as sales at Costco and supermarkets as well as more access for a Neutral
312_2013C	1576 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We are hard working people that want to pick up a bottle of wine when we pick up dinner at the supermarket.	Body	Hello, I find our rules regarding liquor sales definitely need to be revised. We quite often t Strongly positive
314_2013C	1575 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Since then, it has become a serious problem, and it has the potential to become even more of a problem if it can be purchased I even more outlets such as corner stores and grocery stores.	Body	We are hard working people that want to pick up a bottle of wine when we pick up dinner at Neutral
309_2013C	1573 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We should also be able to buy liquor at a 7-11, Costco or any other grocery store.	Body	Hello, I am very concerned at the idea of making alcohol even more available to consumer: Strongly negative
311_2013C	1567 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	When visiting the U.S. and Europe, I have enjoyed the convenience of buying beer and wine in supermarkets.	Body	As a regular traveler to Washington state I find it ridiculous that it is cheaper to buy Canadiar Neutral
305_2013C	1548 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	The law should be changed to allow liquor (spirits & beer) to be sold in grocery stores, which would make it much more convenient for me and other consumers and , probably, would be more affordable than the prices being charged in BC Liquor stores;	Body	I think revisions to BC Liquor Laws are long overdue. I'm originally from Montreal, where adt Positive
306_2013C	1535 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#NAME?	Body	The law should be changed to allow liquor (spirits & beer) to be sold in grocery stores, which Positive
307_2013C	1530 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Take a look at California and allow sale of alcohol in grocery stores such as Costco.	Body	Hello, I would suggest the follow: Disband all Government owned Liquor stores. Neutral
271_2013C	1526 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Hope to see liquor in Grocery store next year.	Body	There isn't a need to reinvent the wheel. Take a look at California and allow sale of alcohol li Neutral
272_2013C	1521 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It is time to allow the sales of liquor in Supermarkets in British Columbia.	Body	Mr.Yap, Thank for the opportunity to participate.For years it's been about the Union employ Neutral
272_2013C	1519 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Washington states Liquor sales in grocery store and Super market it has been a tremendous success for that state.	Body	Mr.Yap, Thank for the opportunity to participate.For years it's been about the Union employ Neutral
		Granting grocery stores the ability to sell beer and wine would only put the beer & wine stores out of business, and further "Wall-Mart ize" our society.		
269_2013C	1506 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to shop for my beer, wine and spirits at my local grocery store.	Body	Hi: I think that this province laws are outdated and need to change with the times. I have n Neutral
267_2013C	1500 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see wine and beer being sold in grocery outlets	Body	1. I believe the taxes on liquor sales are exhorbitant. I would like to see: a) taxes reduced, ε Neutral
264_2013C	1470 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Alcohol is for sale on every block, especially in filthy corner "grocery" stores that have no groceries for sale, just dusty bottles of liquor.		
263_2013C	1457 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	I tried to submit directly to the website, but all it would let me submit is a discussion topic. Negative

		* beer, wine, and spirits to be sold in grocery stores * minors accompanied by an adult to eat together in a pub * bars to have a "happy hour" * consumption of a alcohol in public places, i.e., parks and beaches, and at special events, i.e., fireworks shows (Note, people who do not act in a responsible manner when consuming alcohol in a public place should be dealt with as per laws currently in place.)		
259_2013C	1425	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I'm tired of government assuming I can't be responsible for my own actions in regard to the Negative
260_2013C	1420	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	My suggestion is we start with BC wine and Kraft beer in our grocery stores, it is a natural fit and makes sense to the consumer. Neutral
258_2013C	1414	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Grocery stores, corner stores and other small retailers should definitely be allowed to sell liquor from there outlets. Hello There,👋 have a couple of comments with regards to the liquor policy under review he Neutral
293_2013C	1367	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	we behave completely responsibly when we can buy liquor in grocery stores Sep 14/13👋👋Dear Sirs and Madams,👋👋PLEASE, recognize the present reality of liquor sales ir Neutral
255_2013C	1365	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	My suggestions: - Provide more access by selling spirits, beer and wine in supermarkets and grocery stores. - Extend all liquor store hours to at least 11pm. - liquor stores to be open 7 days a week. - Lower prices!!! Thank you for this opportunity to submit suggestions for improved and updated liquor laws.👋 Neutral
294_2013C	1343	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I am of the opinion that grocery stores sand pharmacies should be allowed to sell beer, wine and hard liquor as they do in the US. I am of the opinion that grocery stores sand pharmacies should be allowed to sell beer, wine Negative
253_2013C	1336	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Hello: I think it is time we would be able to buy beer and wine in the local grocery stores. Hello: I think it's time we would be able to buy beer and wine in the local grocery stores. Ch Neutral
293_2013C	1335	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Change our laws to allow sales of wine, beer AND liquor in grocery stores and other general retail outlets, completely independent of any liquor control authority like the BCLCB. Sep 14/13👋👋Dear Sirs and Madams,👋👋PLEASE, recognize the present reality of liquor sales ir Neutral
292_2013C	1328	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Allow wine sales in grocery stores John Bortnak Allow wine sales in grocery stores👋John Bortnak Neutral
288_2013C	1326	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	There is a very good reason why alcohol should never be sold in corner stores, gas stations, drugstores and supermarkets: It is an addictive, debilitating, deadly drug, just like tobacco. Dear BC Government:👋👋There's a very good reason why alcohol should never be sold in corn Neutral
283_2013C	1311	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I would like to be able to purchase wine and beer etc at our Groceries stores, like Safeway, Walmart etc just like in the U.S. Hello and my name is Barbel Jaeger and I reside at 8870 Hazel St. in Chilliwack. 👋 am 70 ye: Neutral
286_2013C	1300	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Please bring us out of the dark ages and make beer and wine available at your local grocery store. Please bring us out of the dark ages and make beer and wine available at your local grocery : Negative
274_2013C	1247	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I do not want to buy Liquor in a Grocery store or private store or a so called "Beer and Wine Store ". Dear B.C Government and Mr. John Yap,👋👋👋I would like to request you open more B.C. Liqi Neutral
278_2013C	1246	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I think there should be sale of BC made beer, wine and spirits in supermarkets and convenience stores. I agree BC liquor laws are outdated and in need of a extensive review and updating. 👋👋The : Positive
280_2013C	1243	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Personally I would like see liquor sold in grocery stores for the convenience and it also would allow for competition in the marketplace. Personally I would like see liquor sold in grocery stores for the convenience and it also woulc Positive
277_2013C	1223	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery stores alongside food. Hi👋👋👋I would like to see wine and beer sold in grocery stores alongside food.👋👋👋Thx👋👋👋 Neutral
275_2013C	1212	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Please let supermarkets stocks wine !!!! Please let supermarkets stocks wine !!!! Neutral
273_2013C	1204	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	All types of liquor, beer, wine and spirits should all be available in grocery and corner stores, including Costco. Two things I would like to see;👋1. All types of liquor, beer, wine and spirits should all be ava Neutral
230_2013C	1195	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	I urge you to eliminate the Provincial liquor stores and allow private liquor stores to sell all products, and allow wine and beer to be sold in supermarkets, as in Washington, California, etc. Hello,👋I urge you to eliminate the Provincial liquor stores and allow 👋private liquor stores t Neutral
228_2013C	1193	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	consumption does not appear to be much different to us then what we observe in Canada We strongly endorse that the BC Government seriously consider closing the unnecessary BC Liquor stores and allow retail grocery stores and Costco etc to sell liquor products Thank you Sent from Windows Mail Thank you for the opportunity of allowing comments from the BC public👋👋My wife and I are Negative
223_2013C	1189	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Parents who take their kids shopping have to pack them back in the car, pack them out again elsewhere and waste valuable family time dealing with the segregation of alcohol from other household groceries. I feel that if we are treated like civilized people, the vast majority of us will act like civilized p Negative
223_2013C	1183	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Put alcohol in the grocery store. Thank you for the opportunity of allowing comments from the BC public My wife and I are retired BC residents and we travel to the Palm Springs area in California for the winter months where we own a seasonal home We have become very accustomed to purchasing wine, beer and spirits at all grocery stores including Costco while in the USA Contrary to comments that I have recently heard on local TV news channels this access to purchase alcohol at grocery stores etc. I feel that if we are treated like civilized people, the vast majority of us will act like civilized p Neutral
228_2013C	1172	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Thank you for the opportunity of allowing comments from the BC public👋👋My wife and I are Positive
225_2013C	1167	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	It does not seem to present difficulties in the issue of selling to minors – as an adult I was never questioned but again as a result of it being purchased with groceries, minors were not in a grocery store to try and buy wine or beer. Travelling around the world, it has become apparent that having wine and beer available in g Negative
227_2013C	1159	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores such as Costco, Safeway, etc. Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores similar to what you allow in small town BC where there are no stand alone government liquor stores Allow under the age of 19 to be in pubs until 7 pm to enjoy a lunch or early dinner with their parents. Allow beer and wine to be sold at grocery stores such as Costco, Safeway, etc.👋👋Hard Liquor Neutral
226_2013C	1148	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Travelling around the world, it has become apparent that having wine and beer available in grocery stores is a reasonable change to approve. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on our liquor laws. We should be more li Strongly positive
225_2013C	1134	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Body	Travelling around the world, it has become apparent that having wine and beer available in g Positive

		There will undoubtedly be a hue and cry from organised labour but think of all the grocery stores or private liquor stores etc that will need employees if the sale of liquor can be handled through those outlets.		
213_2013C	1102 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	I am very pleased to hear the Provincial Government is at last considering a review of currenNegative
219_2013C	1093 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor, beer , and wine should be sold in grocery and convenience stores also including and retail outlets like Costco. I would like to be able to buy beer/wine or spirits in any grocery store where we do our shopping - having to go to a Government Liquor Store is a practice that needs to be changed immediately.	Body	To Whom it my concern:☺ ☺ My husband and I have lived in different parts of North AmericNeutral
213_2013C	1089 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	I am very pleased to hear the Provincial Government is at last considering a review of currenNeutral
218_2013C	1081 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor should be available for purchase at the present locations as well as corner stores and supermarkets.	Body	Good day:☺ ☺I believe it's time to treat adults like adults. Liquor should be available for purcNegative
215_2013C	1075 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	yes beer is sold on trains, buses, and in supermarkets I am sending this message as an advocate for the sale of wine and beer in B.C. grocery stores across the Province.	Body	After having just returned from ,Wales, England,and France, it is most evident our Liquor lawNeutral
220_2013C	1069 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor of all sorts should be available In grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores etc.	Body	I am sending this message as an advocate for the sale of wine and beer in B.C. grocery storesNeutral
214_2013C	1038 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	Hello,☺Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion. ☺First of all, I know the governrNeutral
244_2013C	1018 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	This would also put a lot of pressure and liability on grocery and convenience store clerks to check for ID and could result in possible risk for the clerks from any disruntled client.	Body	Hello. My veiws are as follows.☺ ☺There is no need to have liquor of any kind id a convenienPositive
212_2013C	1009 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Liquor should be available in grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations.	Body	Liquor should be available in grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations. Enforce thNeutral
210_2013C	1002 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would like to see something similar to Alberta with regards to grocery stores having stand alone buildings for liquor sales.	Body	I would like to see something similar to Alberta with regards to grocery stores having stand aPositive
211_2013C	998 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Allow beer & wine in grocery stores. There is no need to have liquor of any kind id a convenience store or grocery store.	Body	Get rid of government liquor stores.....what kind of system permits the gov't to compete wiNeutral
244_2013C	987 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	Hello. My veiws are as follows.☺ ☺There is no need to have liquor of any kind id a convenienPositive
249_2013C	972 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	A change should be made to sell beer & wine in the supermarkets as is done in the US.	Body	Hi ☺☺A change should be made to sell beer & wine in the supermarkets as is done in the US. INegative
250_2013C	970 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We should be more like the US and sell liquor in grocery stores and places like Costco.	Body	We should be more like the US and sell liquor in grocery stores and places like Costco. Negative
240_2013C	966 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I have a vacation home in California and like the convenience of picking up a six pack while at the grocery store. As far as changes are concerned I would like to see alcohol sold in grocery stores.	Body	I am 65 years old, born and raised in Vancouver. When I was a young man and came of drinkPositive
240_2013C	964 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	I am 65 years old, born and raised in Vancouver. When I was a young man and came of drinkNegative
242_2013C	923 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	* Allow the sale of wine and beer in grocery stores. If we were to license grocery stores and convenience stores to sell alcohol as I suggest above, this would be an additional revenue stream that could be used to help people who need it in a more meaningful way.	Body	I have the following suggestions for changes I would like to see in BC's Liquor laws.☺☺☺*☺AlloNeutral
167_2013C	885 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	Dear Mr. Yap,☺☺☺I was very excited to learn that BC was performing a review of its liquor polStrongly positive
238_2013C	878 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Alcohol should be available in grocery stores.	Body	Time to enter the 20th century never mind the 21st.☺Look at Europe and follow their practicNegative
234_2013C	817 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	- Allow sales of alcohol in grocery stores. When I last took a motor vehicle trip down the Washington/Oregon coast, it was such a pleasure to be able to pick up my groceries and a decent bottle of wine in one store without having to search around an unfamiliar town/city to find the "liquor store".	Body	Hi,☺☺ ☺☺Here is my view on what needs to be updated for BC liquor laws:☺☺ ☺☺- Allow salNeutral
232_2013C	782 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	As a senior luddite who doesn't use Twitter, Facebook or any other ☺blogging site, I am pleasPositive
232_2013C	780 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	As a senior luddite who doesn't use Twitter, Facebook or any other ☺blogging site, I am pleasPositive
167_2013C	759 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If the concern is minors seeing alcohol in stores, then I am sure owners of grocery stores and convenience stores could create separate sections within the stores -- much like video stores that have adult only sections for pornographic films.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,☺☺☺I was very excited to learn that BC was performing a review of its liquor polNeutral
167_2013C	750 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	If we trust convenience stores and grocery stores to sell tobacco responsibly, it makes little sense to not trust them to sell alcohol. wine should be available in grocery stores as they are in many other jurisdictions	Body	Dear Mr. Yap,☺☺☺I was very excited to learn that BC was performing a review of its liquor polNeutral
233_2013C	736 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	Thank you for taking the time to seek my input.☺☺ ☺☺I believe that beer and wine should be ɿNegative
176_2013C	673 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	In Quebec, if I recall rightly, it is the corner stores that can sell beer and wine, not the supermarkets.	Body	I am fine with rules and regulations about liquor distribution as tight as BC liquor policy needPositive
176_2013C	672 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I want to see what I see in the USA, where supermarkets and small Mom and Pop grocery stores can sell alcoholic products. The most important improvement required by far is to ensure that the public can buy wine and beer in the supermarket.	Body	I am fine with rules and regulations about liquor distribution as tight as BC liquor policy needNeutral
231_2013C	669 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	In society today we expect to do our shopping all at the same store so grocery stores make cense as we all have to eat.	Body	Attention: John Yap & The BC Liquor Policy Review.☺☺☺The most important improvement recNeutral
178_2013C	638 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	so I am very familiar with buying my liquor at the same time as I grocery shop	Body	I worked in the Liquor industry for 33 years so I am quite knowledgeable about the system. I Neutral
175_2013C	538 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	I spend the winter in Arizona, so I am very familiar with buying my liquor ☺at the same time ɿStrongly positive
173_2013C	526 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	As a purchaser of wine, I find it insane that I can not purchase a bottle of wine to drink with my dinner at my local grocery store. I would like to see a retail enviroment like they have now in Washington State where the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores is permitted.	Body	I would like to submit my comments regarding the possible reform of BC Liquor laws. ☺ ☺1. I Neutral
173_2013C	525 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	I would like to submit my comments regarding the possible reform of BC Liquor laws. ☺ ☺1. I Neutral
168_2013C	505 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	#NAME?	Body	- Yes to beer and wine in grocery stores.☺☺- Yes to the BC government getting out Neutral
164_2013C	482 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	It is time to change the laws and allow alcohol to be sold in grocery stores and supermarkets.	Body	Hi there,☺☺☺Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be re:Neutral
164_2013C	481 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	including liquor and wine, at a grocery store will only serve to make things more convenient for shoppers	Body	Hi there,☺☺☺Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be re:Strongly positive

164_2013C	461 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	You do not see masses of drunk people in Italy or France simply because alcohol is sold at the village grocery store. Even in the U.S., grocery store shelves have dedicated wine areas and are a great place to showcase products that go along with wine such as cheeses and crackers.	Body	Hi there, Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be re: Neutral
164_2013C	450 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	When we travel through Europe, we are delighted that as we buy our baguettes and cheese at the grocery store, we can also purchase a lovely bottle of rose to go along with lunch.	Body	Hi there, Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be re: Positive
164_2013C	449 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be realize that having liquor available for purchase in grocery stores does not promote alcohol use (or abuse).	Body	Hi there, Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be re: Strongly positive
164_2013C	446 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I live in Spences Bridge,BC and this community has tried to get a liquor outlet here for years but the policy has been that you must have a grocery store.	Body	Hi there, Thank you for looking at these archaic laws and hopefully the powers that be re: Negative
162_2013C	438 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am from an older generation, born in Quebec, and realized at a very young age that beer was available in the same store my mom shopped for groceries.	Body	Re-Liquor Policy Review: My complaint is about the liquor policy the Gove Neutral
163_2013C	436 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	(1) Wines and Beer sold at all supermarkets. I would like to see rules on sales of beer and wine changed so when my wife and I do our regular grocery shopping we can pick up a bottle of wine or case of beer at the same time.	Body	Dear Mr. Yap: I am from an older generation, born in Quebec, and realized at a very you Neutral
206_2013C	396 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Mostly just ordinary folk who want to be able to buy wine, beer and spirits while at the grocery store.	Body	About time this was looked at! (1) Wines and Beer sold at all supermarkets.midday to 6 p. Neutral
205_2013C	388 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	To me it is that simple and I am sure the staff memebers of liquor stores would be an asset to every grocery store that is going to sell liquor to the public, therefore they would not be losing their jobs.	Body	I would like to see rules on sales of beer and wine changed so when my wife and I do our reg Neutral
179_2013C	342 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	We would love to see wines in grocery stores. 3) When we are in the USA or Australia on vacation, we buy our wines at the grocery stores.	Body	I agree that BC liquor laws are somewhat outdated. We have been to other countries such a Neutral
186_2013C	318 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I see no reason why when I wish to purchase liquor, I can not just go to the given section of a grocery store and put my purchase in my buggy along with my food purchases.	Body	Hello I am a retiree and have resided in British Columbia for over 50 years. I would like to Positive
190_2013C	294 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Also we live a distance away from a liquor store so it would be great if we could buy alcohol from our local grocery store which we can walk to as against get in the car and drive to the town.	Body	1) Eating outdoors is a big part of our BC summers. It is like moving our dining room outdoor Strongly positive
182_2013C	293 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Having said that, I truly do believe that any person of legal age should be able to purchase any and or all of their liquor requirements at any approved grocery stores in British Columbia.	Body	1) Eating outdoors is a big part of our BC summers. It is like moving our dining room outdoor Neutral
190_2013C	274 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	you should be able to go into a grocery store and buy anything, like in california, the excuse that always comes up, it is to easy for are youth to get ahold of it.	Body	Hello I am a retiree and have resided in British Columbia for over 50 years. I would like to Negative
193_2013C	266 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	allow sales in grocery stores.	Body	We have recently emigrated from the UK where the liquor laws are too lapse and there is a r Negative
185_2013C	252 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I would love, love, love to be able to go to the grocery store, do my shopping for dinner and pick up a bottle of wine for dinner.	Body	Hello I am a retiree and have resided in British Columbia for over 50 years. I would like to Negative
180_2013C	233 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Please consider the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores.	Body	the laws now do not work in todays society, get with it. you should be able to go into a gro Neutral
189_2013C	215 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	YES WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY WINE IN GROCERY STORES	Body	I believe that BC should: 1. follow Alberta's lead and privatize all outlets. 2. allow sales Neutral
191_2013C	214 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	Hello, I would like to add my voice to changing liquor laws to allow wine and beer to be sold in grocery stores.	Body	It is about time! I am all in favour of changing the liquor laws in BC. I would love, love, love Strongly positive
181_2013C	210 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX	I am in favour of all alcoholic products being sold through grocery outlets and specialty stores and for the BC Govt to let their employees have first option of taking over existing retail stores when they get out of distribution and marketing.	Body	Please consider the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores. This would be a great convenien Neutral
196_2013C	203 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CITZ:EX		Body	YES WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY WINE IN GROCERY STORES Negative
			Body	Hello, I'd like to add my voice to changing liquor laws to allow wine and beer to be sold in Neutral
			Body	I am in favour of all alcoholic products being sold through grocery outlets and specialty store Neutral

Liquor Policy Review Briefing Binder

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August 27, 2013

Section 1

Liquor 101

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Control and Licensing Branch Overview

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch regulates and monitors the liquor industry in this province to protect the public from the harm that may be caused by making and selling liquor or products that contain liquor.

Through the Liquor Control and Licensing Act and its Regulations - and by requiring anyone who holds a liquor licence to meet strict terms and conditions - the government works to prevent such problems as under-age drinking, the over-consumption of alcohol, and overcrowding or unsafe conditions in restaurants, bars and pubs, and to minimize the potentially negative impact of liquor sales on neighbourhoods and communities.

Branch Goals:

- To provide effective licensing and enforcement of liquor licensees
- To focus branch resources on matters of public safety and community impact
- To ensure high public confidence, awareness and trust in the branch
- To foster an excellent work environment

Branch Priorities:

- Improve public safety within and around licensed establishments.
- Ensure services are accessible and client focused in their delivery.
- Ensure regulations, policies and resources are directed at protecting public safety and public interest.
- Enhance and promote internal and external communications about branch activities.
- Provide for increased employee satisfaction, training, and workplace flexibility.

LCLB Responsibilities

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is responsible for issuing licences to:

- pubs, bars, lounges, stadiums, caterers, nightclubs and restaurants to sell liquor by the glass for on-premises consumption, and private liquor stores to sell liquor by the bottle for off-premises consumption;
- breweries, distilleries and wineries to manufacture liquor, and agents to represent domestic and international manufacturers in selling their products in BC; and
- UBrews/UVins to sell their customers the ingredients, equipment and advice they need to make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers.

Additionally, the Branch:

- issues permits to non-beverage alcohol importers (companies bringing in culinary, medicinal and industrial products)
- regulates Serving It Right: The Responsible Beverage Service Program
- regulates Special Occasion Licences for events such as community celebrations, weddings or banquets (licences are issued through BC Liquor Stores);

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- educates those who hold liquor licences (called licensees) about the laws and rules that may affect them;
- inspects licensed establishments;
- takes enforcement action when licensees do not follow the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*, Regulations and/or the specific terms and conditions of their licences; and
- provides advice to government concerning decisions related to liquor policy.

Branch Financing

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is a cost recovery branch and receives a \$1000 government funding allocation annually. Recoveries (dollars) are received from licensing fees and permit charges. The collected funds and \$1000 vote provide for overall policy development, administration, licensing and inspections in support of the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and Regulations. The branch has 111.5 employees, and estimated expenditures of \$11.5 million for 2013/2014.

Branch operating principles:

1. While moderate alcohol consumption may have some modest health benefits, long term excessive drinking has adverse health effects.
2. Alcohol is a drug that, if taken in sufficient quantities, will affect short-term mental judgment and physical dexterity.
3. Although generally seen as a pleasant complement or accompaniment to social occasions, alcohol has addictive properties and can lead to socially unacceptable behaviour when abused.
4. Minors should be protected from the negative effects of alcohol consumption.
5. Neighbourhoods and communities are impacted by the sale and manufacture of liquor and their opinions are considered in licensing decisions falling within the statutory framework set down by government.
6. Control of the number and location of liquor primary licensed establishments prevents a proliferation of licensed establishments that may lead to the sale of liquor to minors and intoxicated persons, overcrowding, or other actions that may be harmful to the community.
7. It is in the best interests of the liquor and hospitality industries to encourage responsible drinking behaviours that contribute to the well being of their customers and the public.
8. Licence holders are responsible for designing their operations and conducting their business in such a way as to realize the outcomes and principles articulated in liquor licensing statutes and regulations.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Distribution Branch Overview

Background:

In British Columbia, the Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) is one of two branches of government responsible for the beverage alcohol industry. The *Liquor Distribution Act* gives the LDB the sole right to purchase beverage alcohol both within BC and from outside the province, in accordance with the federal Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act.

Reporting to the Minister of Justice, the LDB:

- handles importation and distribution of beverage alcohol in BC;
- operates the BC Liquor Stores (BCLS) retail chain and distribution centres; and
- has a General Manager and CEO who is responsible for administering the Liquor Distribution Act, which includes the oversight of BCLSs, subject to direction from the minister.

The *Liquor Distribution Act* clarifies:

- LDB administration;
- BCLS operation; and
- The role and powers of the LDB General Manager.

The LDB follows the Crown Agencies Resource Office guidelines for service plans and annual reports, and is reported out in public accounts in a manner similar to a commercial Crown corporation, on a modified equity basis.

The LDB operates a province-wide, retail/wholesale beverage alcohol business, within a mixed public-private model.

As of March 31, 2013, the LDB:

- has a workforce of approximately 3,500 full- and part-time employees;
- operates 195 BCLSs throughout the province;
- operates two wholesale customer centres;
- operates two distribution centres, in Vancouver and Kamloops and;
- has a Head Office facility in Vancouver.

As part of BC's mixed-model retail system, the LDB is committed to providing customers with an enhanced shopping environment, an expansive product selection and a high level of service.

The LDB purchases beverage alcohol from more than 400 suppliers and manufacturers within the province, across the country and around the world. Licensed manufacturers in BC include 247 wineries, 63 breweries, and 19 distilleries.

The wholesale beverage alcohol distribution model in BC includes the two government distribution centres, BCLSs and a number of manufacturers and private distributors that are authorized to distribute beverage alcohol as agents of the LDB.

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The LDB and LCLB have a shared responsibility to encourage the responsible consumption of beverage alcohol and work closely together to coordinate policies and programs to this end.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Types of Licences Issued by the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch issues the following types of licences and endorsements:

Liquor primary: A liquor primary licence may be issued to an establishment that is primarily in the hospitality, entertainment or beverage service business. This may include establishments commonly known as bars, lounges, pubs, and cabarets, as well as convention centres, stadiums, concert halls and recreation centres, airports, trains and motor vessels. With some limited exceptions, minors are not permitted. Some establishments are authorized to sell off-sales of beer, wine, cider and coolers.

Liquor primary club: Private clubs are a subcategory within the liquor-primary class of licence. Liquor primary clubs are distinct from other liquor primary licences as liquor may only be served to members and the guests of members. A club must have at least 50 members who pay annual membership fees of at least \$10.00. The main focus of a club must be social, athletic, recreational, fraternal, benevolent or patriotic in nature, but this does not preclude profit-making. A club has its own facilities and does not sublet food or liquor service.

Food primary: These licences allow businesses (restaurants) to sell liquor for on-premises consumption, where the business' primary purpose is the service food at all hours of operation. Minors are permitted at food primary establishments. Establishments are eligible for a small on-site lounge with a liquor focus. There are limits on entertainment and liquor service hours to help ensure the primary focus does not stray from food service.

Catering Licence/Endorsement: Catering businesses may be issued a catering licence, and food primary and liquor primary licensees may be issued a catering endorsement, if their catering services are focused on the preparation and service of food at other people's events. A catering licence or catering endorsement allows licensees to provide full food and beverage services to their customers at events that have been authorized by the branch. Minors may be permitted at catered events.

Private special occasion: Private special occasion licences may be issued for family events, members-only events, or events where tickets are sold in advance. Special occasion licences are not for the prime purpose of making a profit, unless the purpose of the event is to raise funds for a genuine charitable purpose. Minors may be permitted at events.

Public special occasion: A public special occasion license may be issued to an event for a community or public celebration or for a public liquor tasting event. Special occasion licences are not for the prime purpose of making a profit, unless the purpose of the event is to raise funds for a genuine charitable purpose. Minors may be permitted at events, except in beer gardens.

Licensee retail store: This licence is for selling liquor by the bottle at retail stores (often called Private Liquor Stores). Government is not issuing any further LRS licences at this time.

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Wine store: This licence are for wine stores including winery-operated stores, independent wine stores, VQA stores and tourist wine stores. Government is not issuing any further Wine Store licences at this time.

UBrew/Uvin: These licences are for businesses that sell their customers the ingredients, equipment and advice they need to make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers.

Manufacturer: A manufacturer licence (winery, brewery, distillery) allows the licensee to manufacture, sell and store liquor and provide samples of products to the public in a designated sampling area at the manufacturing site. Manufacturers may also operate one onsite retail store.

- **Manufacturer lounge endorsement:** A lounge endorsement allows for consumption in a designated lounge area (which may be an indoor area or outdoor patio, or both) on the manufacturing site. Winery lounges may serve all B.C. wines; brewery and distillery lounges may only serve the manufacturer's product.
- **Manufacturer special event area endorsement:** A special event area endorsement allows for consumption at special events such as weddings, concerts or promotional events within a designated area on the manufacturing site. Winery special event areas may serve all B.C. wines; brewery and distillery special event areas may only serve the manufacturer's product.
- **Manufacturer picnic area:** A picnic endorsement is an outdoor area on the manufacturing site where patrons may consume products by the glass, bottle (in the case of a winery) or single-serving bottle (in the case of a brewery or distillery) that are purchased from the manufacturer or obtained from the sampling room. This is a consumption area only and so no sale or service is permitted.
- **Manufacturer tour area:** A tour area endorsement allows patrons to consume the manufacturer's product samples or purchased product by the glass (or other single serving) while on an indoor or outdoor tour.

Agents: LCLB issues licences for independent liquor agents who market products from a variety of liquor manufacturers, and BC liquor manufacturers who want to sell their products off-site.

Agency Stores: In addition to the above licence classes, the LDB issues appointments to duty free stores at international border crossings and to rural agency stores, i.e. grocery or general stores in smaller communities where it is not financially viable to operate a standalone liquor store. There are plans to transition these stores to licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act.

Licensing Statistics

Licence Type*	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Restaurants (food-primary establishments)	5,601	5,641	5,687
Bars, pubs, night clubs (liquor-primary establishments)	2,373	2,354	2,317
Caterers	n/a	n/a	5
Private liquor stores (licensee retail stores)	672	672	670
Wine stores**(includes Vintners' Quality Alliance (VQA) Stores, winery operated stores, independent wine stores, tourist wine stores, and sacramental wine stores)	61	61	61
Wineries	218	238	247
Breweries	57	62	63
Distilleries	16	17	19
BC Manufacturer Agents	266	296	311
Agents (other than BC Manufacturer Agents)	232	256	255
UBrew/UVin establishments	292	277	264
Total	9,788	9,874	9,899

*As of March 31 each year. Does not include manufacturer endorsements for on-site stores, lounges, SEAs, tour areas, picnic areas or catering endorsements on FPs.

**Prior to 2012-2013 Wine stores were operated as appointments under the Liquor Distribution Act.

All Liquor Retail Outlets	2012-2013
Government Liquor Stores (GLS)*	195
Rural agency stores (RAS)*	222
Duty-free Stores*	11
LDB Wholesale customer centres (sales to licensees only)*	2
Licensee Retail Stores (private liquor stores)	670
Wine stores (includes Vintners' Quality Alliance (VQA) Stores, winery operated stores, independent wine stores, tourist wine stores, and sacramental wine stores)	61
Manufacturer On-site stores	279
Total	1,440

* Operated by Liquor Distribution Branch or by appointment under the Liquor Distribution Act

Licensing Transactions

- New applications received: **605**
- New applications completed: **559***
- New applications in progress at end of fiscal: **239***
- Change applications received: **3,920**
- Change applications approved: **3,841***
- Change applications in progress at end of fiscal: **904***

*Some applications were received in previous years.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Recent and Current Initiatives

Background:

Recent Changes - LCLB

During the past year a number of significant changes were made to the LCLB regulatory scheme. These include:

Caterers

Regulations were implemented to licence caterers to provide full food and liquor service at events in locations not otherwise licensed. Food primary and liquor primary licensees are also eligible to apply for an endorsement on their licence to similarly cater off-site.

Tied House

Rules respecting ownership ties between liquor manufacturers and licensed establishments were relaxed to permit small and medium sized manufacturers to own or operate up to three establishments located away from the manufacturing site. The rules were also relaxed to permit all manufacturers to have licensed establishments at the manufacturing site. Previously, distillers were not eligible.

Brewery and Distillery Licensing Privileges

Brewers and distillers are now eligible for endorsements on their licence for patron on-premise consumption, e.g. a lounge or picnic area. These privileges had been available to wineries only for many years.

Wine Store Licensing

Private wine stores are no longer appointees under the Liquor Distribution Act but are now wine store licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act. This ensures all retailers are subject to the same regulatory and enforcement regime. Plans are underway to similarly transition rural agency stores and duty free stores to licensee status.

Bring Your Own Wine

Subject to approval by the licensee, patrons may now bring their own bottle of commercially produced wine to a restaurant for consumption on the premise.

Sponsorships

Licensees may now sponsor events, activities and organizations, in the same way that liquor manufacturers can. Sponsoring events aimed at minors is still generally prohibited, although establishments in which unaccompanied minors are permitted (such as restaurants) may sponsor minors' activities, events and organizations without having to apply.

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Recent Changes - LDB

Interprovincial Wine Shipping & Personal Importation

In July 2012, the Province made it possible for British Columbians to buy 100 per cent Canadian wine directly from a recognized winery in another province for personal consumption and have it shipped to their residence. The Province also made it possible for individuals to bring limited quantities of beer, wine or spirits with them into the province for personal consumption.

Craft Distillers

In March 2013 the Province introduced a new craft distillery policy. B.C. distilleries that ferment and distill all of their products on-site using 100 per cent British Columbian agricultural raw materials, using traditional distilling techniques and have an annual production level of less than 50,000 litres are eligible for mark-up exempt direct sales to bars, restaurants, private retail liquor stores and the public.

Current Initiatives - LCLB

Special Occasion Licensing

To improve public safety a liquor inspector notification program has been introduced where the inspector is notified and given details in advance of every SOL event occurring in their area allowing them to intervene where necessary. An enforceable terms and conditions guide for major events has been developed and put into use clearly describing the licensee's obligations ensuring public safety is maximized. To increase compliance with statutory requirements an easy-to-use policy and procedures guide to assist government liquor store managers in issuing special occasion licences has been developed and is in test at five stores. Proposals are being developed for streamlining the licence application process including those to position the SOL program for moving online.

Auctioning Liquor

The Act was amended earlier this year to provide for the auctioning of liquor by charitable or non-profit groups raising funds for a charitable purpose. The amendments provide the authority to implement a permitting scheme for the auctions and to allow liquor auctions without a permit if the volume of liquor auctioned is below a prescribed amount. The Branch is working on the regulatory scheme that would be placed in the regulations. This is expected to be in place this fall.

Manufacturing Requirements

The number of BC liquor manufacturers has risen sharply in recent years and shows no sign of levelling. Through LDB markup strategies, many manufacturers receive considerable markup relief compared to imported products. In exchange for this benefit the government expects manufacturers to invest in a manufacturing facility and actually manufacture the product. However, we are increasingly finding manufacturers who primarily purchase product from other suppliers with little in-house production. These companies are eligible for an on-site store and other endorsements for on-premise consumption, e.g. a lounge.

The Branch is reviewing the minimum requirements for manufacturer licensing.

Section 2

Liquor Retailing

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Retailing

Background:

There are a number of different types of liquor stores and these models have been introduced at different times for varying historical reasons. Government liquor stores were the original stores and had a monopoly on retailing until the 1970s with the exception of off-premise sales of beer and cider (later extended to wine) from pubs and hotels.

BC Liquor Stores (Government Liquor Stores)

- Operated by the Liquor Distribution Branch.
- May sell all types of liquor.
- Most stores are not open on Sundays and most do not have refrigerated product.
- Also wholesale liquor to licensed establishments and other private retailers.
- Issue Special Occasion Licences.
- 195 stores and they hold a 48% share of the retail store market (based on dollar sales).
- Maximum hours of liquor service are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. but the majority of stores close earlier most evenings.

Licensee Retail Stores

- First introduced in 1985 to sell beer and wine. Spirits were added as an approved product in 2002.
- Stores originally were tied physically and legally to an adjoining pub or hotel but this is no longer required.
- Most if not all stores offer refrigerated product.
- LRSs purchase liquor from the LDB at a 16% discount from the LDB retail price and may sell it at any price above their purchase price.
- 670 stores and they hold a 41% share of the retail store market.
- Licensed and regulated by the LCLB .
- The regulations prohibit the issuance of new licences.
- Stores may not relocate to within 1 km of another LRS except in prescribed circumstances. Subject to the 1 km rule an LRS may relocate anywhere in the local government /First Nation jurisdiction it is located or up to 5 km away if relocating outside that jurisdiction.
- Maximum hours of liquor service are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Rural Agency Stores

- Introduced in the 1970s to grocery stores and general stores in small communities or resort areas where it is not economically viable to operate a standalone store.
- Most offer refrigerated product.
- RASs purchase liquor from the LDB at a 12% discount (raised earlier this year from 10%) and may sell up to 10% higher or lower than LDB store prices.
- Appointed and regulated by the LDB, but with plans to transition to licensee status under the LCLB.
- There are 221 stores and they hold a 4% share of the entire market

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- New stores may be approved only if they meet specified criteria including a minimum distance from other liquor stores
- Maximum hours of liquor sales are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Wine Stores (excluding stores at wineries)

- There are 61 wine stores, consisting of a number of different store types including 21 VQA stores selling VQA wine, 12 independent wine stores selling all types of wine, sacramental wine stores and stores issued to wineries to sell the winery's products.
- Licensed and regulated by the LCLB.
- The regulations prohibit the issuance of new licences and with the exception of VQA stores no new licences have been issued for over 20 years.
- Stores may relocate anywhere in the province subject to zoning.
- Maximum hours of liquor sales are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Duty Free Stores

- There are 11 stores located at border crossing and airports.
- May sell all types of liquor to patrons leaving the country.
- Licensed by the federal government and appointed by LDB (there are plans to transition these stores to licensee status under the LCLB).
- LDB sells liquor to the stores at a reduced mark-up that varies by liquor type.
- Stores may sell liquor at any price.
- Maximum hours of liquor sales are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Current issues:

1. Liquor in grocery stores

Liquor sales in grocery stores or any mixed retail outlet (e.g. convenience stores, Walmart, Costco) would have very significant impacts on all aspects of the liquor industry including:

- Provides greater consumer convenience.
-
-

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s.13, s.17

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s.13, s.17

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- Government revenue impacts cannot be estimated without further analysis.
- Research clearly indicates increased access to liquor leads to increased consumption and associated harms.
- Many local governments and social and health advocates would oppose a significant increase in liquor availability.

BC's mixed model has one of the highest percentages of private liquor retail sales in the country with the exception of Alberta which is totally privatized (although liquor is sold only in dedicated standalone stores).

2. Moratorium on new liquor store licences

Since the introduction of the LRS model in 1985, it has been subject to two longstanding moratoria. The first from 1992 – 2002 followed by a 3 month window of opportunity for new applications and the reinstatement of the moratorium since November 2002. Prior to 2002 there were 290 LRSs. Presently there are 670.

Government's rationale for the moratorium was that the industry needed time to stabilize after 2002. It later stated that it felt that the present number and mix of store types met consumer needs and was concerned about the negative impact of unlimited store licensing.

Applicant eligibility for LRS's has until recently been restricted to owners of pubs and hotels. In 2009 the regulations were amended to permit the sale of these establishments to other parties. This reflected the fact that many store licensees had effectively "sold" their establishments to third party operators who ran the stores.

Other than purchasing an existing store there is no opportunity for the public or other licensees to obtain a licence to operate an LRS. The LCLB receives many queries from the public about how to obtain a liquor store licence.

The moratorium on new wine stores is also in regulation. The VQA wine store licenses are issued to the BC Wine Institute and cannot be sold or transferred to another entity nor can the wine store licenses issued to specific wineries. The 12 independent wine stores licenses can be sold.

Section 3

Establishments

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Overview of establishments licensed for on-premises consumption

Background:

Currently there are two licence classes for on-premises consumption of liquor – liquor primary and food primary.

Food primary licences are for establishments that focus on the service of food at all times (restaurants).

Liquor primary licences are for establishments that primarily focus on beverage service, entertainment or hospitality (bars, golf courses, theatres, trains). Liquor primary club licences are a sub-class of liquor primary licence that restricts the service of liquor to members and guests (legions, yacht clubs).

FOOD: Food primary establishments must have a varied selection of food items available at all times, and liquor primary establishments must have food and non-alcoholic beverages available at reasonable prices.

HOURS: Establishments may apply for liquor service hours between 9AM and 4AM the following day. Liquor primary establishments require local government comment for their hours of service. Food primary establishments require local government comment on hours after midnight. Very few municipalities support hours after 2AM. The general manager may limit an establishment's liquor service hours if it is in the public interest to do so.

MINORS: Minors are allowed in food primary establishments, but are generally not permitted in liquor primary establishments. The general manager may make exceptions when it would be in the public interest (e.g. airports, ski hills or military messes), and for establishments that do not primarily serve liquor, such as stadiums, theatres, and public conveyances. (see Tab 3 for additional information about minors).

ENTERTAINMENT: Licensees may provide entertainment that is authorized by the general manager. There are restrictions on the types of entertainment permitted in food primary establishments to ensure that the focus of the establishment is on food service. Local governments may also restrict the type of entertainment provided. There are restrictions on the alternate use of an establishment (see Tab 3).

LIQUOR SERVICE: There are limitations on drink sizes, and the general manager may restrict the types of liquor that may be served (for example, spirits are not permitted in stadiums). There are restrictions on drink specials (see Tab 3).

OTHER: Special conditions apply to some establishments to accommodate unique circumstances, for example: consumption on the playing area of a golf course, room service and mini-bars at hotels, and liquor service during events at theatres, stadiums, conference centres, and movie theatres.

For information on the history of the licensing model, see appendix 1.

Other Jurisdictions:

See appendix 2 for details about licensing models in other jurisdictions.

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Current issues:

1. “Non-traditional” businesses are not eligible for a liquor licence

The existing licensing system is rigid, and does not allow businesses to be licensed if their primary purpose is not food service, beverage service, entertainment or hospitality. This excludes businesses like spas, salons, museums, cooking schools, and wine education classes from serving liquor.

In contrast, Ontario does not restrict the type of business that may apply, and Saskatchewan and Manitoba recently announced changes to allow customer service environments like spas and salons to be licensed.

As well, BC does not licence motor vehicles, which includes inter-city buses, chartered bus tours or limousines. These may be licensed in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

The existing system also doesn’t acknowledge that people do not go to different types of places to eat, socialize, and be entertained. Licensees want to provide establishments that blur these lines, but they run into difficulties around operating outside class. For example, a restaurant that provides entertainment, such as video games or pool tables, that is considered inconsistent with a restaurant, or a restaurant that offers a venue for patrons who wish to primarily socialize and enjoy entertainment later at night (see Issue #2 for further discussion). Some of these businesses could obtain a liquor primary licence, but then they would be unable to permit minors in their facility. For example, some community centres want a food primary licence for spaces they would rent to the community (and permit minors), but the space does not meet eligibility requirements (e.g. it lacks tables and chairs).

Potential Opportunities:

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2. Food primary licensees are operating their establishment as liquor primary establishments in the evening

The current regulations prevent a liquor primary and food primary licence being issued for the same location. However, food primary establishments may request hours after midnight, and may obtain endorsements that expand their operating conditions.

Entertainment endorsements allow establishments to provide live music or performances, or permit patrons to dance or participate in karaoke.

Establishments with seating for 50 or more may obtain a lounge endorsement (without local government comment) which lets the licensee serve liquor without food in a lounge area that would accommodate 20 per cent of the capacity of the restaurant, to a maximum of 40 people.

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Some restaurants appear to operate more like pubs, especially later in the evening: patrons are there primarily to drink and to enjoy entertainment.

Existing liquor primary licensees complain that food primary establishments that operate like pubs have an unfair competitive advantage, because they did not have to make the same initial investment (application cost, time, local government consultation), and do not have restrictions on minors.

Potential Opportunities:

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Appendix 1 - History

Prior to the two-licence class system implemented in 2002, there were 7 categories of licences, with 17 classes of establishments. These included hotels, recreation centres (golf courses, curling clubs, ski hills, bowling alley, etc.), clubs, cultural centres, planes, trains and boats, restaurants, cabarets, neighbourhood and marine pubs, stadiums and concert halls.

To be eligible for a licence, a business had to have characteristics of one of these classes. For example, a hotel had to have at least 40 rooms, banquet facilities and a restaurant; a marine pub had to have moorage, laundry, showers and sell fishing tackle.

Each class of licence had a maximum capacity that was distinct from the occupant load for the building. For example, neighbourhood pubs had a maximum capacity of 65 persons inside plus 20 on a patio.

Additionally, each class of licence had different operating conditions (e.g. hours, type of entertainment permitted, admissibility of minors, off-sales, dual licence).

The eligibility requirements unnecessarily limited business opportunities, and the differences in operating conditions made enforcement challenging.

In contrast, the current licence system focuses on the primary nature of the business (is it food service, or is it beverage service, entertainment or hospitality), rather than on the characteristics of the establishment (i.e. other non-licensed services or facilities).

The move to two licence classes was intended to reduce variation in terms and conditions that applied to different types of establishment. Many requirements were eliminated – for example, there are no longer rules regarding the size of televisions in restaurants, restaurants may serve spirits, and nightclubs aren't prevented from opening prior to 7pm. Other requirements that were unrelated to public safety were also removed, such as requirements around server attire, vending machines and the height of walls.

However, there continue to be distinctions made in policy for some liquor primary establishments that previously had a separate class or category (e.g. hotels, golf courses, theatres, concert halls, stadiums). In order to be eligible for certain terms and conditions, these liquor primary establishments still must have specific characteristics (e.g. a multi-purpose venue is too small to be considered a conference centre; an establishment isn't considered a theatre if it has a dance floor).

Additionally, as a result of the reduction in variation in terms and conditions and licence types, establishments were able to keep terms and conditions on their licence that are no longer offered to new applicants. For example, theatres licensed prior to 2002 may serve liquor in any area of their theatre and minors are permitted; theatres licensed after 2002 may only serve liquor in the lobby (minors permitted) or in the auditorium (minors prohibited).

Appendix 2: Licensing Frameworks in Select Canadian Jurisdictions

British Columbia

<p>Food Primaries: Primary purpose is service of food; minors permitted Endorsements – lounge, patio, extended hours, entertainment, catering</p>	<p>Manufacturer: Production of beer, wine, spirits Separate licences for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winery • Brewery (includes brewpub) • Distillery
<p>Liquor Primaries: Primary purpose is beverage service, hospitality or entertainment; minors typically not permitted Sub categories (special terms and conditions apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotels (room service / mini bars) • Event driven (liquor only sold during events): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stadiums/arenas (box seats; hawking; family seating, etc) ○ Movie theatres ○ Convention/conference Centres ○ Live event theatres • Rec centres (extending licensed area) • Golf Courses (playing area) • Ski hills (minors) • Bowling halls (minors) • Motor Vessels • Airports • Military messes <p>Endorsements – patio; catering; off-sales</p>	<p>Ubrew/Uvin: for businesses that sell their customers the ingredients, equipment and advice they need to make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers</p>
<p>Liquor Primary Clubs: Service to members and guests only; minors typically not permitted</p>	<p>Agents: Allows independent liquor agents and BC liquor manufacturers to market their products</p>
<p>Catering Licence: Service of food and liquor at events hosted by other people; minors may be permitted</p>	<p>Other: Permits for non-beverage use (medicinal) Delivery Services (unlicensed) Remote fishing lodges (unlicensed)</p>
<p>Special Occasion License: Temporary permit to serve liquor at an event, not for profit; minors may be permitted</p>	<p>Auctioning Permits (development in progress) Sale of liquor by auction for fundraising purposes</p>
<p>Retail stores: For sale of packaged liquor. Separate licences for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensee Retail Store • Retail Wine Store • Rural Agency Stores & Duty Free Stores (will be transitioned from LDB) 	

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Alberta

<p>Class A</p> <p>Minors Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where food is the primary source of business May apply for permission to operate as “Minors Prohibited” in evening <p>Minors Prohibited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where liquor is the primary source of business or a licensed gaming facility 	<p>Class D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retail General Off-sales Manufacturer off-sales Delivery services Sacramental wine resale Commercial caterer
<p>Class B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rec facilities, tourist facilities, race tracks, sports stadium, convention centres, theatres or vehicles/vessels; must pay an entrance or user fee or buy a ticket Sub-classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational Facilities Billiard (pool) halls Bingo hall Tourist facilities (museums, art galleries and guest ranches) Race Tracks Sports Stadiums Theatres (movies and live theatres) Public Conveyances (planes, trains, buses and limos) 	<p>Class E</p> <p>Manufacturer</p> <p>Sub-classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brewery Commercial Winery Cottage Winery Distillery Brew Pub
<p>Class C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs and adult residences. Members and guests only; or residents and guests. Sub classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club Travellers' lounges (airports, trains etc) Canteens (military, police) Education Institutions (school board; post-secondary institute) Adult residence 	<p>Other policies:</p> <p>Duty free stores</p> <p>Guest rooms, banquet rooms and meeting rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room service Self-service Banquet and meeting rooms <p>Patios</p>
<p>A, B and C extensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-service bars in guest rooms, room service, banquet halls/meeting rooms, patio, caterer 	

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Saskatchewan

<p>Restaurants: establishments where the primary source of revenue comes from the preparation and sale of food.</p> <p>Endorsements – Banquet, catering, lounge endorsements, patio, room service, off-sales (wine), sidewalk cafe, minors</p>	<p>Manufacturers: Beer, wine and liquor producers.</p> <p>Sub-classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brew pub • cottage winery • brewery • distillery • winery
<p>Taverns: Establishments where alcohol sales are the main source of revenue.</p> <p>Sub-classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brew pub, • tavern-nightclub* • beverage room in hotel/motel 	<p>U-Brew/U-Vin: for businesses that provide beer-making or wine-making equipment and supplies on the premises, for the production of beer and wine consumed in private places.</p>
<p>Special-Use Permits: A catch-all liquor licence governing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private clubs, • sports facilities, • rail cars, limousines, airplanes, buses, • theatres, • concert halls, • airport lounges, • universities, • military canteens, • stadiums, • remote fishing and hunting lodges, fairgrounds, • special care facilities, • casinos, • bingo halls, and • alcohol home-delivery services. 	

* As a result of its liquor review, the tavern-nightclub category is being eliminated.

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Manitoba*

Dining Rooms: service of liquor with a meal	Private Clubs: Private clubs for veterans, sports organizations or "fraternal organizations" may sell alcohol to members of the club and signed-in guests. Only members and their guests can be on the premises.
Cocktail Lounges: Restaurants with dining-room licences may apply for an additional licence allowing alcohol sales without food at a lounge at the same address.	Transportation: Inner-city bus lines, cruise ships, railway operators and international airports, with hours dependent on the type of transportation.
Beverage Rooms: Hotels with "a sufficient number of guest rooms" as determined by the MLCC, an MLCC hotel-registration certificate and a dining-room licence may obtain a licence to sell alcohol in a beverage room.	Canteens: military or police
Cabarets: Venues offering live entertainment	Retailers: Beer vendors on the property of an MLCC-registered hotel and retailers attached to a brewery, wine manufacturer, distiller or sacramental wine producer
Sports Facilities: Golf courses, bowling alleys, rinks, racquet-sports courts, athletic fields, billiard rooms, ski hills, hunting or fishing lodges and facilities offering simulated sports may apply for a \$300-a-year licence to sell alcohol during the same hours as dining rooms — but only when the sports activity in question is taking place.	Manufacturers: Beer, wine and liquor producers.
Spectator Activities: Theatres, concert halls, convention centres and fairgrounds — but only when an event relating to that venue is taking place.	Brew Pubs: A licence is available for brew pubs, though as of December 2012, none existed in Manitoba.

* As a result of its liquor review, Manitoba is changing to have 3 licence classes: sales, service and manufacturing

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Ontario

Liquor Sales: A uniform set of rules applies to all businesses and non-profit organizations that sell alcohol. As of 2011, there are no longer any restrictions governing what sort of establishments can sell liquor. Endorsements: Brew pub, catering, mini-bar, room service, golf course, wine pub, BYOW (restaurants and hotel banquet halls only)	Manufacturers: Beer, wine and liquor producers.
Mini Bar License: allows licensee to have a mini bar if they don't have another liquor licence	Manufacturer's Representative's Licence: A licence to represent a manufacturer allows for agent representatives for non-domestic manufacturers and those under contract with domestic manufacturers, to take, canvass for, receive or solicit orders for beverage alcohol.
Special Occasion Permits	Ferment on Premises Facility (Ubrew)
Tied-house licence: for manufacturer to operate establishment at the manufacturing site	Liquor Delivery Service License

Risk-Based Licensing:

- Risks assessed regarding the operator and the premises (type, location, occupancy, activities, hours)
- Risk level is independent from conditions
- Conditions for each licence are chosen from a list of conditions; they are assessed for each location individually (not one size fits all)

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Restrictions on Happy Hours

Background:

Licensees are currently subject to several pricing restrictions. For example, they may not:

- sell liquor for less than the price for which they purchased it from LDB
- engage in sales strategies which promote overconsumption (e.g. “two for one”), or
- alter the price of liquor throughout the day (e.g. “happy hours” where liquor is discounted for a short period of time -typically just prior to the dinner hour).

The restriction on “Happy hours” is often criticized as a policy that inherently distrusts the ability of BC’s adults to make their own choices about liquor consumption. This regulation has been in place in BC for many years and was created as happy hours were considered a sales strategy that may promote overconsumption. No other Canadian jurisdiction restricts Happy Hours in this way.

Current issue: Happy hours and price floors

The Branch receives continual attention around this rule as it is often used as an example in critiques of BC’s restrictive or “archaic” liquor laws. Proponents of happy hours point out that almost all other provinces permit happy hours but tend to mitigate the risks of overconsumption by using minimum prices.

Removing restrictions around shifting pricing throughout the day will create flexibility for businesses. However, without proper monitoring for intoxication by licensees it may negatively affect public safety by increasing intoxication related issues. Many BC municipalities already mitigate the overconsumption risks of cheap drink specials by enacting price floor bylaws. If the restriction on happy hours was removed, government could consider raising provincial price floors to mitigate overconsumption risks. Price floors for on premises service establishments are generally supported by licensees and the World Health Organization for this purpose.

Maintaining restrictions on happy hour pricing reduces flexibility for restaurant and hospitality businesses who seek strategies to attract customers during slow times of the day. However, even if the restriction is maintained, restaurants and bars will still be able to discount prices for the entire day as long as they do not go below the LDB purchase price.

The pricing restrictions are less in regard to liquor stores. These stores may alter their prices through the day but may not sell below the price they paid for the product. The increased pricing flexibility for the stores is based on the fact that the product is bought for later consumption so concerns related to overconsumption are less.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Presence of minors in establishments

Background:

Alcohol consumption by minors is associated with unwanted pregnancies, smoking, youth violence, poor school performance, youth suicide rates, and death and injury from driving accidents. It is also believed to have negative developmental impacts on the part of the brain responsible for higher-level thinking.

Minors (those under age 19) are not permitted to possess or consume liquor, unless it is given to them by their parent or guardian at their residence.

Minors are permitted in restaurants, and may be permitted at special occasion licensed events and catered events. Minors are not permitted in beer gardens at outdoor festivals.

Minors may enter a restaurant lounge, a liquor store, or a manufacturers lounge or special event area if they are accompanied by their parent or guardian.

Minors are generally not permitted in liquor primary establishments. The general manager may make exceptions when it would be in the public interest (e.g. airports, ski hills or military messes), and for establishments that do not primarily serve liquor, such as stadiums, theatres, and public conveyances.

Other Jurisdictions:

Alberta and Saskatchewan allow restaurants to prohibit minors later in the evening. Alberta has 'minors prohibited' establishments (bars), and may set a term and condition on other licences that prohibits minors (minors are generally permitted in theatres, stadiums, etc.). Minors may accompany a parent or guardian to a liquor store. Saskatchewan allows "Daily Family Dining" and "Sunday Family Dining" in taverns, which allows minors to be present from 9:30am to 9pm.

In Manitoba, a minor may enter an area licensed under a dining room, sports facility, spectator activities, private club or transportation licence. A minor may enter a licensed cocktail lounge or cabaret only when accompanied by a parent, spouse, or guardian. A minor may not enter a beverage room unless written authorization has been obtained for a family oriented event. Minors may consume liquor as part of a meal at a licensed establishment if the liquor is purchased by their parent or guardian.

Ontario has risk-based licensing; the licence may have a condition that minors be prohibited entry. This would be added based on the nature/characteristics of the establishment and the compliance history of the licensee.

Current issues:

1. Requests have been received to expand the circumstances when minors may be permitted in liquor primary establishments.

One of the strategies to reduce the risk of minors consuming liquor is to prohibit minors in areas where the consumption of liquor is a primary activity. This is mainly because the ability to monitor patrons is reduced in

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dimly lit establishments, and in establishments where people move around with their drinks rather than remain seated at a table.

Additionally, the conduct that occurs at some liquor primary establishments may not be suitable for minors (e.g. adult entertainment or gambling), may expose minors to predatory behavior (teen girls being taken advantage of at nightclubs), or may provide a poor example for impressionable youth (overconsumption, offensive language, adult situations).

However, the line between a pub and a restaurant with extended hours and an entertainment endorsement is blurred. Often patrons may not be able to distinguish them, yet minors are permitted in the former and not the latter.

For liquor primaries that are permitted minors, the circumstances and conditions associated with each exception are slightly different (e.g. minors may be in an LP at a ski hill until 8pm if accompanied by a parent, but may be in a LP at a golf club unaccompanied until 10pm), making it confusing for licensees and the public to understand.

Potential Opportunities:

Rather than a prohibition on minors for most liquor-primaries, strategies could be employed to mitigate the risk of underage drinking and exposure to adult situations.

Opportunities to allow more flexibility include:

- minors may be permitted on certain days of the week (“all-ages” night), with additional strategies employed by the licensee on those nights to safeguard minors (additional security, minors are identified by wrist bands, etc.)
- allow minors to be present when accompanied by their parent or guardian during the daytime and early evening (for example, minors may have lunch at the pub with their parents, when the focus is on food, but are not permitted after 9pm, when the focus shifts to drinking)
- allow minors in liquor primary establishments that provide meals (e.g. pubs) and do not have higher risk characteristics (e.g. no dance floor, not dimly lit, no adult entertainment)
- allow minors to be present in all recreation and sporting facilities, stadiums, theatres, etc.
- standardize the terms and conditions that apply when minors are present in liquor primary establishments

2. Other Issues:

- Some restaurants would like the ability to prohibit minors because children disturb other patrons’ dining experience.
- Drinking at outdoor festivals must be done in 19+ beer gardens, rather than patrons being able to walk around the festival with liquor. A pilot project allowing ‘site-licensing’ is currently underway. – see Tab 5
- Minors may be employed as servers or other employees at food primary establishments (e.g. as dishwashers), but not at liquor primary establishments.
- All-ages events (alternate use) – see Tab 3

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Restricting all ages events in Liquor Primary (LP) establishments

Background:

As of January 15, 2013 LCLB policy restricts the number of times a year (4-6) that an LP may apply to host an all ages event in the licensed premise. Further to this, even upon application, an LP may not conduct the same type of business as they are licensed for but with all ages present (e.g. bands or DJ's). Prior to these changes LP's could host all ages events as long as no liquor was available and the liquor on premises was securely stored. The change was partially driven by Branch workload issues as licensees must apply to the branch to host an all ages event and the amount of requests to do so was rising significantly. The other rationale for the change was public safety concerns that some minors may have been consuming liquor prior to entering the venues and causing a disturbance inside putting themselves and others at risk. There was also concern about minors becoming familiarized with nightclubs and similar facilities at a young age.

Current issue: Loss of all ages venues

Several live music organizations and advocates have indicated that this restriction seriously reduces the number of venues where smaller all-ages shows can be held. Advocates of all ages music venues state this change negatively impacts the music and cultural experiences of youth and reduces the amount and type of activities available to them to participate in. This impact is likely magnified in smaller communities where there are fewer venues. Research shows that youth who are offered numerous meaningful ways to participate in the arts spend more time doing so and less time engaging in risky behaviours. Towns and regions with fewer entertainment/engagement options for youth tend to have higher rates of youth alcohol and substance use and earlier ages of initiation.

Some parents and schools in some regions in the province have complained that these gatherings have been problematic in their communities as some minors choose to consume alcohol prior or during the show (outside). Maintaining these restrictions will reduce these gathering places and events. This may then either reduce consumption by minors, or drive those who choose to drink to other locations (e.g. bush parties).

Eliminating the restrictions encourages flexibility by creating opportunities to support supervised all ages venues that provide a place for new or independent musicians/bands to perform that is both community-oriented and affordable. Permitting different types of usage for LP establishments may also diversify the type of entertainment available in smaller towns by attracting more performers and allowing the local marketplace and the characteristics of the community to determine what types of venues meet their needs.

Section 4

Licensing Process

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Licensing process and the role of local government

Background:

It takes approximately 4-6 weeks to receive a food primary (restaurant) licence.

It takes approximately 7-12 months to receive a liquor primary (bar/nightclub) licence.

Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the criteria for the licence type – for example, video-arcades cannot obtain a liquor primary licence, and take-out only restaurants do not qualify for a food-primary licence. Applicants must own their business and own or lease the premises.

All applicants undergo an eligibility assessment. The branch reviews factors such as age and residency requirements and whether an applicant has an association with a liquor manufacturer or agent that may lead to its products being favoured. The branch also conducts a criminal record check and reviews the applicant's compliance history if they have held or been involved with other liquor licences.

Certain types of licence applications require local government consultation in order to assess community standards and determine whether it is in the public interest to issue the licence. Local government consultation is required for liquor primary licences, manufacturer lounges and special event areas, and food primary establishments that are open after midnight or have patron participation entertainment (e.g. dancing). The local government is responsible for carrying out public consultation. Local governments have 90 days to provide a resolution, and can request an extension.

For further information on the licensing process, see appendix 1.

Other Jurisdictions:

BC is the only Canadian jurisdiction that has the local government carry-out public consultations, and is the only jurisdiction that prescribes what criteria local governments must comment on. BC has the longest time frame for licensing bars/nightclubs.

See appendix 2 for details about the licensing process in other jurisdictions.

Current issues:

1. The application process for liquor primary establishments takes too long

The current process takes 7 - 12 months for an applicant to obtain a liquor primary licence. Most Canadian jurisdictions licence bars in 1.5 - 3 months. In some cases, jurisdictions require the applicant to obtain local government approval and public input prior to submitting their application to the liquor authority, which shortens the licensing time considerably.

This delay creates a financial barrier to entry for applicants, because they must own or lease the location in order for their application to be processed.

Some of the delay is due to the local government consultation process. Local governments have 90 days to provide a council resolution, and may request an extension. The City of Vancouver often requests extensions.

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The Act and regulations have very specific criteria that local governments must comment on, as well as specific requirements for conducting public consultation. If these are not done correctly, the branch is obligated to request additional information or carry out the consultation itself.

As well, construction of the establishment is usually delayed until the floor plans are approved, so that the applicant does not need to carry out alterations if changes to the plans are required. The branch does not approve floor plans until after the local government consultation is complete.

Existing licensees are unlikely to raise the length of time it takes to obtain a licence, because the long licensing process reduces competition from new entrants.

Potential Opportunities:

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2. Applicants apply for a food primary licence but operate the establishment as a liquor primary establishment.

Restaurants are expected to primarily serve food during all hours of operation, and minors are permitted. However, some restaurants operate more like pubs, especially later in the evening: patrons are there primarily to drink and to enjoy entertainment.

Applicants obtain food primary licences because the applicant fee is cheaper (\$475 vs. \$2200), the process is faster, and local government or public consultation is typically not required (unless the hours are past midnight, or patron participation entertainment is requested). If consultation is required, local governments may charge fees to applicants.

Restaurants are not required to consult with local government because their operation is unlikely to disturb residents. However, when the focus shifts to liquor service rather than food service, there is a higher likelihood of community disturbance. If these establishments obtain a food primary licence, the local government is denied the opportunity to comment on the potential impact to local residents.

Existing liquor primary licensees complain that food primary establishments that operate out of class have an unfair competitive advantage, because they did not have to make the same initial investment (application cost, time, local government consultation), and do not have restrictions on minors.

Potential Opportunities:

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Appendix 1 – Licensing Process

Prior to issuing a liquor licence, the branch assesses the suitability of the applicant and the proposed establishment, and in some cases, considers community impact.

The general manager considers the public interest when issuing a licence. “Public interest” has two elements: public safety and regard for community standards. Public safety issues include concerns about service to minors, over-consumption, over-service and illicit liquor. Regard for community standards encompasses issues related to the impact of a liquor establishment on the local community including effects on other nearby businesses and public institutions, and the preferences of local residents regarding the presence of liquor establishments in their neighbourhood.

The branch is responsible for establishing and maintaining a province wide liquor control policy that addresses issues from a provincial perspective. Local governments and First Nations are responsible for addressing issues at the local or community level and often regulate areas such as noise, parking and fire safety surrounding licensed establishments. As they address issues at the local level, local governments and First Nations are able to understand the potential impact of a licensed establishment on a community. The local government or First Nation resolution provides the branch with the information necessary to complete its assessment of an application.

The Act requires the branch to notify and provide opportunity for local government and First Nations input on certain types of new licences, manufacturer licence endorsements and some changes to existing licences.

If a local government or first nation does not support an application, the general manager must deny the application. If the local government or first nation supports an application, the general manager may issue the licence.

For those licences that do not require local government or First Nation input, a local government or First Nation may restrict the locations of licensed establishments by adopting zoning bylaws which do not allow for that type of business in a particular location. The zoning bylaws deal with the community standards aspect of the public interest, and the general manager only considers the public interest in relation to public safety concerns.

When local government notification and opportunity for input is required

LCLB must notify and provide an opportunity for comments and recommendations into the licensing process for the following applications:

New licences:

- all new liquor primary applications
- all new liquor primary club applications

Amendments to a licence:

- liquor primary relocation where site and community assessment factors are impacted; (where not impacted, local government and First Nations input is still required in the form of objection/no objection);
- liquor primary licence applications for an extension of the hours of liquor service (earlier or later);
- an increase in the person capacity of a liquor primary;
- the addition of a patio to a liquor primary;
- food primary patron participation entertainment (e.g. dine and dance or karaoke);

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- food primary liquor service past midnight;
- manufacturer lounge and special event area endorsements;
- an increase in the size of a manufacturer special event area;
- an increase in the person capacity of a manufacturer lounge; and
- a live event theatre with a liquor primary licence applying for liquor service at films and broadcasts (input is required in the form of objection/no objection).

Notification and opportunity for input is not required for basic food primary licence applications, catering licence, catering endorsement, winery, brewery, distillery, U-Vin or U-Brew applications.

Resolution Criteria

The local government or First Nation must provide a resolution to the branch within 90 days (unless an extension has been granted) after receiving notification. The local government or First Nation must provide a resolution that includes:

- comments on each point in the regulatory criteria;
- indication of whether or not the views of residents were gathered (and why, if not gathered);
- the views of residents, if they were gathered;
- the method used to gather the views of residents;
- comments and recommendations with respect to the views of residents;
- recommendations as to whether the application should be approved; and
- the reasons for its recommendations.

The regulations list the regulatory criteria that the local government or First Nation must comment on. The branch uses this information to make a complete assessment of an application.

Liquor primary applications

- the location of the establishment;
- the proximity of the establishment to other social or recreational facilities and public buildings;
- the person capacity and hours of liquor service of the establishment;
- the number and market focus or clientele of liquor primary establishments within a reasonable distance of the proposed location;
- the impact of noise on the community in the immediate vicinity of the establishment; and
- the impact on the community if the application is approved.

Manufacturer lounge and special event area endorsements

- the location of the lounge and/or special event area;
- the proximity of the lounge or special event area to other social or recreational facilities and public buildings;
- in the case of a lounge, the person capacity of that lounge;
- hours of liquor service of the lounge or special event area;
- the impact of noise on the community in the immediate vicinity of the establishment; and
- the impact on the community if the application is approved.

Licence amendments

- the potential for noise if the application is approved; and
- the impact on the community if the application is approved.

Licence amendments for food primaries (extension of hours and patron participation entertainment)

- the potential for noise;

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- the impact on the community; and
- if the amendment may result in the establishment being operated in a manner that is contrary to its primary purpose (i.e. if the focus would shift from the service of food to the service of liquor).

Licensing Process

Application review

The branch checks that the application is complete, and assesses whether the proposed establishment meets the requirements for the type of licence applied for.

Applicant eligibility

The branch assesses whether the applicant is eligible to hold a liquor licence. This includes an assessment of factors such as age and residency requirements and whether an applicant has an association with a liquor manufacturer or agent that may lead to its products being favoured.

The branch also conducts a criminal record check and reviews the applicant's compliance history if they have held or been involved with other liquor licences. The branch may consider any driving infractions involving alcohol, involvement or association with organized crime groups, assess whether funding sources are legitimate, and determine whether the applicant is of good reputation and character.

Local government consultation

Only some food primary establishments require local government comment. The local government consultation process for food primary establishments is less detailed than the process for liquor primary establishments.

Liquor primary establishments:

[Note: manufacturer lounges and special events areas also follow this process]

- The branch conducts a site visit to verify information on the location and surrounding establishments provided by the applicant and to identify any potential issues with the proposed establishment.
- The branch prepares a summary report to send to local government.
- Where residents may be impacted by a proposed establishment, the local government or First Nation collects the views of residents. The local government or First Nation reviews the regulatory criteria and provides a resolution to the branch recommending whether the licence should be issued. The local government or First Nation may also request in writing an extension to the 90 day prescribed timeframe in providing a resolution.
- The branch reviews the resolution to make sure it is consistent with the regulation and is not contrary to the public interest. If the local government or First Nation has provided the general manager with a letter indicating they do not wish to provide input, the branch reviews the regulatory criteria and gathers the views of residents.
- The branch considers the entire application, including any resolution received from the local government or First Nation, and decides whether issuing a licence would be contrary to the public interest.

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Food primary establishments (if applicable):

- If the applicant has requested hours after midnight or patron participation entertainment, the applicant must ask the local government or first nation to provide a resolution.
- Where residents may be impacted by a proposed establishment, the local government or First Nation collects the views of residents. The local government or First Nation reviews the regulatory criteria and provides a resolution to the branch recommending whether the licence should be issued. The local government or First Nation may request in writing an extension to the 90 day prescribed timeframe in providing a resolution.
- The branch reviews the resolution to make sure it is consistent with the regulation and is not contrary to the public interest. If the local government or First Nation has provided the general manager with a letter indicating they do not wish to provide input, the branch reviews the regulatory criteria and gathers the views of residents.
- The branch considers the entire application, including any resolution received from the local government or First Nation, and decides whether issuing a licence would be contrary to the public interest.

Building assessment

For food primary establishments this is done as part of the initial application review. For liquor primary establishments, this is done after the site and community assessment is complete.

The branch reviews floor plans submitted by the applicant and determines whether they comply with policy. The plans must be stamped with an occupancy load and the occupant load indicated on the plans must be equal to, or less than, the requested person capacity of the licence.

Final inspection

Once construction is complete, the applicant attends an information session and a liquor inspector visits the site to confirm that the premises complies with requirements and that information presented in the application is a true representation of the business.

If the results of the final inspection are satisfactory, the branch grants a liquor licence.

Appendix 2 – Comparison of Canadian Jurisdictions

Province	Application timeframe	Notice	Public Consultation	Local government Consultation	Other local government options	Hearing
BC	Restaurants: 4-6 weeks bars/clubs: 7-12 months	Restaurants: none. Bars/Clubs: Local government determines process.	Local government determines process (if applicable).	Restaurants: only required for hours after midnight and patron-participation entertainment. Bars/clubs: have 90 days to provide a resolution on prescribed criteria.	Zoning, by-laws, business licence.	Local government may hold a public hearing. Branch does not hold licensing hearings.
Alberta	6-8 weeks	Notice posted on ALGC website.	Anyone may comment. Objections must be received within 21 days from date of posting.	None. Municipal business licence or written approval from municipality required as part of application.	By-laws.	Board is consulted if there are objections. Applicant may request a hearing if the application is rejected.
Sask.	Most within 60 days	Must advertise in paper once/wk for two weeks. Must post notice at the site if no establishment has been there for 60 days.	Anyone may comment. Public may object within 2 wks of the last published date.	Notice given if there has been no establishment in community for 1 year, because municipalities may prohibit sale of liquor. For restaurants that want to operate as bar at night, council resolution required.	Zoning, business licenses, by-laws prohibiting the sale of liquor in the municipality	If an objection is raised, Commission may hold a hearing.
Manitoba	6-8 wks	In newspaper, and posted at the site	Anyone may comment. Reasonable	May be required to obtain statement that	zoning	Board reviews applications. If objections,

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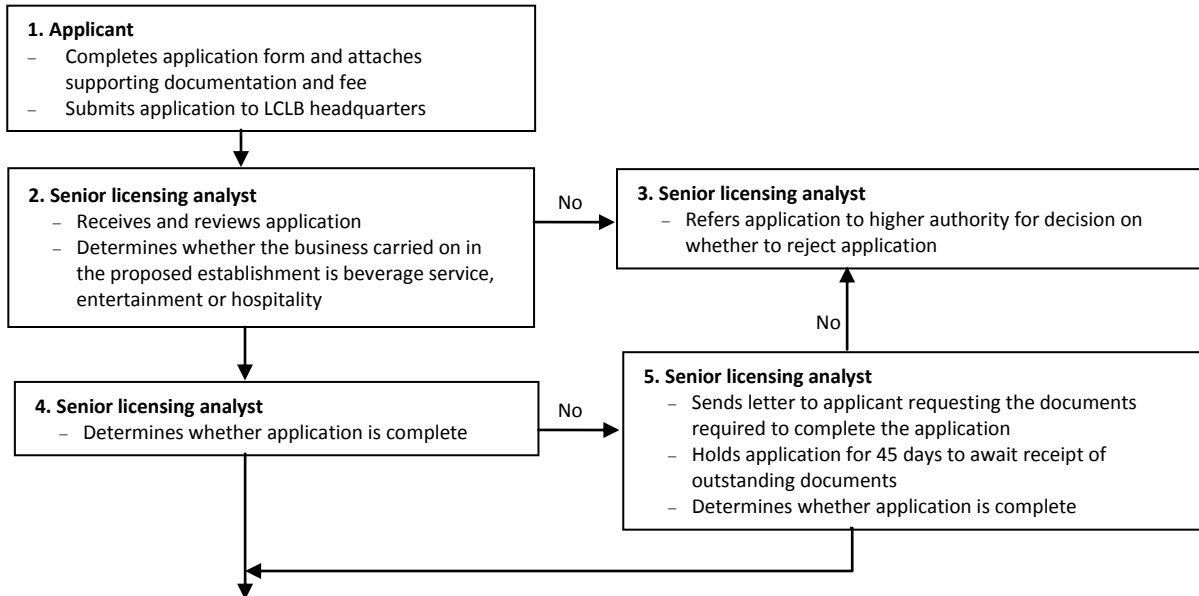
Province	Application timeframe	Notice	Public Consultation	Local government Consultation	Other local government options	Hearing
			amount of time to comment.	conforms to fire, health, building or zoning requirements of the municipality		applicant and objector may attend hearing. If no objections, board may consider application without a hearing.
Ontario	8-12 wks, longer if objections raised.	AGCO advertises in local English and French papers. Must post notice at site as well.	Residents of municipality may object. Consultation is conducted for 7 or 30 days, depending on proximity to schools, places of worship or areas of concern.	Municipality is sent notice. Have 30 days to identify zoning concerns, by-law non-compliance, or general objections regarding public interest.	By-laws, zoning, municipal codes (health and food safety), business licences. May declare municipality to be "dry" or "damp".	If objections unresolved, AGCO will schedule conference call. If still unresolved, public hearing before Tribunal.
Quebec	Restaurant: 67 days Bar: 82 days	Regie advertises in local newspaper.	Anyone may comment. Have 30 days to file objection.	Regie notifies municipality and police. Have 30 days to comment.	zoning	Board will hold meeting if objections are submitted; applicant, objectors given notice.
Nova Scotia	Restaurant: 1-2 days Bars 8-12 days.	Bars: depends on circumstances. Usually place 1 day add in paper. May require notice posted at site for 5 days.	Public consultation only necessary for bars. Have 5 business days to file objection. Only consider comments from those nearby who may be affected by noise/patrons exiting.	No formal notification. Zoning confirmation letter is required (all licences).	By-laws, zoning, development agreements.	

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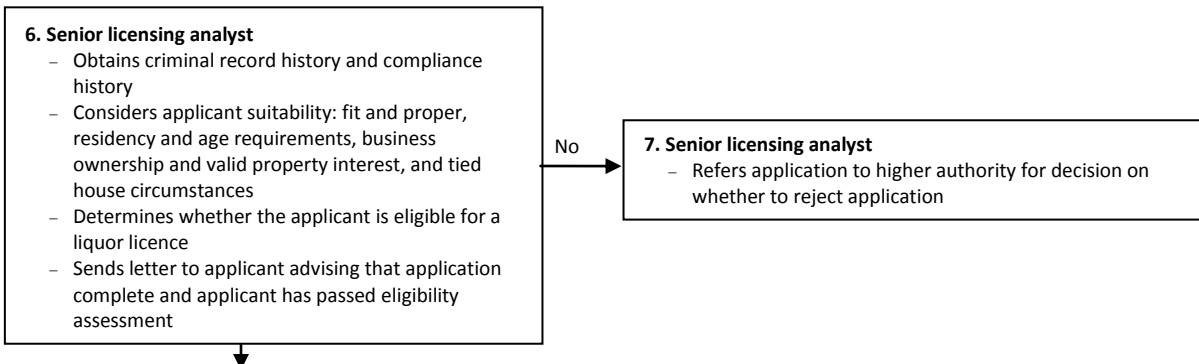
Province	Application timeframe	Notice	Public Consultation	Local government Consultation	Other local government options	Hearing
PEI	1-2 days. (does not include consultation process)	Up to the local government. If no local government, then applicant must poll property owners in area.	Up to the local government. If no local government, then applicant must poll property owners in area.	Applicant must submit written support from the community.	By-laws regarding hours, and zoning pertaining to the operation of such an establishment.	
Nfld.	7-14 days (does not include consultation process)	Advertise in newspaper for 3 consecutive weeks. Place notices in 3 prominent locations in community for 3 weeks.	Anyone may comment. Objections may be submitted for the duration of the application process (min. 3 weeks).	Applicant must submit written Municipal approval.	By-laws.	Hearings must be advertised 2-4 weeks prior to hearing date
Yukon	6-8 weeks	Advertise in newspaper for 3 consecutive Fridays.	Anyone may comment. Must submit objection within 5 days of the last date of publication.	Must have approval of business licence with liquor service, building code, health and fire.	Zoning and business licence.	If objection filed, board will have hearing at least 10 days after last date of publication. Objectors may attend hearing.
NWT	6 weeks. If objections received, it adds 2 months to timeline.	2 notices in local paper, at least 6 days apart and at least 21 days prior to board hearing date. Board may waive this requirement for restaurants.	Anyone who resides in the community may comment. Must submit objection within 2 weeks of the last notice.	Applicant must send letter to community government. The community government has 21 days to reply to the notice.	Business licence may have restrictions.	Board reviews applications. If there are objections, a public hearing is held.

LIQUOR PRIMARY LICENCE APPROVAL PROCESS

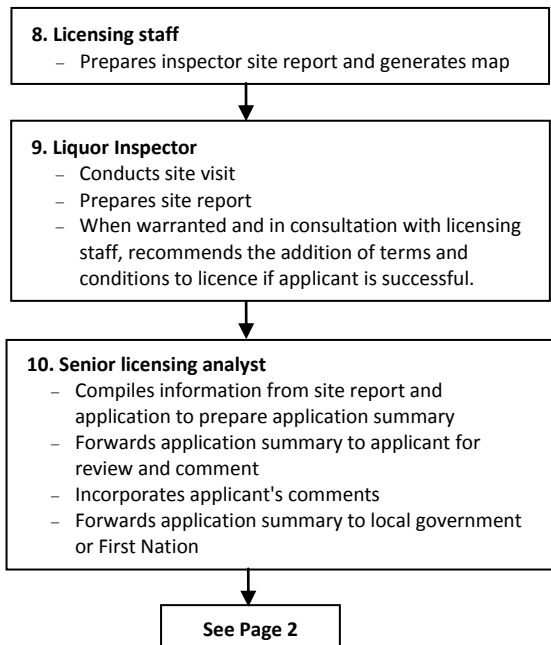
Stage one: Application for a new licence

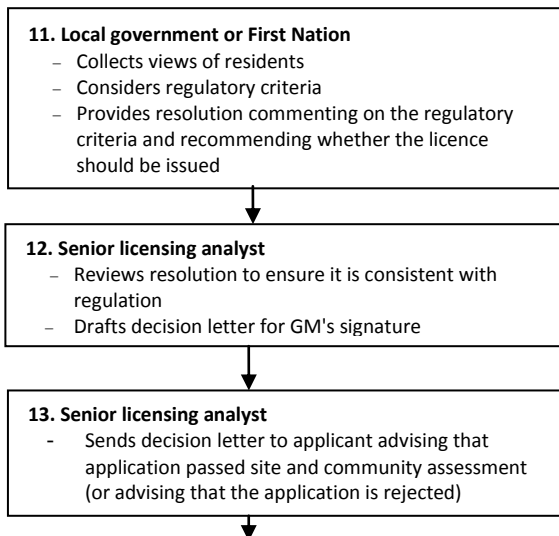


Stage two: Applicant eligibility assessment

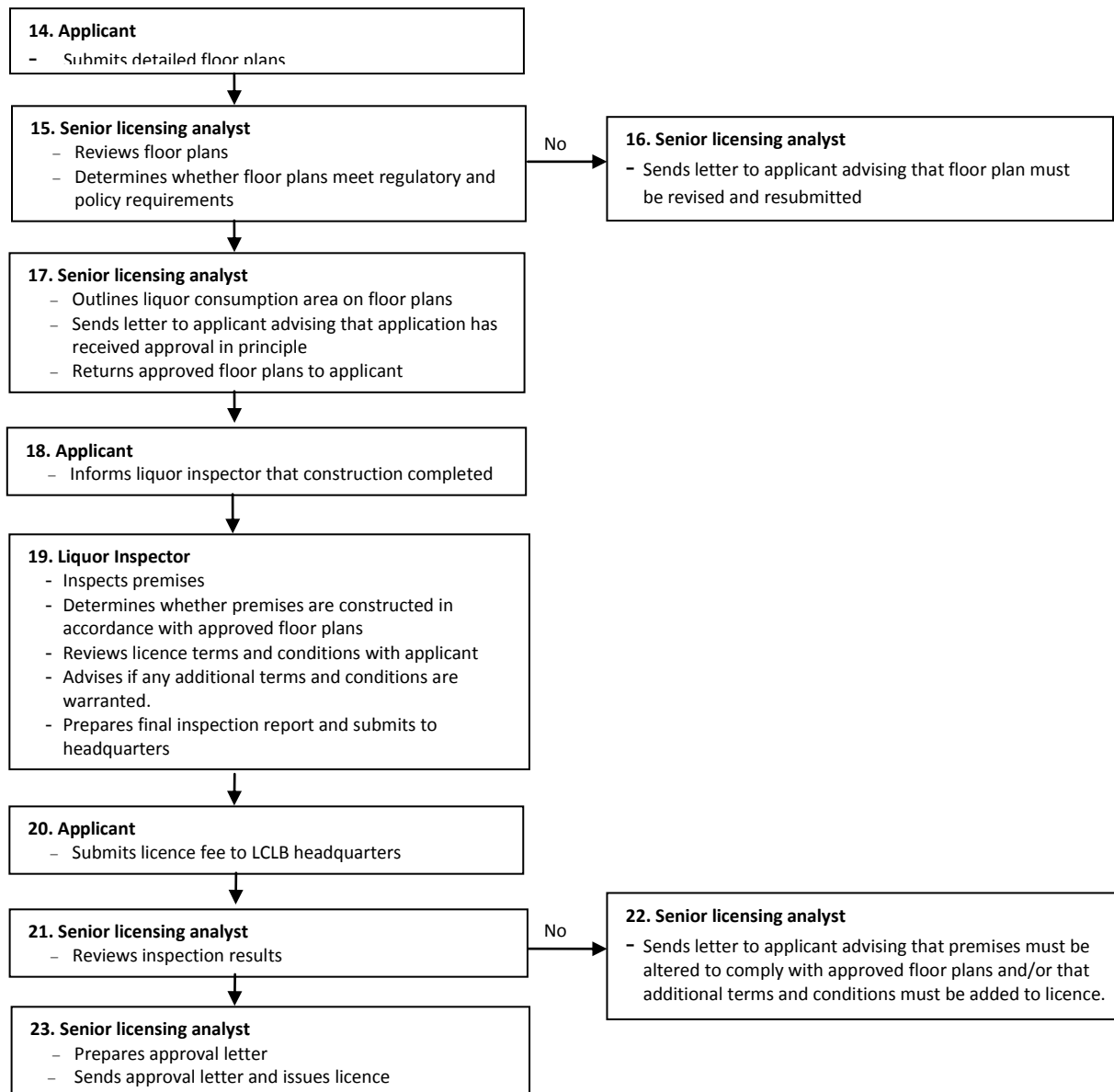


Stage three: Site and community assessment



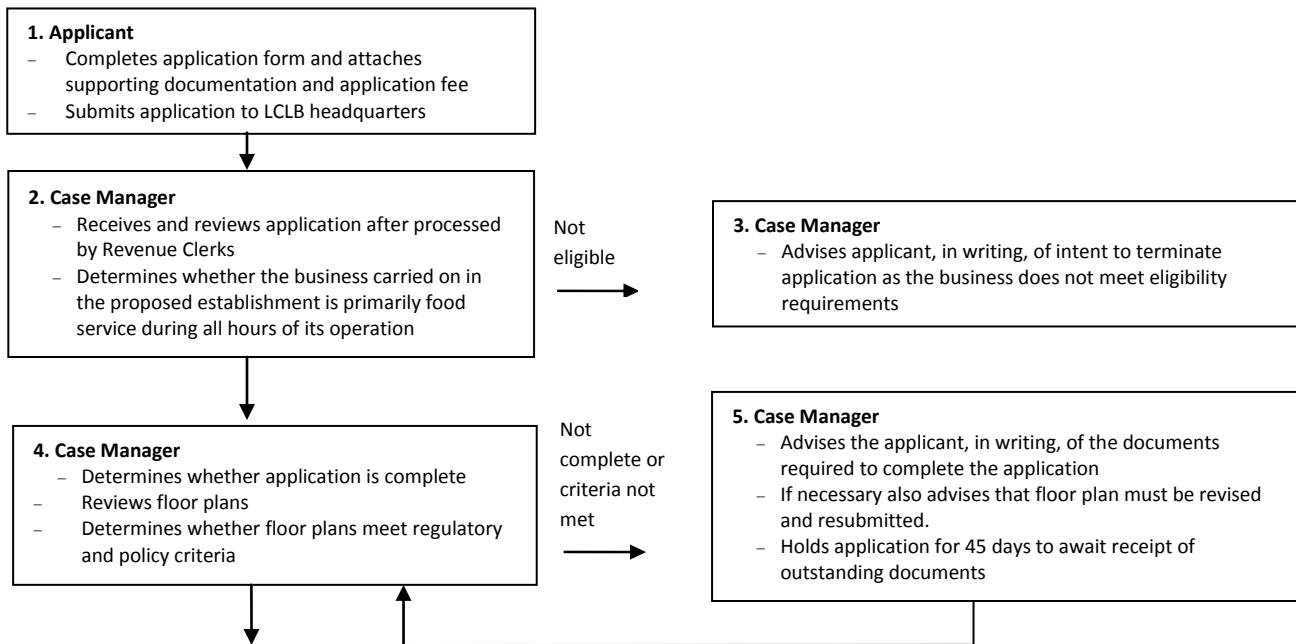


Stage four: Building assessment and issue of a licence

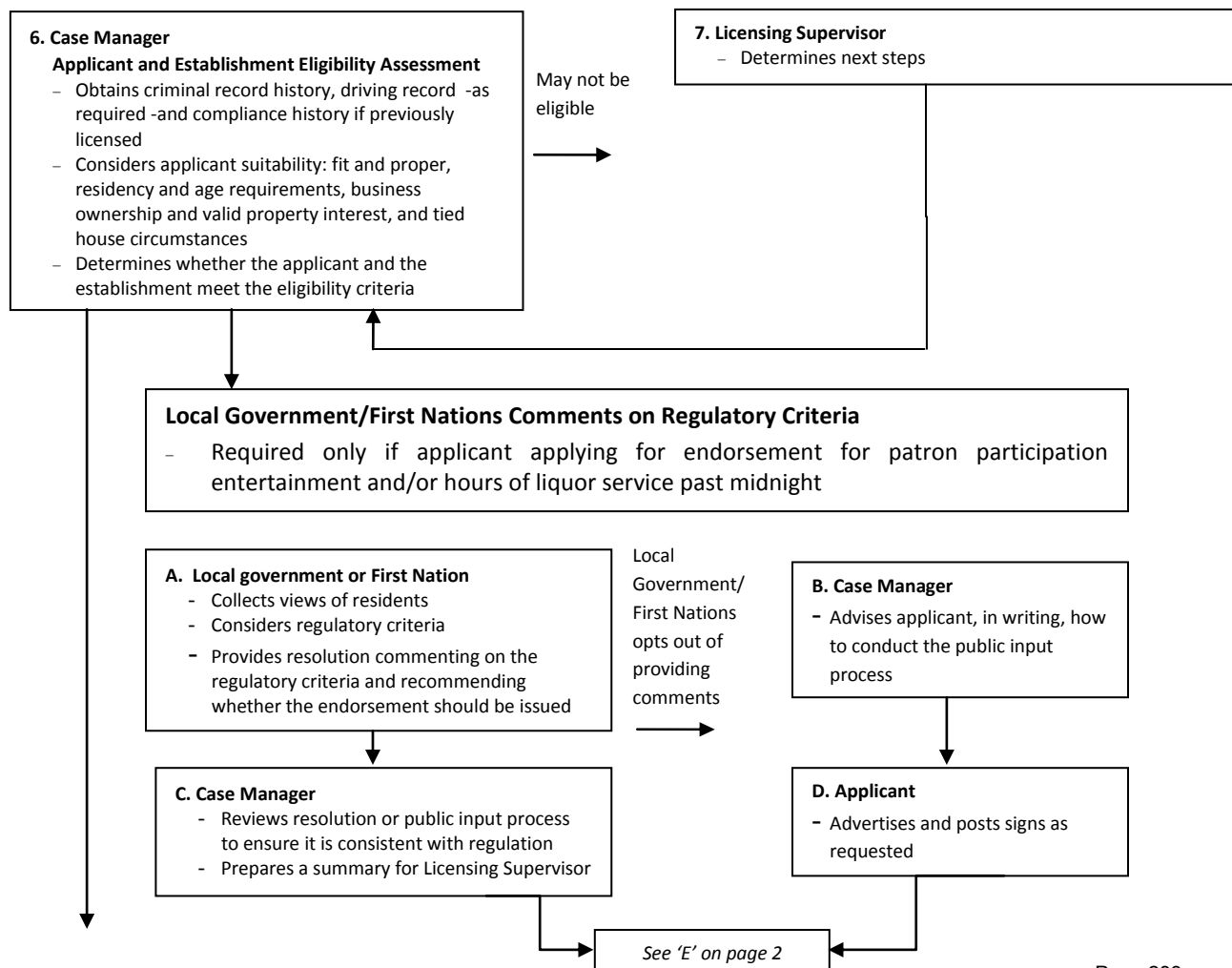


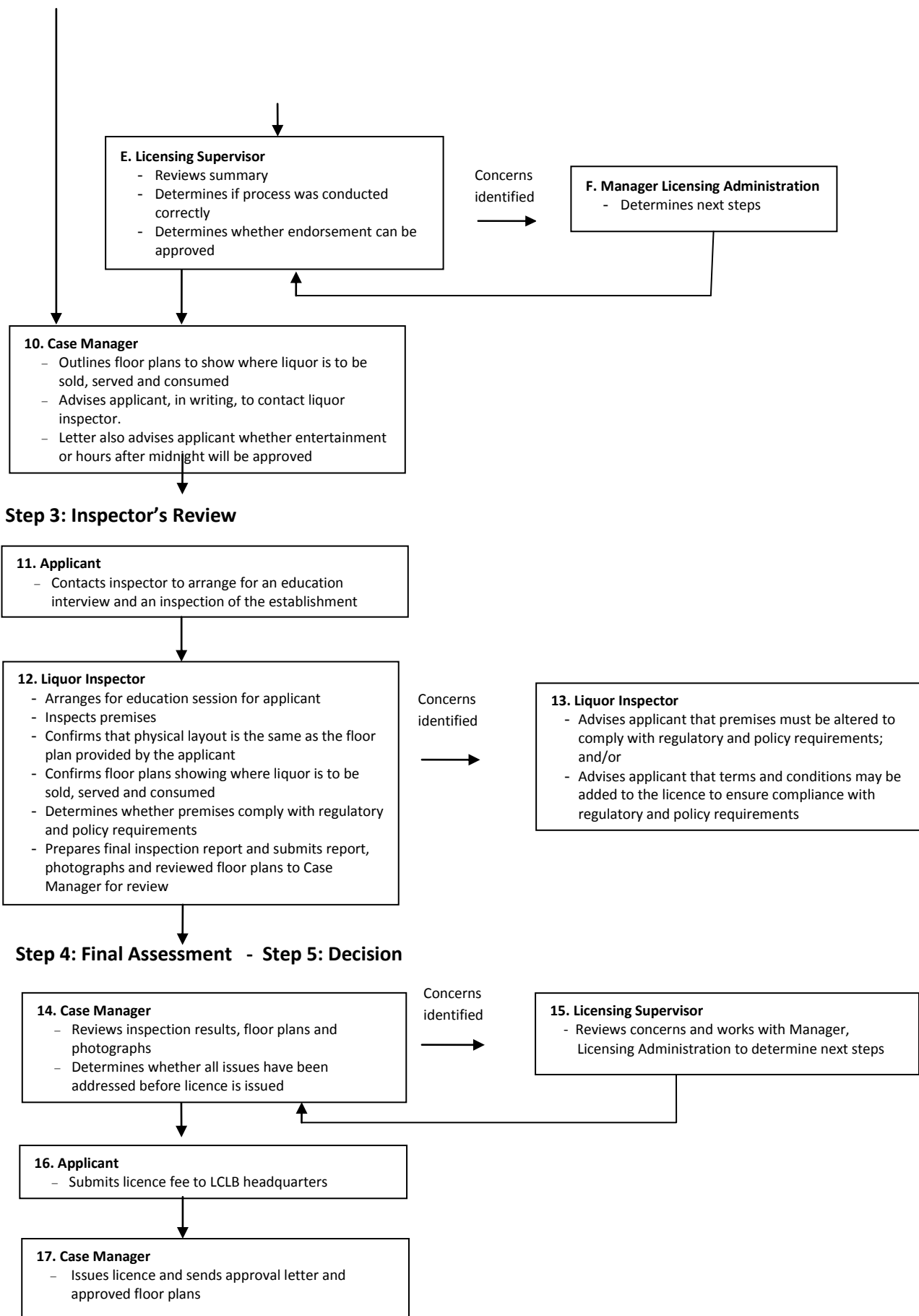
FOOD PRIMARY LICENCE APPROVAL PROCESS

Step 1: Application for a new licence



Step 2: Administrative Review – Applicant and Establishment Eligibility Assessment





Section 5

Special Occasion Licences (SOLs)

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Special Occasion Licences – Business Eligibility

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is responsible for the Special Occasion Licence Program which issues over 25,000 Special Occasion Licences each year to allow liquor service at a wide range of events including small weddings, club meetings, church banquets, sports tournaments, large music festivals, etc. The licences are issued through local LDB government liquor stores (SOLs are not issued by private stores).

SOLs are issued for three types of events: family events, private events (invitation only) and public events (open to the general public). Only individuals are eligible to obtain family event SOLs and only non-profit clubs, societies or groups are eligible to obtain private event or public event SOLs. For-profit businesses are not eligible except under the following circumstances:

- if the business is a liquor manufacturer and the event is a tasting of its products and there is no charge for the liquor; or
- or if the SOL is issued to a business for staff parties or invitation-only customer appreciation and opening night events (fashion show, art gallery, etc.) and there is no charge for the liquor.

The restriction on businesses reflects the non-profit intent of the program and the desire to not have private promoters putting on regular events that compete with permanent licensees. There is also concern that events offered by private promoters for their own gain would occur more routinely in a specific location that is otherwise unlicensed, with adverse impacts on a community that did not have input into whether the location should be licensed, e.g. late night dances every weekend at a community hall.

Current issues:

1. General business use of SOLs

An analysis done two years ago showed that more SOLs were being issued to for-profit businesses than contemplated by the Act, i.e., for events other than the exceptions identified above. SOLs were being obtained for events such as fundraising, sporting events, meetings, musical events, conferences, etc. Effort has been undertaken to bring the licensing of events into alignment with the Act, resulting in many businesses which were previously issued SOLs no longer able to obtain them. During consultations, these businesses may raise the question of whether or not businesses should be able to obtain SOLs in British Columbia for private and public events.

Other jurisdictions:

Alberta restricts business use of their *Special Event Licence* to events at major entertainment venues, food fairs, theatre presentations and auctions of liquor products. Saskatchewan recently amended their legislation to allow businesses to obtain up to six *Special Occasion Permits* annually with respect to special events of any size. Prior to this business use was restricted to staff parties and gallery openings. Manitoba restricts business use to business meetings and grand openings. Ontario restricts business use

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of *Special Occasion Permits* to large events of “municipal, provincial, national or international significance”.

2. Large festival / major event SOL licensing

As mentioned above, businesses are not eligible for SOLs for large festivals or other major events. Only non-profit organizations are able to obtain an SOL for this type of event. This means that a business wishing to hold a large event (e.g., a rock concert, major sporting event, etc.) and provide liquor service is required to find a non-profit organization to obtain the SOL and assume the responsibility for the liquor service as the licensee. While the non-profit organization is the licensee on paper, in many cases it is the event organizer who is actually providing the liquor service. Requiring an event organizer to shop around for a non-profit organization to obtain the SOL has been identified as a unnecessary administrative burden and the issue may be raised during consultations by members of that industry.

Other jurisdictions:

Alberta allows businesses to obtain a public resale *Special Event Licence* for events at major entertainment venues, food fairs, theatre presentations and auctions of liquor products. Saskatchewan recently amended their legislation to allow businesses to obtain up to six *Special Occasion Permits* annually with respect to special events of any size. Manitoba does not allow businesses to obtain an *Occasional Permit* for large events. Ontario allows business use of *Special Occasion Permits* with respect to large events of “municipal, provincial, national or international significance”. Allowing for-profit businesses to obtain SOLs for major events aligns with the policy review’s guiding principles and may provide opportunities for business.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Special Occasion Licences – Police Involvement in the Approval Process

Background:

Of the Special Occasion Licences issued each year just over one half of applicants are required to obtain police approval before the SOL can be issued. Typically this means that the applicant takes the SOL application form to the police station where it is reviewed and approved. On occasion the application is left there for review and the applicant must return at a later date to pick it up. The applicant returns to the government liquor store for final approval and the issuance of the SOL.

Current issue: Police involvement in small, lower-risk SOL events

For larger events, police involvement is in the public interest; the police can impose terms and conditions which may reduce the risk of harm and knowing about the event allows the police to ensure they have sufficient resources available to respond to any problems which may arise. However, for a variety of reasons, police in some areas of the province are reviewing all SOL applications, even those for small family or private events where the risk of harm is very low. It is arguable that requiring hosts of small, lower risk events to obtain police approval is poor customer service and inefficient use of police resources.

The LCLB is currently looking at ways to reduce police involvement in the SOL approval process for small, lower-risk events. Reducing police involvement in small, lower-risk events aligns with the policy review's guiding principles and provides an opportunity for improving customer service and the efficient use of police resources.

Only a few provinces involve the police in their approval processes and at a much lower level of involvement. Police involvement in the SOL process may be raised by SOL applicants during the consultation process..

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Multiple day/site licensing and recurring events for Special Occasion Licence Events

Background:

The legislation requires the LCLB General Manager to determine how frequently a Special Occasion Licence (SOL) may be issued. Supporting policies limit applicants to up to two events per month, one weekend per month¹, or 24 events per year to reflect the legislative intent of the licence to be for special occasions. Applicants may request additional licences from LCLB as an exemption to policy. The application process requires an individual application for each licensed site. This ensures that the area police authority or local government is involved in accordance with the legislation and appropriate community resource management to ensure safe and responsible licensed events.

Special Occasion Licence fees are established in regulation (\$25 for private and \$100 for public events) and calculated based on number of days at one site. LCLB provides licence fee reductions for events operating over several days where liquor service is limited in duration and when it is in the public interest, such as for theatre productions or single sports games.

Contiguous sites generally require only a single SOL, even if there are several individual licensed areas on one property. Separate SOLs are required for sites at separate properties or communities, even if part of the same larger event (eg., marathon).

Other jurisdictions:

Other provinces generally require a separate licence application for each site, regardless of the duration of the event, and do not provide weekly fees. Two provinces allow annual licensing for certain kinds of temporary or special events but annual licensing in either province is not permitted for large public events or festivals. Manitoba issues a card which may be presented at a government liquor store to obtain a licence and cardholding organizations may host up to 12 licenses per year under a single application. Saskatchewan issues annual special event licenses for weekly gatherings at the same location. These annual licences are primarily intended for service clubs and fraternal organizations.

Current Issues:

1. Applicants want a more flexible, convenient approval process

Large, multi-site festival organizers are required to fill out a separate application form for each location, with negative impacts on applicant customer satisfaction. Applications are then reviewed by approving authorities in the municipality where the event is occurring. This ensures that local police and municipal officials are satisfied with the application. Applicants living in a different part of the province are not always able to visit local police or government agencies to obtain necessary approvals. Some police and local governments will accept a faxed application form or provide a letter of support. Police and local government agencies in populated areas generally want to meet the applicant in person before approving a licence.

¹ For the purposes of the policy, a weekend is considered three days (Friday – Sunday) on most weekends, and four days (Thursday – Sunday or Friday – Monday) when a statutory holiday falls on or immediately before/after a weekend.

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The current SOL issuance system is proprietary to LDB and any new system would require major capital investment. Online licence application technologies currently under consideration provide opportunities for applying remotely, fewer form completions and require a single trip to any BC Liquor Store.

2. The application fee for several days across several sites is unreasonable

Several sites' licence fees multiplied over several days could quickly reach hundreds or thousands of dollars in licence application fees. LCLB grants fee reductions for low-risk events where liquor service hours are limited in nature, such as at single sports games or live performances. This is done through a policy exemption application. Reducing fees further would negatively impact LCLB revenues which are directly invested in administering the Special Occasion Licence program and ensuring safe and responsible events.

Other jurisdictions:

BC's \$100 fee for large public events is low compared to other jurisdictions across Canada. Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario charge daily licence fees which range from \$250 to \$1000 per day, per site for similar events. BC's fee for private events is largely consistent with other jurisdictions.

3. Some groups and individuals feel that a 'portable' SOL or annual event permit would be more convenient and effective

Most SOLs are for family or community gatherings, such as weddings and holiday weekends. The most frequent repeat-applicants are most commonly theatre or sports groups who are unwilling or unable to apply for a permanent Liquor Primary liquor licence. In some cases this is because the group does not own or lease a facility while others use SOLs to avoid the cost of permanent licence application.

Festivals and large public gatherings are generally complex and higher-risk, requiring planning and approval conditions specific to a particular event and location.

Allowing a single application for annual events poses fee and revenue calculation challenges as it could reduce LCLB revenues and associated resources to administer and enforce the SOL program. Monitoring and inspecting 'portable' events may be problematic. Determining the frequency and location of unregistered or unauthorized events may be difficult or impossible beforehand, creating the potential for illicit licensed events and diverting police or emergency services resources if an incident occurs.

Recently-introduced licensed commercial catering provides an alternative for hosting licensed special events where food is served. In those cases, event organizers are not required to apply for a licence since liquor service and related administration is provided by the caterer but the caterer is required to notify LCLB and the police of the event.

Other jurisdictions:

Saskatchewan allows annual Special Occasion licences for limited club or membership events. These events are generally low risk in nature and limited in terms of designated location and meeting times. They cannot be used for different locations and are limited to once per week.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Whole site licensing for Special Occasion Licence Events

Background:

The legislation requires Special Occasion Licence (SOL) areas to be enclosed with all means of access supervised to the satisfaction of local police. This is meant to prevent unauthorized access by minors and to prevent the illegal removal of liquor and the subsequent consumption of liquor in an unlicensed public place. Though minors are generally permitted at SOL events, LCLB policy prohibits the presence of minors in beverage gardens (i.e. beer gardens). This prevents access to liquor by minors and prevents minors' access to areas generally considered inappropriate due to their considerable focus on liquor consumption.

LCLB policy limits public Special Occasion Licence eligibility to community festivals, civic celebrations and industry promotional tastings. This is to ensure that SOLs are used for community and charitable purposes. Supporting policy states that liquor service must not be an event's primary focus – rather, that liquor service compliments a larger or broader event. This has led to restricting liquor service at public outdoor events within clearly defined areas commonly known as 'beer- or beverage-gardens'. This distinction is not made in other provinces.

Recognizing that flexible site licensing options and permitting minors to attend licensed community events may be in the public interest; LCLB recently implemented a pilot project for the summer 2013 in a limited number of communities. This pilot will permit liquor service across an entire site for community events.

Other jurisdictions:

All provinces which licence temporary special events require some sort of barrier or definition surrounding a licensed area. Most other provinces do not permit minors in public liquor service areas at temporary licensed events.

Ontario is the leading Canadian jurisdiction in terms of relaxing licensing requirements for community events. These measures include:

- Licensing entire sites at major festivals and community events.
- Allowing minors within those licensed areas.
- Allowing patrons to move between a Special Occasion Permit and licensed establishment while possessing a single drink.

Current issues:

1. Beverage gardens are considered too restrictive and costly

Patrons report feeling 'caged up' in enclosed beverage gardens which is at odds with the intended atmosphere of community events. Patrons want access to an entire festival site while being able to consume liquor.

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LCLB policy definitions on sufficient enclosure have been historically vague, leading to inconsistent application of fencing and barrier policies. Event organizers have expressed concerns regarding unanticipated extra costs when a barrier increase is required by police or LCLB Inspectors after operating without problems. Small event organizers or those in remote communities sometimes cannot afford or locate suitable fencing.

Whole site licensing would potentially decrease fencing costs and direct more money to community causes. Recent media coverage has discussed the possibility of consumption of liquor in public without a licence. This could eliminate the fencing requirement for SOL events.

2. Minors attending public SOL events that are appropriate for young persons

Community festivals are family-friendly and not focussed on liquor consumption. Some families want to be able to attend licensed events and experience a range of food and beverage opportunities together, and minors in the company of adults are not likely to consume alcohol.

Event security and liquor service staff must be trained and are required to ensure responsible liquor service. LCLB now has tools to inspect SOLs for potential liquor service to minors through the Minors as Agents Program, and can recommend penalties or deny future licenses to SOLs found serving liquor to minors.

The current LCLB pilot project contemplates site-wide licensing and dedicated food-and-beverage areas where liquor and non-alcoholic drinks are served. There is a potential to divert business away from restaurants near festivals if site licensing is widely adopted. Businesses near common festival or gathering locations could be considerably impacted.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor and Special Occasion Licensed (SOL) Events

Background:

All types of liquor may be sold or served at private special occasions but spirits (hard liquor) may not be sold at public special occasions (civic celebrations, community festivals or public promotional liquor tastings). Spirits are also prohibited in beverage gardens, i.e. “beer gardens” and ‘Shooter’ drinks of spirits are prohibited from all SOLs.

Liquor sold or served at an SOL event must be purchased from a government liquor store; BC winery, brewery, or distillery; rural agency stores (RAS) that have been authorized; or an independent wine store (for private special occasions where the liquor will not be resold). Homemade or UBrew/UVin liquor cannot be sold or served at any SOLs.

Current issues:

1. Spirits at public SOLs.

In order for a public SOL to serve spirits the licensee must apply to LCLB and pay a \$100 application fee. The application asks for details, such as the overall nature of the event, which determines demographics, energy or excitement level; number of attendees; density of crowd; entertainment or attractions; presence of minors; security plans; layout; date; duration; drink cost and quantities; compliance history and other factors. Spirits exemptions at public events require police and Local Government/First Nation approval. Public events are increasingly requesting approval to sell spirits due to sponsorship or promotional agreements with manufacturers or food and beverage providers.

Safety issues related to spirits at events primarily involve the manner of consumption, rather than the presence of spirits. Rapid consumption of pure spirits can result in quick intoxication.

Spirit-based coolers are not considered spirits and can be served without an application for exemption.

2. UBrew/UVin product not permitted at SOLs.

Member of the public occasionally request to use their own homemade or UBrew/UVin beer or wine, at SOL events such as weddings. This is not permitted under the legislation.

Homemade and UBrew/UVin product is not subject to LDB mark-up or the 10% sales tax on liquor purchased through currently approved channels.

s.13, s.17

s.13, s.17

UBrew/UVin licensees occasionally market their product for weddings and other family events, without indicating to their customers that serving that product at a SOL is not permitted.

3. Private retail liquor stores issue or sell liquor to SOLs.

Private liquor stores (Licensee Retail Stores) sales are retail sales to customers for off-premises consumption. They are not permitted to sell liquor to licensees and licensees may not purchase from them. Many private liquor stores wish to expand their business through selling to SOL holders. Some SOL holders have expressed frustration at not being given the choice of government or private liquor store to buy from.

s.17

s.13, s.17

s.13, s.17

s.13, s.17

Section 6

Public Safety and Compliance

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) program overview

Background:

The goal of the C&E Program is licensee compliance. This is achieved through:

1. education sessions with new licensees;
2. regular inspections of existing licensed premises; and
3. ongoing dialogue with licensees.

If an inspector observes a contravention of the Act, the inspector will generally issue a CN. The inspector may also request the licensee to attend a compliance meeting to resolve an issue without the need for an enforcement hearing. If the situation has been on-going, or represents a threat to public safety, and the inspector believes enforcement action is necessary to bring the licensee into compliance, the inspector will issue a Notice of Enforcement Action (NOEA) and recommend an appropriate penalty. Penalties are laid out in the Schedule 4 of the regulations, which sets out a range of monetary penalties or number of licence suspension days for contraventions of various sections of the Act. The decision whether to propose a monetary or suspension penalty is made after consideration of what would do most to promote voluntary compliance. The branch can also recommend cancelling the licence or imposing additional terms and conditions such as shorter hours.

The licensee can then either accept the penalty and waive the opportunity for a hearing, or request the opportunity for an adjudicated hearing, which is conducted by a hearing delegate who decides on behalf of the general manager. Penalties vary depending on the seriousness of the offence and compliance history of the licensee. Monetary penalties range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and suspensions range from 1 to 60 days.

Since 2005 the C&E program has been using a risk- based approach, targeting inspections on high risk establishments to:

- Prevent under-age drinking (minors);
- Prevent the over-consumption of liquor (intoxication);
- Prevent overcrowding or unsafe conditions in restaurants, bars and pubs;
- Minimize the potentially negative impact of liquor sales on neighbourhoods and communities; and
- Prevent illegal activities.

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Compliance and Enforcement Statistics (fiscal year 2012/13):

	Minors as Agents Program	SOL Inspected Events	Other	Total
Enforcement Inspections	552	88	11,363	12,003
Contraventions Identified	155	17	520	692
Contraventions Pursued	147	10	123	280
Notices of Enforcement Action (NOEA) Issued	140	5	112	257

* a NOEA may include more than one contravention)

Results of the 257 NOEAs issued:

- Licensees agreed to the penalty and signed waivers in **68%** of the cases (176 NOEAs).
- Licensees requested an enforcement hearing in **20%** of the cases (51 NOEAs)*.
- To date 22 cases have concluded and branch allegations were proven **95%** of the time. The remaining 29 cases are pending.
- For completed cases to date (hearings and waivers) this has resulted in **396** days of licence suspension and the payment of **\$951,000** in monetary penalties to General Revenue.

* totals do not add to 100% since not all cases are resolved in the same fiscal year

Top Ten Contraventions Identified (fiscal year 2012/13)

Alleged Contravention	Occurrences
Selling liquor to a minor	141
Permitting an intoxicated person to remain	64
Contravening a term and condition	61
Overcrowding beyond occupant load	27
Allowing liquor to be removed from the establishment	24
Allowing a minor on the premises	22
Operating as a bar when licensed as a restaurant	21
Selling or giving liquor to an intoxicated person	21
Exceeding maximum drink size	17
Making unauthorized structural alterations	15

Top Ten Contraventions Pursued (fiscal year 2012/13)

Alleged Contravention	Occurrences
Selling liquor to a minor	143
Permitting an intoxicated person to remain	26
Overcrowding beyond occupant load	22
Contravening a term and condition	20
Allowing a minor on the premises	13
Selling or giving liquor to an intoxicated person	13

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Allowing liquor to be removed from the establishment	9
Overcrowding beyond person capacity less than or equal to occupant load	5
Fail to take liquor from patrons by time required	6
Consume liquor while working – employees	4

LCLB Trends

Fiscal year	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Liquor inspectors	32	33	33
Enforcement Inspections	9,180	15,478	12,003
Compliance Rate**	95%	96%	96%
Liquor licences **	9,788	9,874	9,899

* Compliance rate does not include MAP inspections

** As of March 31 each year

Current issues:

1. Monetary vs. financial penalties

The Alliance of Beverage Licensees of BC (ABLE) has had a long term concern about the fairness of the penalty schedule in the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation. ABLE's primary concern is that a suspension penalty closes a LP or LRS establishment completely but allows a food primary (FP) to continue operating its non-liquor business (because its primary focus is food service). They have urged that the emphasis be changed so that monetary penalties rather than suspensions become the penalty of choice. They would also support an option for the licensee to choose either a suspension or monetary penalty as allowed in Alberta.

Under the penalty schedule, suspension penalties may be recommended for first, second or subsequent contraventions. Monetary penalties may only be recommended for first contraventions. The current penalty schedule has ranges for both monetary and suspension penalties, and also differentiates between contraventions according to their severity. There are three levels in the current penalty schedule, and 46 contraventions in total. For a first contravention:

- Level 1: 1 – 3 day suspension and/or \$1000 - \$3000 monetary penalty (Level 1 contraventions include employee consuming liquor, server has no Responsible Beverage Service training)
- Level 2: 4 – 7 day suspension and/or a \$5000 - \$7000 monetary penalty (Level 2 contraventions include permitting minors on the premises, operating outside of licensed hours of operation)
- Level 3: 10-15 day suspension and/or a \$7500 - \$10,000 monetary penalty (Level 3 includes providing liquor to a minor, overcrowding, illicit liquor, serving to intoxicated patron, permitting unlawful activities such as drug dealing).

Potential opportunities:

It is expected that many liquor industry stakeholders would support a move to emphasizing monetary penalties, claiming that it will help to protect their staff from temporary layoffs. Depending on the size of the business, the impact of monetary penalties can vary greatly. For large businesses, it can be easily absorbed as a cost of doing business, while the same penalty on a small business may have a financially disastrous impact. Support would be particularly strong for allowing licensees to choose between proposed monetary or suspension penalties for first contraventions. However, the economic impact of liquor licence suspensions as opposed to monetary penalties is different for food primary establishments and their industry associations have not been consulted.

Also, the flexibility of imposing either monetary or suspension penalties has gained favour in provinces which had previously had only suspension penalties. In January, 2009, Ontario amended its liquor act to allow for monetary penalties as 'a bridge between a simple warning and a suspension' and to provide an additional compliance tool to be used before a licence suspension or cancellation. However, the monetary penalty was not deemed suitable for the more serious contraventions such as serving intoxicated patrons, serving to minors or permitting illegal drugs on the premises. For these contraventions, the penalty remains a period of suspension or cancellation of the licence.

2. Penalty levels for certain contraventions (e.g. sale to a minor, intoxication)

There have been increased complaints in past couple of years from ABLE, especially the penalty for sale to a minor, as a result of the "Minors as Agents" program and the increased number of those penalties imposed. Since the branch tends to pursue serious public safety contraventions more aggressively, more of them are acted upon, hence their high profile with licensees.

Potential opportunities:

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Late Night Community Disturbance

Background:

In the past 20-30 years, there has been significant growth in the numbers of community centres which are shopping and commercial centres by day and dominated by licensed establishments by night, and have the following characteristics:

- Late night attractions are dominated by drinking;
- Almost all activity is run by the private sector, with a lack of even the most basic of services (such as public toilets) after 8 p.m;
- extended evening hours for retail stores are mostly limited to tourist areas;
- Movie theatres are by far the most widely available entertainment facilities open late;
- The most popular occasional activity is attending live events;
- Most public facilities such as libraries, museums and art galleries are closed; and
- Busiest times for town centres are Friday and Saturday nights.

Section 20(1)(c.1) of the Act requires a licensee to take reasonable measures to ensure that the operation of their establishment does not disturb the surrounding community. The penalty for contravening this requirement is considered one of the most serious contraventions, and is subject to the most severe penalties in the penalty schedule: a monetary penalty of between \$7,500 and \$10,000 or a 10-15 day suspension for a first contravention, and up to a 60 day suspension for continued offences.

Summary of Research:

Research shows that:

- Aggression is linked to:
 - Clashes between groups emerging from licensed establishments;
 - Ejection of troublesome or aggressive patrons;
 - Officious entry practices;
 - Aggression between staff and patrons who have been ejected;
 - Movement between establishments; and
 - Crowds gathering to watch and sometimes participate in conflicts.
- Entry and ejection practices by door staff are the most direct mechanism by which the licensed establishment exerts its influence on the surrounding area.
- Policy of ejecting troublemakers is based on the mistaken belief of security and door staff that they have no responsibility for what happens away from their front doors.
- The “no responsibility” attitude of staff is moderated a little a closing time, when most encourage patrons to leave quietly.
- Common locations of violent incidents include taxi stands, parking lots, bus stations, food outlets, sporting venues, main pedestrian thoroughfares, and the immediate environs of licensed premises.

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- Outlet density for bars is positively correlated with violence.
- Outlet density for restaurants is negatively correlated with violence.

Current issues:

The domination of youth-oriented, alcohol-related entertainment in specific areas has put pressure on governments to respond. The absence of a single body responsible for managing the space around licensed premises creates a vacuum in terms of who coordinates the activities of all stakeholders.

Since late night community disturbances, by definition, take place outside of licensed establishments, the LCLB and licensees have limited authority to act, and it is often very difficult to identify a particular establishment and their patrons at the root of a problem. It can also be difficult for all parties to agree on acceptable noise levels coming from licensed establishments that operate at night. Consideration must also be given to whether the establishment was already in operation before other businesses or residents moved into the area. Finally, the different licensing process and local government/First Nations input for food and liquor primaries means that restaurants locating in areas where there are a number of licensed establishments do not require local government input, but may be contributing to community disturbance by adding to the overall density of licensed seats and night time population density in a given area.

Several BC communities (e.g. Kelowna, Victoria) have taken steps to mitigate late night community disturbance using various strategies, such as:

- Increased enforcement;
- Voluntary partnerships with stakeholders to promote responsible behaviour;
- Provision of more public transit options (e.g. late night bus service and organized taxi stands); and
- Encouraging a variety of late night events/businesses that are not focussed on liquor service.

Potential opportunities:

The branch has participated in several voluntary accords with stakeholders in various communities around the province and at different times on an as-needed basis, which have been considered successful. A more comprehensive and systematic approach may be helpful to address long-term issues and is likely to be well-received by local governments. Community-based partnerships have been shown to be particularly effective in reducing drinking and driving, alcohol-related traffic fatalities and assaults and have also been shown to be effective in reducing aggression and community disturbances.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Minors as agents (MAP) inspections

Background:

Between 2003 and 2009 government used youthful-looking people of legal drinking age to measure the percentage of times liquor store sales persons requested the requisite two pieces of ID. The overall compliance rates were low (29%) and did not improve over time.

In 2010 government amended the Liquor Control and Licensing Act to provide authority for a minor employed or contracted by the province or police to legally purchase liquor for the purpose of testing licensee compliance with the Act's prohibition on supplying liquor to a minor. The branch ensured that all licensees were aware of the program before it started. In May 2012, LCLB expanded the MAP to inspect restaurants (food primaries) and rural agency stores (RAS).

There are 1,407 liquor retail outlets in the province. There are 195 Government Liquor Stores (GLS) and 672 Liquor Retail Store (LRS). To date, over the two-year life of the program, there have been 180 GLS inspections and 670 LRS inspections. In total, over this same two-year period, including all licence types, there have been 960 Minors as Agents Program inspections. Over the past two years of the program, compliance has risen substantially to 71 per cent.

Appendix 1 shows the breakdown of year two compliance statistics.

Other jurisdictions:

British Columbia is the only jurisdiction in Canada that uses minors to test compliance with age-of-sale laws. A similar program is also used in BC for tobacco age-of-sale laws.

Current issue: Decline in compliance rates in year two of program

Overall compliance rates went from 29% at program inception to 87% in year one and then down to 71% in year two. One of the reasons the overall compliance rate dropped was that the program has expanded to include licence classes that were not previously tested. Also, the compliance rate is likely affected by how food primary targets are identified (i.e. usually complaint driven). In addition, the results for food primaries are early results and they are expected to improve over time, as occurred with liquor retail stores in the first year of the program.

Potential opportunities:

The declining compliance rate across B.C. points to the need for continued vigilance, given the harms that can come from selling liquor to minors.

Appendix 1

**MAP Compliance Statistics
Fiscal Year 2012-2013
Results by Store Type**

2012/ 13	GLS	LRS	Rural Agency Stores (RAS)	SOL	FP	LP	Manu- facturers/ Wineries	Total
Total Inspections	85	326	50	6	71	6	11	555
Sales to a minor	7	90	16	4	36	2	4	159
Non- compliance rate	8 %	28 %	32 %	too small a data set	51 %	too small a data set	too small a data set	29 %
Compliance Rate	92 %	72 %	68 %	too small a data set	49 %	too small a data set	too small a data set	71 % ¹

Compliance Rate by Year and Licence Class

Compliance Rate By Year	GLS	LRS	Rural Agency Stores (RAS)	SOL	FP	LP	Manu- facturers/ Wineries	Avg.
2011/ 12	96 %	84%	too small a data set	no data	no data	no data	too small a data set	87 %
2012/ 13	92 %	72 %	68 %	too small a data set	49 %	too small a data set	too small a data set	71 %

Section 7

Social Responsibility and Public Health

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Health Effects of Alcohol

Background:

- Alcohol is one of the leading causes of disease and disability, and experts have predicted that damage and costs will increase if the status quo persists.¹ It accounts for approximately 10% of the burden of disease globally.
- There were 21,542 hospitalizations and 1,191 deaths in 2011 due to alcohol in BC.²
- The major alcohol-related health conditions that contribute to morbidity and mortality include³:
 - Cancers: head and neck cancers, liver cancer, breast cancer, as well as cancers of the gastrointestinal tract.
 - Neurological and psychiatric conditions: alcohol dependence syndrome, alcohol abuse, depression, anxiety disorder, neuropathies, and organic brain disease.
 - Diabetes: although alcohol can be protective in small amounts, in larger amounts it can increase risk.
 - Cardiovascular conditions: including ischaemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease.
 - Gastrointestinal conditions: alcoholic liver cirrhosis, cholelithiasis, and pancreatitis.
 - Maternal and perinatal conditions: low birth weight, intrauterine growth retardation, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.
 - Acute toxic effects: alcohol poisoning.
 - Injuries: road and other transport injuries, fall, drowning and burning injuries, occupational and machine injuries.
 - Self-inflicted injuries: suicide.
 - Violent deaths: assault injuries.

Alcohol and Health Statistics:

Injuries and Accidents

- At the Royal Jubilee hospital in Victoria, approximately 44% of people attending the emergency room between 9 p.m. and 4 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights reported having consumed alcohol in the 6 hours prior.⁴

¹ Giesbrecht, N., Wettlaufer, A., April, N., Asbridge, M., Cukier, S., Mann, R., McAllister, J., Murie, A., Plamondon, L., Stockwell, T., Thomas, G., Thompson, K., & Vallance, K. (2013). Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

² Centre for Addictions Research of BC. Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring. Accessed on May 29, 2013 at <http://carbc.ca/FactsStats/AODMonitoring/ProjectComponents/tabid/94/agentType/View/PropertyID/111/Default.aspx>.

³ Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

⁴ Centre for Addictions Research of BC. Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring. Accessed on May 29, 2013 at <http://carbc.ca/FactsStats/AODMonitoring/ProjectComponents/tabid/94/agentType/View/PropertyID/71/Default.aspx>.

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- It is estimated that the cost of alcohol poisoning alone, where alcohol poisoning was the primary reason for medical care, resulted in over \$3.1M of direct hospital costs in BC from 2001/02-2010/11.⁵
- Alcohol was a considerable contributor to the rate of cardiovascular disease (42 per 100,000 residents), cancer (60.6 per 100,000 residents) and other medical event (38.1 per 100,000 residents) hospitalizations attributable to substance use in BC in 2011.
- Almost one-third of all fatal motor vehicle accidents and 11% of all police-attended injury collisions in 2007 had alcohol as a contributing factor.⁶
- Between 2005-2009, young men aged 16 to 25 accounted for a third of the men charged with impaired driving. ICBC statistics demonstrate that drinking and driving related injuries peak among 21- to 25-year olds, with young men vastly outnumbering women. A roadside survey done in 2008 demonstrated similar observations, as 78.4% of impaired drivers were young men.⁷

Chronic Diseases

In 2002, alcohol was responsible for 8% of all deaths under the age of 70 and 7% of all hospital days in Canada.⁸

Alcohol use interacts with other risk factors such as tobacco use and unhealthy diets to substantially increase health risks. It contributes to health inequities by having a relatively greater impact on individuals without the social or economic resources to deal with harm from drinking, whether due to their own consumption or drinking by others.⁹

In 2002, the burden on health care and law enforcement services as well as costs associated with the loss of productivity in the home or workplace due to alcohol use amount to approximately 14.6 billion dollars in Canada. In more than half of all provinces, a comparison of direct revenue and costs from alcohol shows an overall deficit.¹⁰

Liver Disease

- Alcoholic liver disease resulted in 284 deaths in BC in 2010, a 71% increase from 2002.¹¹

⁵ BC Injury and Prevention Unit. Injury Data On-line Tool. Accessed on August 29, 2013 from: <http://data.injuryresearch.bc.ca/datatools/DataAnalysis.aspx>.

⁶ ICBC. Traffic Collision Statistics. (2007). Accessed on May 29, 2013 at <http://www.icbc.com/road-safety/safety-research/traffic-coll-stats-2007.pdf>.

⁷ Saewyc E., Rivers R., Creighton G., Drozda C., Roelefsen D., & Oliffe J. (2012). *The State of Boys' and Young Men's Health in British Columbia*. University of British Columbia.

⁸ Giesbrecht, N., Wettlaufer, A., April, N., Asbridge, M., Cukier, S., Mann, R., McAllister, J., Murie, A., Plamondon, L., Stockwell, T., Thomas, G., Thompson, K., & Vallance, K. (2013). *Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies*. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ BC Vital Statistics Agency. Personal Communication from Rosemary Armour May 7, 2013.

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Cancer

- Cancer prevention and risk reduction can be further be achieved through reducing alcohol consumption to within the low-risk drinking guidelines — alcohol is a risk factor for many different cancers and the risk of cancer increases with the amount of alcohol consumed.¹²
- Liver cancer is one of the fastest rising cancers in Canada. In 2013, over 2,000 Canadians are expected to develop primary liver cancer and about 1,000 will die of this disease.¹³
- Approximately half the cases of liver cancer are linked to risk factors such as alcohol-related cirrhosis.¹⁴
- Reducing smoking rates, drinking within the low risk drinking guidelines, and controlling excess weight can help reduce the incidence of liver and other cancers.¹⁵

Alcohol Dependence

- Between 32-42% of all clients seen by health authorities for substance use services report hazardous levels of alcohol consumption and/or alcohol dependence.¹⁶ This amounted to over 13,000 people in BC in 2009/10.

Crime

- In 2002, an estimated 30% of all crimes committed in BC are attributable to alcohol, resulting in a cost of almost \$200 million.¹⁷

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Canadian Cancer Society's Advisory Committee on Cancer Statistics. Canadian Cancer Statistics 2013. Toronto, ON: Canadian Cancer Society; 2013.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project. Addiction Treatment in British Columbia for Fiscal 2009/10. Accessed on May 29, 2013 from http://carbc.ca/Portals/0/AOD/AddictionTreatment/TreatmentReport09_10.pdf.

¹⁷ Kendall, P. (2008). Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy: An updated report from the provincial health officer. Queen's Printer: Victoria.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Social responsibility - Best practices

Background:

Research has the capacity to indicate which social responsibility strategies are likely to succeed, and which are likely to be less effective or even a waste of resources.

In general, the highest rates of lowering incidents of alcohol misuse are coordinated programs with multi-faceted strategies promoting safe, healthy and responsible alcohol use. It is generally accepted that comprehensive approaches work best, which include targeted education, policy and legislation, enforcement and penalties, and modifications to products and the environment. While there are effective strategies that focus on a single aspect of drinking behaviour, the use of multiple strategies to address more than one aspect of drinking behaviour has the potential to be significantly more effective.

Research results overview:

The following sections summarize individual evidence-based social responsibility approaches that have been researched and a summary of the level of empirical evidence for each.

Availability restrictions

Approaches that limit the availability of liquor are some of the most effective ways to manage alcohol-related harm. Physical availability of liquor has been repeatedly shown to be linked to increased overall consumption, which is in turn linked to risky use and increased alcohol-related health and social problems.

Research on public versus private control of liquor retail outlets suggests that under privately controlled retail distribution systems, larger numbers of outlets are found and higher levels of consumption are seen, including underage consumption. These higher levels of consumption are linked to increased alcohol problem rates.

Alcohol Pricing and Taxation

The impact of price changes on alcohol consumption and the harm done by alcohol is the most extensively researched area of alcohol policy, and some of the strongest evidence supports the use of pricing and taxation measures to create disincentives to increasingly risky patterns of consumption.

Alcohol consumption is price sensitive, and some of the heaviest drinkers are the most sensitive to changes in price. Regular heavy drinking is concentrated in the young adult population, and these drinkers tend to be more price sensitive compared to mature drinkers due to lower average incomes and lower prevalence of alcohol dependence. The magnitude of the effect of prices on consumption is dependent on the presence or absence of other alcohol policy measures.

Research also supports decreasing the price of low alcohol content drinks.

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Preventing minors' access to liquor

Early age-of-onset of drinking is a proven predictor of alcohol-related harm. The earlier a person begins drinking, the greater the likelihood that they will experience alcohol-related problems. Early onset drinkers also tend to be binge drinkers and are at higher risk for other anti-social behaviours. There is very strong evidence that increased minimum drinking age laws can have substantial effects on youth drinking and alcohol-related harm, particularly road traffic accidents, often for well after young people reach the legal drinking age.

Compliance checks are considered the most effective method for enforcing age-of-sale laws and decreasing the commercial availability of alcohol to youth. There is also evidence for restricting the sale of products aimed at youth (e.g. pre-mixed cocktails), which are often heavily consumed by young people and can contribute both to heavier drinking and early onset of onset of drinking.

Brief Interventions

In general, the most effective social responsibility strategies have a public education component but are multi-faceted, and individual strategies are generally thought to be less effective. A notable exception to the lack of effectiveness of individually based strategies is the use of brief interventions based in healthcare settings for individuals with existing hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption. Brief advice, which is defined as 1 to 3 sessions of counselling or advice, by a primary care medical practitioner or emergency room staff is highly effective as an intervention. There is extensive evidence that a drinker consulting a medical practitioner about health problems will be receptive to advice to reduce consumption, particularly where the health condition is related to consumption.

Community Mobilization Approaches

These strategies include local education campaigns, restrictions on hours of operation and outlet density and other bylaws reducing access, coupled with enhanced law enforcement. These are generally partnerships between local government, licensees, and police. Community-based prevention programs are particularly effective in reducing drinking and driving and alcohol-related traffic fatalities and assaults and have also been shown to be effective in reducing aggression and community disturbances.

The Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP) program has been widely adopted in about half of all communities in Ontario and is in the process of being adopted in Nova Scotia and BC. MAPs have been shown to be particularly effective in addressing community disturbance problems at community special occasion events by changing public attitudes about acceptable behaviour and minors' access to liquor, though the effects tend to be event-specific and limited to the short term.

Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship

Beverage alcohol is prominent among the many branded consumer goods that young people, in particular, increasingly use as a way of signalling their identity. Modern marketing uses multiple channels and global liquor manufacturers carefully craft advertisements to mirror youth culture and lifestyles. There is consistent evidence that exposure to alcohol advertisements influences consumption levels and the onset of youth drinking.

Live event sponsorship by liquor manufacturers is thought to be a particularly effective strategy for

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increasing sales by providing ready access to favoured target markets, although this is still an area of emerging research. Linking a product with a glamorous event is believed to be an effective way of embedding products in young people's lifestyles. Manufacturers are on the cutting edge of social media marketing strategies and are very aware of the demographic groups attracted to certain live events.

Industry Training

There is evidence for improved knowledge and attitudes following Responsible Beverage Service (RBS) training, such as BC's Serving It Right program, when backed up by enforcement, although this wears off over time. Training tends to decrease bad serving practices and increase "soft" interventions such as slowing service. The training effect is particularly strong when coupled with management training and appropriate house policies. RBS training has not proven effective in reducing drinking-driving unless it is combined with more comprehensive community based programs.

An Ontario program focussed specifically on preventing and managing violence in licensed establishments (Safer Bars Program) showed a modest effect on reducing aggression, the effect of which carried over post-test. This program has also been implemented in Alberta. Research concluded that staff and management's role in implementing effective house policies is very important in predicting aggression and violence.

There is growing evidence for the impact of strategies that alter the drinking environment in reducing alcohol-related harm. Licensed premises account for a substantial proportion of locations where intentional injuries occur, second only to violence in the home. The boundaries of acceptable behaviour in licensed premises can be very lax. In addition, the demographic characteristics of bar patrons are also the characteristics of violence-prone populations generally. The physical environment (presence of line-ups, size, décor, seating arrangements, upkeep, lighting, cleanliness) and staff behaviour set the tone for an establishment and contain messages about behavioural expectations. Inappropriate staff behaviour (e.g. aggressive security staff, staff drinking) contributes to aggression.

Public Education and Communications

The research supports specially designed messages to direct the targeted groups (e.g. pregnant women, binge drinkers, students) to specifically designed programs (e.g. websites, treatment resources). Significant, but so far largely neglected, opportunities exist to translate the scientific evidence into plain language and make it available for everyone. An informed public can also help build support for public alcohol policies. Surprisingly, the history of major public health campaigns has been a story of expensive failures. Most failed campaigns were too broad in scope, with vague messaging, were not well targeted to the intended audience and not able to hold their attention.

There is limited evidence for warning labels for certain risk situations (e.g. pregnant women and FASD), but no direct impacts of warning labels on consumption or alcohol-related problems have been established.

There is considerable experience of school-based education programmes, but currently unconvincing evidence for their effectiveness. Although there are individual examples of the beneficial impact of school-based education, the majority of well-evaluated studies show no impact even in the short-term.

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Drinking and Driving Countermeasures

Most drinking-driving countermeasures received high effectiveness ratings. Research shows strong support for lowered BAC limits, random breath testing, administrative licence suspension, lowered BAC for youth, and graduated licensing for novice drivers. Drinking driving laws must be publicized to be effective. When incorporated as part of community programs, drinking-driving countermeasures have increased effectiveness.

In “last drink” programs, information is collected on the reported drinking locations of drivers. Police can identify high risk licensed establishments and share information with licensing regulatory bodies to allow follow-up action against the licensee. While some American jurisdictions have adopted these programs, there is insufficient evidence on which to make a judgement about their effectiveness.

Designated Driver programs have not been proven effective as a strategy to reduce drinking-driving. They tend to suffer from confusion about defining what level of consumption is acceptable. While some programs have a zero tolerance policy, others allow consumption as long as the driver stays below the legal limit. In practice, it appears that only a minority of drivers remain completely abstinent, and many people apply the designated driver concept in ways that are unsafe (e.g. choosing the least intoxicated person as a driver after the fact, allowing all others who are not driving to drink well beyond the limits of moderation). The large variation in programs has made the study of the effects of these programs on both consumption and alcohol-related motor vehicle injuries difficult.

Other Social Responsibility Strategies

Though there is no direct connection between provision of public transportation and alcohol-related harms, the availability and provision of public transportation has been validated as part of larger, multi-component interventions.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies, 2013

Background:

On March 6 at a national conference, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) released a comparison of provincial alcohol policies, which provides a “systematic and comparative review of policies and programs across all Canadian provinces which have the potential to reduce the considerable health and social harms from alcohol.” The project aims to promote an evidence-based approach to addressing the negative impacts of alcohol use in each province.

Over the past two years the project team collected data from each province on ten major policy areas, based on the World Health Organization’s Global Alcohol Strategy. Individual provinces have been scored on each policy area. A series of province-specific reports are also being prepared. The BC report is expected to be released in August 2013.

Key findings:

BC ranks as one of the three “top-ranked” provinces, alongside Ontario and Nova Scotia. Quebec, P.E.I. and Newfoundland and Labrador ranked lowest. B.C. received an overall score of 53.4%; with only Ontario ranking higher at 55.9%. National mean score was 47.1%.

Ten categories were looked at in preparing the report and scoring the provinces:

- Pricing – BC was a bottom ranking province in pricing;
- Alcohol Control System – BC was the lowest ranking province;
- Physical Availability – BC was a top ranking province;
- Drinking and Driving – BC was the highest ranked province, with the note that “British Columbia is demonstrating a gold standard in administrative licence suspension and impoundment programs”;
- Marketing and advertising – BC was among the top two ranking provinces;
- Legal drinking age – BC was a top ranking province;
- Screening, brief intervention and referrals – BC was the highest ranking province, and the only province to get 100% on any indicator;
- Server Training and Challenge and Refusal Programs – BC was the top ranking province;
- Provincial alcohol strategy – BC was a top ranking province; and
- Warning labels and signs – BC was a middle ranking province.

Recommendations outlined in the report (for all provinces) include:

- Set minimum prices at a level that will discourage excessive consumption and that apply to all alcohol sales as well as index alcohol prices to inflation and set prices according to their alcohol strength.
- Maintain government monopolies by preventing further privatization of alcohol sales channels

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- and uphold a strong social responsibility mandate.
- Place upper limits on the density of outlets and limit the availability of alcohol in the early morning and late at night.
- Implement the legislative priorities pertaining to licensing, sanctions and remedial programs highlighted by MADD Canada in their 2012 report.
- Extend provincial controls on marketing and advertising beyond those outlined in the Code for Broadcast Advertising of Alcoholic Beverages to include further restrictions and to streamline and formalize the enforcement process.
- Set a minimum drinking age of 19 years (at least) and track challenge and refusals to encourage enforcement of the legal drinking age.
- Develop a provincial alcohol strategy in each province to guide progress and establish alcohol as a topic worthy of urgent attention.
- Highlight Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral (SBIR) as a priority area in the provincial alcohol strategy; support the uptake of the SBIR resource released by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) and the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC); and implement SBIR fee for service codes.
- Implement mandatory server training and challenge and refusal programs that have been shown to reduce over-service or service to minors.
- Disseminate mandatory alcohol warning messages, with clear health messages on a variety of topics, on alcohol packaging as well as at point of sale.
- In line with recommendations made by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Global Strategy on Alcohol (2010), a significant step forward would be for all provinces to monitor and report rates of alcohol-related harm on an annual basis, to document policies and prevention strategies, using a public health lens, and to exchange information on these efforts in a systematic way.
- The different government sectors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that deal with alcohol issues are encouraged to collaborate on matters pertaining to alcohol and to pilot and evaluate the impact of proposed policy changes.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: National Alcohol Strategy

Background:

The National Alcohol Strategy Working Group was composed of a wide range of stakeholders and included representatives from federal, provincial and territorial governments, addictions agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations, and the alcohol beverage and hospitality industries. In April 2007, following considerable work, the group reached general consensus on a comprehensive strategy that recognizes the respective roles of all players in addressing alcohol-related harm, and identifies a total of 41 recommendations in four broad areas for action:

- **Health promotion, prevention and education** – which aims to raise public awareness about responsible alcohol use;
- **Health impacts and treatment** – which aims to reduce the negative health impacts of alcohol consumption and address its contribution to injury and chronic disease;
- **Availability of alcohol** – which aims to implement and enforce effective measures that control alcohol availability; and,
- **Safer communities** – which aims to create safer communities and minimize harms related to intoxication.

The National Alcohol Strategy Advisory Committee (NASAC) was formed in 2008 to:

- lead the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Alcohol Strategy;
- increase awareness of Canadians on matters relating to alcohol abuse; and
- encourage participation in the reduction of harm associated with such abuse

NASAC members include participants with expertise in alcohol-related issues from all levels of government, non-governmental organizations, First Nations, Inuit and Métis service providers, and the alcohol industry.

Progress to date:

NASAC partners are actively involved in activities to implement the recommendations of the National Alcohol Strategy. Initiatives to address 38 of the 41 recommendations have either been implemented or are underway, including:

- developing and introducing Canada's Low Risk Drinking Guidelines;
- publishing three reports promoting the use of alcohol pricing policies to reduce alcohol related harm;
- partnering with the College of Family Physicians of Canada to develop a screening, brief intervention and referral web resource for physicians and health professionals;
- promoting the education of students about the dangers of binge drinking;
- encouraging provinces to adopt zero-tolerance alcohol policies for all drivers under 21 years of age;

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- implementing server training programs;
- pursuing approaches that focus on high-risk alcohol-dependent drivers;
- encouraging the development and implementation of municipal and campus alcohol policies; and
- pursuing standard drink labelling of alcoholic beverages.

BC response:

- promotion and dissemination of Canada's Low Risk Drinking Guidelines;
- development of a resource for high school Dry Grads;
- providing funding and assistance for the development of Municipal Alcohol Policies;
- providing funding and assistance for the development of Campus Alcohol Policies;
- development of an anti-binge drinking social marketing campaign;
- promotion of the screening and brief intervention tool for family physicians; and
- development of a web-based resource for parents of minors is underway.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy: An Updated Report from the Provincial Health Officer, 2008

Background:

On December 16, 2008 the provincial health officer, Dr. Perry Kendall, released a report entitled Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy which updates a similar 2002 Health report, by assessing the effects of the 2002 recommendations to minimize harms associated with alcohol use in BC.

The report presents best practice policies, a review of current alcohol policies in BC, and a series of recommendations to reduce the present burden of harms from alcohol consumption in the province.

Key findings:

Some key findings from the 2008 updated report are:

- The physical availability of alcohol has increased substantially, with the total number of liquor sales outlets having nearly doubled since 2002.
- The economic availability of alcohol appears to have increased.
- Alcohol consumption has increased 8 per cent overall in British Columbia since 2002.
- Self-reported rates of hazardous drinking “at least monthly” have increased since 2002.
- Over one-quarter of underage youth report binge drinking at least once a month (binge drink = 5 or more standard drinks on one occasion).
- Alcohol-related hospital stays have increased moderately since 2002.
- A comparison of a subset of direct alcohol-related costs and benefits indicates that health and enforcement costs exceeded government revenue from alcohol by approximately \$62 million in 2002/2003.

Appendix 1 provides a summary of the report’s recommendations and the government’s response to date.

Appendix 1**PHO REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

	Recommendations		Government Response
Economic Availability			
1	Implement strategies to maintain prices of alcoholic beverages with inflation, such as indexing minimum prices and mark-ups to the cost of living. Liquor mark-ups in BC strongly influence the eventual retail prices in both private and government stores; therefore, they are the only policy lever available for maintaining prices throughout BC's mixed distribution system. Further, it is recommended that a minimum social reference price per standard drink be introduced and reviewed annually along with the cost of living.	1	s.13
2	Implement strategies/policies to encourage production/consumption of lower alcohol content varieties within each major beverage type; for example, by replacing provincial sales taxes on alcohol with an alcohol content-based tax indexed to the Consumer Price Index.	2	s.13
3	Implement other strategies to maintain minimum price per standard drink, such as introducing a surtax on high alcohol content drinks. The proceeds of this surcharge could be used to fund treatment and prevention programs. Every one cent extra per standard drink would generate approximately \$20 million additional revenue annually in BC.	3	s.13
Physical Availability			
1	Maintain the moratorium on private liquor stores and restrict further growth in agency stores until the youth access issue is resolved.	1	Lead: LCLB LRS moratorium was enshrined in regulation in 2012 and would remain in place until at least 2022. There is also a moratorium in place on all other types of private liquor retail outlets with the exception of rural agency stores.
	Investigate current distribution of outlets and compare to social/health circumstances to		Lead: unclear This type of research is beyond the scope of LCLB's

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2	find if there are clusters around vulnerable populations (e.g., Downtown Eastside, northern and rural populations, Aboriginals) and make adjustments as necessary in collaboration with local governments.	2	mandate. Government's ability to cancel licences or require relocation for these reasons is very limited. LCLB works with local governments to address issues as they arise.
3	Increase minimum distance allowed between private stores (currently 0.5 km)	3	Lead: LCLB The minimum distance criterion for licensee retail stores was increased to 1 km in 2010.
4	Monitor violence and road trauma associated with drinking at particular licensed venues in order to inform liquor and impaired-driving law enforcement efforts.	4	Lead: unclear No action taken. There is limited evidence for the effectiveness of these types of programs and costs would be very high. Would require collaboration with police partners. [This recommendation appears to be the same as "last drink" information collection below.]
5	Roll-back hours of sale for bars and clubs to match the rest of Canada (2 a.m. recommended as maximum, but only for premises with a good track record on violence and alcohol-related harm).	5	Lead: LCLB With the exception of downtown Vancouver and a few smaller communities, 2:00 a.m. is the latest closing time for most establishments. As the report points out, the hours can be rolled back if local government supports it and provides licensees with an opportunity to provide input. No plans to roll back hours to 2:00 a.m. across the province
Other Policies:			
1	Put resources into enforcement and training to raise compliance rates with age verification protocols, particularly for private outlets and agency stores.	1	Lead: LCLB LCLB passed amendments allowing for the hiring of minors to check compliance with the minimum age laws in 2010 and developed and implemented the minors as agents program (MAP) in early 2011, which an initial focus on liquor retail outlets. Since its inception, this highly successful program has been expanded to include inspections of other types of licensed establishments.
2	<u>Drinking and driving:</u> a. Increase random spot checks. b. Implement best practices for ignition interlocks for those with impaired-driving convictions. c. Improve administrative licence suspensions as recommended by Mothers Against Drunk	2	Lead: Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles a) Police maintained, and when budget and operation requirement permitted, increased random spot checks to prevent drinking and driving, and to support the Immediate Roadside Prohibition initiative (IRP). b) The B.C. ignition interlock program was introduced on a limited basis in 2005, targeting high-risk drivers.

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	<p>Driving Canada.</p> <p>d. Re-invigorate impaired driving enforcement as recommended in the National Alcohol Strategy.</p>		<p>Since then it has expanded to include criminally convicted drinking drivers and some drivers who received administrative sanctions under the Motor Vehicle Act.</p> <p>c) The Immediate Roadside Prohibition initiative was implemented in September 2010. Within 2 ½ years, the new drinking and driving laws had helped to save an estimated 143 lives - cutting the drinking and driving death toll in British Columbia by more than half (51 per cent).</p> <p>d) The BC Government made alcohol-affected driving a priority fully supported by enforcement.</p>
3	Increase capacity for routine screening, brief interventions, and referrals for risky alcohol use, especially in primary health and social care settings	3	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>New Problem Drinking Guidelines with accompanying Screening and Brief Intervention tools and funding criteria jointly developed by the British Columbia Medical Association and the BC Ministry of Health were released to physicians in 2011. Impact will require ongoing support to ensure uptake across the province.</p>
4	Conduct research into effectiveness of current restrictions on advertising and exposure of BC youth to alcohol promotions, including Internet promotions.	4	<p>Lead: unclear</p> <p>No action taken.</p>
5	Begin discussions on controlling the <i>quantity</i> as well as the quality of alcohol advertising.	5	<p>Lead: unclear</p> <p>No action taken.</p>
6	Continue supporting and augment the BC Alcohol and Other Drug Monitoring Project to track the levels of alcohol-related harm and to assess the impact of policy changes and programs.	6	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>Ministry of Health provided increased funding to CARBC in 2013 to monitor alcohol-related harms and costs.</p>
7	<p>Allocate resources to improve the collection of data on alcohol-involved morbidity and mortality by BC Vital Statistics Agency, including:</p> <p>a. that the Coroners Service of BC and the Vital Statistics Agency establish an ongoing, cross-agency data audit and reconciliation mechanism to correct historical data gaps and minimize the opportunity for unrecognized</p>	7	<p>Lead: BC Coroner's Service</p> <p>The BC Coroner's Service has noted the issue a number of times in their capital funding request but has not yet received funds to facilitate this project.</p> <p>The current process for collecting, accessing and using this information are labour, cost and time intensive as well as time sensitive. The manual reporting process for Coroners to submit Medical Certificates to Vital</p>

	<p>data issues to arise in the future;</p> <p>b. That The Coroners Service of BC and the Vital Statistics Agency be sufficiently resourced to support their data integrity improvement efforts.</p>		<p>Statistics can cause delays and reporting of inaccurate information. These delays inhibit program effectiveness and efficiency in sharing of information to other stakeholders.</p> <p>An electronic link to Vital Statistics to ensure timely completion of Medical Certificates will ensure timely information to families. A link to Vital Stats will provide many potential benefits including reducing administrative effort required at regional, head office and coroner level, providing data in a more timely manner, reducing errors of interpretation that commonly occur with manually created documents, and improving the improving the quality of information captured by providing validation electronically at the source.</p>
8	<p>Create a small “harm reduction” levy on specific alcohol products with higher than average alcohol content for their beverage class (e.g., beers with the strength above 5 percent alcohol by volume). Use the proceeds from this levy to fund improvements in alcohol harm prevention, monitoring, treatment, and research, with a focus on reducing youth alcohol use and risky and hazardous drinking among young adult drinkers</p>	8	s.12, s.13
9	<p>Meaningfully involve public health and addictions experts in alcohol decision making.</p>	9	<p>Lead: Government wide</p> <p>Public health groups and organizations are being consulted as part of the 2013 liquor policy review.</p>
10	<p>Provide support to local governments to prevent and respond to alcohol-related problems, especially in regions with higher rates of consumption and problems.</p>	10	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>In early 2012, the Ministry of Health, in partnership with BC Healthy Communities, provided funding and support to two communities for a pilot project to develop Municipal Alcohol Policies (MAP); there are 20 new communities engaged with MAP development.</p>
11	<p>Investigate the feasibility of implementing the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health’s Municipal Alcohol Policy program for use by local governments in BC.</p>	11	<p>Lead: Ministry of Health</p> <p>See #10 above.</p> <p>LCLB has provided assistance and advice on materials relating to special occasion licensing and catering.</p>
Programs and Policies to Reduce Violence in and around Licensed Establishments:			
	<p>Create and implement a dedicated violence prevention program in BC and require</p>		<p>Lead: LCLB</p> <p>Since the report’s release, Safer Bars program has been</p>

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1	establishments with demonstrated problems to provide training to their staff. (Report recommends use of Ontario Safer Bars program)	1	widely implemented in Alberta. LCLB is monitoring this and other training programs to determine the quality and effectiveness of the program.
2	Encourage strong, local collaboration between licensees, police, and civic authorities to implement policies that minimize and reduce alcohol-related violence ("local accords" or "community action plans").	2	Lead: LCLB LCLB has helped implement and participated in multi-agency task forces to inspect high risk establishments in several communities across the province.
3	Implement ongoing compliance checks for service to intoxicated patrons and overcrowding, especially in licensed establishments identified as problematic in police data.	3	Lead: LCLB LCLB does this on an ongoing basis as over service and overcrowding are two enforcement priorities of the branch.
4	Develop and implement a protocol for collecting "last drink" information from suspects in alcohol-involved crime incidents.	4	Lead: unclear No action taken. There is limited evidence for the effectiveness of these types of programs and costs would be very high. Would require collaboration with police partners. [This recommendation appears to be the same as "monitor violence and road trauma" above]
5	Change the requirements of the Serving It Right program to require server recertification (five-year intervals) and resource the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch to conduct ongoing enforcement compliance checks for responsible service practices in real-life conditions.	5	Lead: LCLB No action taken.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Restrictions on what and how licensees advertise

Background:

All types of advertising by licensees or manufacturers in BC must comply with the federal CRTC Code for Broadcast Advertising. For example, ads may not be directed at minors, show people drinking, associate drinking with driving, or suggest that liquor is essential to the enjoyment of an activity (see Appendix for details).

Additionally, advertisements for bars and restaurants may not be placed in locations that are used or visited mostly by minors, may not promote “wet T-shirt” or similar contests, and may only show people with liquor if there is also food. Bars and restaurants may advertise specials, but they may not have “2 for 1” specials, or “Happy Hours” (see Tab 3).

An advertisement or sign for a licensed establishment must reflect the type of class or category of licence the establishment holds. For example, a liquor primary establishment may use terms such as bar, or tavern in its name, a food primary establishment may not, to prevent public confusion about the restaurant’s primary function (to serve food).

Caterers may only advertise the services they offer, the types of liquor they offer, and previous events they have catered. They may not advertise manufacturer or brand names, or prices. The host of a catered event may not advertise the availability of liquor.

UBrew/UVin establishments may only advertise their contact information, and the products and services that they offer (including prices). Advertisements may not show people drinking or suggest that customers do not have a role in making the finished product.

Special occasion licensed events may not advertise the availability of liquor, unless it is a tasting event.

Liquor delivery services may only advertise that they deliver liquor. They may not mention brands or liquor prices in their ads.

The Liquor Distribution Branch approves the labels of all products sold in the province. Labels must comply with social responsibility criteria and generally be considered in good taste.

Prior to 2003, government had additional advertising regulations, and required branch pre-approval of advertising for manufacturers or agents.

Other Jurisdictions:

Alberta’s advertising aligns with the CRTC Code. They have some additional requirements (e.g. licensees must advertise price if they wish to advertise a brand of liquor.) Licensees may advertise “Happy Hours”.

Saskatchewan’s advertising aligns with the CRTC Code, and is applied to all mediums. They provide additional clarification as to how the Code is interpreted in Saskatchewan (e.g. advertising can’t target minors, which means ads can’t be within 200m of school).

Manitoba recently announced that it would be modernizing advertising standards, and implementing nationally accepted standards.

Ontario’s advertising aligns with the CRTC Code. Licensees may not advertise “Happy Hours”. Ontario has a formal complaint mechanism.

Current issue: Requests have been received to strengthen controls on advertising, particularly for those that appeal to youth or persons drinking in a high-risk manner, discontinue advertising discount prices, and limit the quantity of alcohol advertising permitted

Studies demonstrate that the level of exposure to advertising affects the age at which youth begin drinking, and the volume of liquor that they consume.¹

Some groups believe that media has changed since the CRTC Code was last updated in 1996, and that provinces should consider regulating the following:

- 1) the *content* of alcohol ads, especially ads depicting glamorous lifestyles and including aspirational characters often engaged in consequence-free drinking;
- 2) the *placement* of alcohol ads, as children are more vulnerable to the effects of alcohol ads, places where children play, and the media to which they are exposed should be protected from alcohol ads;
- 3) the *number* of ads in circulation, where fewer are better; and
- 4) the advertisement of drink prices, where ads for discounted drinks should be restricted.

One of the challenges with regulating advertising is that it is pervasive and crosses jurisdictions; for example:

- American television and radio broadcasts can be received in Canada, as can magazines.
- There are product placements in movies and on TV.
- Advertisements are widely available on websites (e.g. Facebook), with video ads becoming more common (for example, on YouTube).
- Manufacturers of imported products have websites that are outside of BC's jurisdiction.
- Companies now create advertising campaigns specifically for the internet and social media.
- Targeted content may not easily come to the attention of branch staff (e.g. promotions sent to "Facebook friends" of the licensee)
- 'User-generated content' is created and shared by consumers and is not controlled by the company.
- Advertising is becoming more instantaneous and transitory (e.g. Twitter)

Reducing the amount of traditional advertising in BC (billboards, flyers, etc.) may not have a significant impact on the overall level of exposure to liquor advertising, especially given the predominance of internet use by minors.

Potential Opportunities:

Opportunities to modernize advertising include:

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¹ See Giesbrecht, N., Wettlaufer, A., April, N., Asbridge, M., Cukier, S., Mann, R., McAllister, J., Murie, A., Plamondon, L., Stockwell, T., Thomas, G., Thompson, K., & Vallance, K. (2013). *Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies*. Toronto: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Appendix

CODE FOR BROADCAST ADVERTISING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Commercial messages for alcoholic beverages shall not:

- (a) attempt to influence non-drinkers of any age to drink or to purchase alcoholic beverages;
- (b) be directed at persons under the legal drinking age, associate any such product with youth or youth symbols, or portray persons under the legal drinking age or persons who could reasonably be mistaken for such persons in a context where any such product is being shown or promoted;
- (c) portray the product in the context of, or in relation to, an activity attractive primarily to people under the legal drinking age;
- (d) contain an endorsement of the product, personally or by implication, either directly or indirectly, by any person, character or group who is or is likely to be a role model for minors because of a past or present position of public trust, special achievement in any field of endeavour, association with charities and/or advocacy activities benefiting children, reputation or exposure in the mass media;
- (e) attempt to establish the product as a status symbol, a necessity for the enjoyment of life or an escape from life's problems, or attempt to establish that consumption of the product should take precedence over other activities;
- (f) imply directly or indirectly that social acceptance, social status, personal success, or business or athletic achievement may be acquired, enhanced or reinforced through consumption of the product;
- (g) imply directly or indirectly that the presence or consumption of alcohol is, in any way, essential to the enjoyment of an activity or an event;
- (h) portray any such product, or its consumption, in an immoderate way;
- (i) exaggerate the importance or effect of any aspect of the product or its packaging;
- (j) show or use language that suggests, in any way, product misuse or product dependency, compulsive behaviour, urgency of need or urgency of use;
- (k) use imperative language to urge people to purchase or consume the product;
- (l) introduce the product in such a way or at such a time that it may be associated with the operation of any vehicle or conveyance requiring skill;
- (m) introduce the product in such a way or at such a time as may associate the product with any activity requiring a significant degree of skill, care or mental alertness or involving an obvious element of danger;
- (n) contain inducements to prefer an alcoholic beverage because of its higher alcohol content;
- (o) refer to the feeling and effect caused by alcohol consumption or show or convey the impression, by behaviour or comportment, that the people depicted in the message are under the influence of alcohol;
- (p) portray persons with any such product in situations in which the consumption of alcohol is prohibited; or
- (q) contain scenes in which any such product is consumed, or that give the impression, visually or in sound, that it is being or has been consumed.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Consumption of liquor in public spaces

Background:

People may not consume liquor in a public place, unless it is licensed. "Public place" is defined to be a place where the public is permitted access. It also includes public conveyances (boats, trains, buses, planes) and private vehicles that are located on land that the public may access (parking lots).

The Act permits the federal, provincial or local government to pass an order that liquor may be consumed at a public beach, public park or public campground, subject to terms and conditions approved by the general manager. No orders have been made.

Other Jurisdictions:

Other Canadian jurisdictions do not generally allow drinking in public spaces unless there is an event taking place which has a special event permit. There are some exceptions: Alberta allows parks to have designated picnic areas where drinking is allowed when food is consumed, and the Yukon allows drinking in public unless it is prohibited by the municipality. Municipalities in the Yukon may determine if public drinking is prohibited and if so, whether the prohibition is for the entire municipality or just certain areas of town. (We are awaiting information on whether Quebec permits drinking in public).

There are a variety of approaches taken to liquor consumption in public spaces in other countries. These include permitting it, allowing local governments to define areas that people may not drink (which may vary by time of day), and prohibiting it in all or most public spaces. The trend in Europe seems to be an increase in regulation, due to eroding social controls and increases in binge drinking by youth. Some states in Australia allow public drinking except in 'alcohol-free zones'. With few exceptions, drinking in public is not permitted in the United States.

Current issues:

1. Requests have been received to allow people to have a drink with their picnic at the park or at the beach

People already drink in public spaces, however it tends to be done inconspicuously (liquor pre-mixed into a pop or juice bottle, wine drunk out of travel mugs, etc.) or done where there are few people around to notice. Liquor pour-outs by police occur regularly at large events, such as Canada Day celebrations.

Some people do not feel they should be criminalized for wanting to have a glass of wine with their picnic, and feel they should be treated like responsible adults. They argue that it is an offense to be intoxicated in public and there are offenses for other negative behaviour associated with overconsumption that the police could enforce.

However, other people do not want to take their families to places where others are drinking. Removing the prohibition on drinking in public would increase the visibility of drinking, and likely increase the frequency as well.

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Among adolescents and adults, alcohol use is involved in up to 70 per cent of deaths associated with water recreation (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

When people drink in public there is no licensee responsible for supervising how much people are drinking or ensuring that minors do not consume liquor. As a result, it increases workload for the police.

Public intoxication can lead to complaints about noise, litter, public urination and violence. One of the findings from the Stanley Cup Riot Review was that the riot was fueled by liquor.

'Bush parties' already create problems for police and communities – there are issues with underage drinking, assaults, vandalism and litter. If the prohibition on drinking in public were removed, it would make controlling these parties more difficult (although minors would still not be permitted to have possession of liquor).

It is easier for police to enforce a ban on having open liquor in public (an objective assessment) than it is to demonstrate that a person is intoxicated in public (a subjective assessment). Also, removing liquor from people before they become intoxicated is safer for police and is a more effective way of preventing problems associated with overconsumption.

If drinking in public is allowed, there may be less need to obtain a special occasion licence to hold events in parks, leading to a potential loss of revenue.

Potential Opportunities:

Opportunities to allow more flexibility to drink in public could include:

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2. Other Issues:

Restrictions on Special Occasion Licences [limited frequency; event must be considered a special occasion] – see Tab 5.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Caffeinated Alcoholic Beverages (CAB)

Background:

The term "energy drink" identifies beverages that contain a significant amount of caffeine (over 50 mg) but do not contain alcohol. A 355 ml can of cola contains about 30 mg of caffeine, while a cup of coffee is much more variable, containing 95-200 mg of caffeine, depending on roasting, grinding, and brewing time. Non-alcoholic energy drinks generally contain about 70-80 mg of caffeine, but some can go as high as 200 mg per serving. Alcoholic energy drinks (containing less than 30 mg of caffeine/serving) are registered in BC and are available in BC liquor retail outlets. The Liquor Distribution branch does not register caffeinated alcoholic beverages (CABs) containing more than 30 mg of caffeine/serving.

Consuming CABs (and/or the combination of alcohol and high caffeine energy drinks) has been associated with increased risk. Caffeine can mask sensory cues that people may rely on to determine how intoxicated they are. Youth and young adults are at the greatest risk of harm from consuming caffeinated alcoholic beverages because they drink them at levels four times higher than the general public.¹ Compared to those who drink alcohol alone, youth and young adults who drink caffeinated alcoholic beverages are more likely to commit or be a victim of sexual assault; ride in a vehicle with someone driving under the influence of alcohol, or drive while under the influence of alcohol themselves; be hurt or injured and require medical attention; and drink more alcohol without realizing they are intoxicated because the caffeine keeps them awake longer².

There is no currently no prohibition on licensed establishments selling energy drinks. However, in light of the known harms associated with combining energy drinks and liquor, the LCLB has taken the approach of informing licensees about the potential dangers of combining them with alcohol and encouraging them not to sell these products.

Other jurisdictions:

Various government and professional health organizations, including Health Canada and the Canadian Medical Association, have expressed concerns over the increased use of energy drinks, especially when mixed with liquor. In 2010, Health Canada issued an advisory indicating that the mixing of energy drinks with alcohol constituted a serious health risk to consumers and recommended that liquor not be mixed with energy drinks.

Most jurisdictions do not regulate the mixing of energy drinks with liquor. The only Canadian jurisdiction surveyed that prohibits the mixing of liquor with energy drinks is PEI. If energy drinks are served with liquor the patron must mix them and the server must advise the patron that mixing energy drinks and liquor is not recommended.

¹ Health Canada. (2010). Canadian Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey microdata file; analysis by Centre for Addictions Research of BC.

² Brache, K., Thomas, G., & Stockwell, T. (2012). *Caffeinated alcoholic beverages in Canada: Prevalence of use, risks and recommended policy responses*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (p. 9)

Current issue:

Action to restrict or prohibit advertising of energy drinks in licensed establishments

Since 2011, the Association of Canadian Distillers has supported taking action, ranging from, at the least, a prohibition on licensee advertisements of energy drinks mixed with alcohol. The viability of this option is limited by the definition of advertising under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* (LCLA) to include advertising the cost of a drink (including a menu). This option would also not address any public safety concerns that concern the actual consumption of these beverages.

Potential opportunities:

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LCLB has a variety of communications mediums to provide information to licensees including the Serving it Right program. An October 2011 issue of the branch newsletter contained an article encouraging licensees to re-evaluate their policy on selling energy drinks.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Control and Licensing Branch Educational Outreach

Background:

The purpose of LCLB's educational outreach is to acquaint licensees with the requirements of the Liquor Control and Licensing Act and Regulations, liquor policy and the terms and conditions of their licence so as to increase licensee compliance.

LCLB currently produces terms and conditions guides for all licence classes and also provides educational videos for liquor primary, food primary and caterer licensees. The food primary videos are available in Korean and a number of Chinese dialects. All of these materials are online and can be saved to any computer. The Branch also sends a quarterly newsletter to all licensees that in part contain helpful or educational tips. Liquor inspectors are available upon request to meet with any licensee for educational or training purposes.

The LCLB is responsible for the Serving It Right self-study course that educates licensees, managers and servers about their legal responsibilities when serving liquor. The program is administered by go2, a non-profit organization that supports BC's tourism and hospitality industry. Additional information about this educational program is found within the "Serving It Right Program" policy note in this section of this binder.

The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario provides seminars to liquor licensees throughout the province of Ontario. The program is administered by three staff with support by local liquor inspectors. A similar program could potentially increase compliance in B.C.

Current issues:

1. Language barriers

The greatest issue with licensees understanding their responsibilities is language as British Columbia is richly diverse with many licensees having English as their second language. Within the restaurant industry there are many Chinese and Korean licensees, hence the reason for the education videos in those languages. Punjabi is also common in the restaurant industry. LCLB does not have an educational video in Punjabi and should consider it. It may be beneficial to provide the food primary terms and conditions guides in these languages as well, but translations are expensive and guides are routinely amended.

2. The number and complexity of rules.

Liquor law in B.C. is complex and there are often varied sets of rules both within and across licence classes – depending on specific terms and conditions they may have. Licensees often state they are too busy to wade through and easily understand lengthy sets of rules. LCLB is only one of many government agencies that liquor licensees have to deal with.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Serving It Right program

Background:

Serving It Right is a self-study course that educates licensees, managers and servers about their legal responsibilities when serving liquor, and provides effective techniques to prevent problems related to over-service and service to minors. The on-line course generally takes about 3 hours to complete and costs \$35. The requirement for a SIR certificate generally depends on the type of liquor licence held. Liquor primary licensees, licensee retail store licensees, catering licensees and their management and staff are required to obtain the training, as are applicants for public special occasion licences (SOL), their managers, and any paid staff. Manufacturer licensees and managers with an endorsement or sampling room must also receive training, plus any staff who may be left in charge of liquor service.

The Serving It Right program was substantially updated, effective June 2007. The new program places an increased emphasis on signs of intoxication, legal liability, duty of care on and off premises, and the necessity to create and enforce responsible beverage service policies.

Other jurisdictions:

Manitoba, PEI, Ontario and Alberta all have mandatory responsible beverage service training programs and Alberta and PEI require re-certification every 5 years. The requirement for training typically applies to anyone employed in an establishment that serves or sells liquor - often including security staff, retail clerks and hosts (kitchen staff and bus-persons are usually exempt). Only Alberta requires all Special Event permit holders to have the training (Proserve). Manitoba may require a special event permit holder for a larger festival to take the "Serving it Safe" program or meet with an inspector to go over regulations and security plans.

Current issues:

1. SIR training is not currently required for food primary (FP) servers or wine store licensees and their employees.

- Only licensees, managers and all those who may be left in charge in an FP need to have a SIR certificate. If the food primary has a lounge endorsement, the SIR program must also be completed by all servers. The results of Minors as Agents Program (MAP) inspections indicate poor compliance in food primaries with respect to service to minors.
- Wine stores were recently transferred from appointments under the Liquor Distribution Act to licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act, and unlike other liquor retail stores are not yet subject to the training requirement.

Potential Opportunities:

- Increased awareness and compliance could be achieved by requiring training to be taken by all FP servers. Research shows that training tends to decrease bad serving practices and increase "soft" interventions such as slowing service.

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- Require training for wine store licensees, managers, and all staff, as is required for licensee retail stores.

2. Re-certification for SIR training

There is evidence for improved knowledge and attitudes following training, although this wears off over time.

Potential Opportunities:

Server re-certification at periodic intervals (e.g. 3 to 5 year intervals) may be required to ensure sustained retention of materials.

3. Lack of specific training for SOLs

SOL holders, managers, and paid staff take the same training program as those operating licensed establishments, when in fact the situation and specifics of an SOL event may be quite different.

Potential Opportunities:

The large number of SOL's issued in the province (over 25,000 annually) and the significant differences between SOL events and licensed establishments may warrant the development of a specific program targeted at SOL events. A revised, shorter course would likely be well-received by SOL holders.

Section 8

UBrew Taxation

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: UBrew/UVin Taxation

Background:

UBrew/UVin establishments (approx. 264) provide goods, facilities and services to persons producing or manufacturing wine, beer or cider for their own consumption or consumption at no charge by others. UBrews/UVins have been licensed in BC since April 1, 2000 but have existed since the mid 1980s.

Total production of these outlets is estimated at approximately 10% of the total volume of wine and about 1% of the total volume of beer sold in BC. It is generally thought that UBrew/UVin stores operate on a low profit margin, which may explain the decline in number of stores over the past 9 years (there were 349 licensed stores in 2004).

To differentiate them from liquor manufacturers UBrews/UVins must comply with terms and conditions that limit the operator's involvement in production, set standards for customer participation, and give notice to the customer that product produced at UBrews/UVins must not be sold or served in a licensed establishment, including special occasion licensed events.

Currently in BC, GST applies only to the service component of the product price and both PST and GST apply to related supplies such as corks, labels, and bottles. The service component and related products generally comprise between one third and one half of the total price. Product kits (juice/barley/hops) are exempt from GST / PST because the product is considered a foodstuff when purchased by the consumer before being turned into liquor.

Other jurisdictions:

Nova Scotia, Quebec, Newfoundland, Manitoba, Alberta, Northwest Territories and the Yukon do not permit UBrew/UVin establishments. Saskatchewan permits UBrew/UVin operations, and they are subject to a 5% PST and 5% GST. Ontario and New Brunswick also permit UBrew/UVin establishments, which are subject to HST. In addition, Ontario licensees must collect and remit the flat tax of 13 cents per litre on all beer and/or wine produced. PEI has an equivalent Ferment on Premises licence, which is subject to a provincial health tax (\$0.49/litre and a \$0.01/litre) payable to the PEI Liquor Control Commission.

Current issue: Taxation

In recent years, manufacturer licensees have complained that UBrews/UVins have an unfair economic advantage because the final product is not taxed/marked up and have called for government to impose tax. Some pub, bar and hotel owners have raised concerns that UBrew/UVin product is displacing taxed beer, wine, cider and coolers.

s.13, s.17

s.13, s.17

Section 9

Manufacturing

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Manufacturing

Background:

There are currently three types of liquor manufacturing licences issued by the province (manufacturers also require federal licences) – brewery, winery and distillery. There has been significant growth in the number of liquor manufacturers in recent years. This is likely due to changing consumer tastes, the growth of the small batch “craft” beer and distilled spirits sectors and continued interest in quality BC wines. Government financial support in the form of preferential LDB mark-ups for certain types of liquor products has also been a factor

Wineries (247)	Breweries (63)	Distilleries (19)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two level renewal fee based on production – must produce 4500 litres on site annually• May apply for an on-site store to sell their own product and on-site premises where patrons may consume BC wines, e.g. a lounge• Authorized by the LDB to make direct sales to licensees and private liquor stores; direct sales of 100% BC content wine is exempt from LDB mark-ups LDB has definitions for two categories of winery in order to administer the direct sales mark-up exemptions: Land based wineries which have a minimum of two acres of grapes/fruit at the winery site and produce only 100% BC content wine have a mark-up exemption on all direct sales, and Commercial wineries (25 of the 247) which make wine from BC grapes or imported bulk wine/materials, receive the direct sales mark-up exemption on BC VQA wine only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewal fees are a base fee plus additional per hectolitre amount• May apply for an on-site store to sell their own product and an on-site premises where patrons may consume the manufacturer’s beer, e.g. a lounge (new March 2013)• Authorized by the LDB to make direct sales to licensed establishments and private liquor stores• LDB supports smaller breweries by applying lower rates of mark-up, based on annual production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May apply for an on-site store to sell their own product and on-site premises where patrons may consume the manufacturer’s spirits, e.g. a lounge (new March 2013)• Distilleries defined by the LDB as “Craft Distilleries” are authorized to make direct sales to licensed establishments and private liquor stores and are exempt from mark-ups. Other distilleries must sell their products through the LDB• Craft Distilleries must fully produce all their products at their distillery site from 100% BC agricultural inputs and are limited in production volume

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Current issues:

1. Secondary (off site) tasting rooms

Other wine producing regions often have small wine tasting rooms away from the parent wineries that highlight the products of a few local wineries. These tasting rooms enable the wineries to showcase their products to those who cannot travel to the wineries themselves. The current licence class system does not support this type of establishment as it would have to be a liquor primary (LP) licence. The application process and fee for the LP create a financial and administrative burden for the winery that is disproportionate to the type of establishment proposed. Furthermore, LP's are generally not permitted to have minors on site which creates issues for tourists with children.

Increasing flexibility for businesses will ensure sustainability and market opportunities for BC's liquor manufacturing and hospitality/tourism sectors. Small tasting rooms could enhance BC's wine/tourism industry by bringing the tasting experience into urban centres for those who cannot tour the production regions.

2. Sales of 'craft' products at farmers markets

Some producers, particularly small wineries, breweries or distilleries have suggested that they be permitted to sell their products at farmers markets (e.g. temporary markets set up to primarily sell local produce when it is in season). There is some precedent for this concept in other provinces, but it is more common in the US. The current framework for retailing liquor products in the province provides a number of options for producers and is carefully structured in licensing and policy. Developing a policy to permit liquor retailing at temporary and potentially numerous farmers' markets would raise a number of issues.

3. Craft distillery policy

The recently implemented craft distillery policy has received mixed reviews as some small producers feel the policy is too restrictive. The primary complaints are around the requirement for 100% BC agricultural inputs, and the inability to use bulk neutral grain spirits purchased from elsewhere in their production. The purpose of these requirements is to ensure that craft distilled product is a 100% BC product and that distilleries are responsible for all aspects production from beginning to end. In return, craft distilleries receive a significant financial benefit in the form a LDB mark-up exemption on direct sales. Relaxing these requirements would enable distilleries that are not substantially involved in making their own products to benefit from the mark-up exemption and would reduce the spin off benefits for BC agriculture.

Any changes to the policy should consider the impact on government revenue related to the mark-up exemption. There are currently 8 BC distilleries that have qualified as craft distilleries.

4. Virtual wineries

The 'virtual winery' is typically a website offering wine for sale in BC from a 'winery' that does not appear to be licensed (the winery's name and/or address cannot be found in the Branch database). On some occasions where inspectors have followed up on a potential unlicensed winery, the wine in question was found to be a 'second label' of a licensed manufacturer where the producer is not declared on the label. In other cases the wine may have been manufactured by a licensed winery under contract but is being sold by an individual who does not hold a licence.

Several licensed wineries offer the service of "brand building" by creating a custom batch of wine for a customer and marketing and selling the wine under the licensee's licence (but the customer's "brand"). This is permitted by legislation and branch policy and popular with people or companies who are considering, or in the process of, building their own winery but want to create "brand awareness" prior to capital outlays. Current legislation and policy also permits a person without a liquor licence who has requested wine to be manufactured to be hired by the licensed winery as a sales representative under the winery's agent licence. That person may then help market the product(s) but all sales must be conducted and recorded by the licensed winery and the producing winery must be named on the label.

Licensed wineries engaged in the above types of transactions do not appear to be always informing their unlicensed clients of the requirements around how the wine must be marketed, labelled and sold under this type of contract production. This has resulted in an increase of instances of people or companies who are not licensed, but are selling wine, or representing the product in such a way that they appear to be the seller.

Some established wineries have expressed frustration with the unlicensed contractors as they feel they are circumventing the requirement to have equipment and minimum production giving them an advantage over those who have invested significantly in land and abide by the production requirements. Furthermore, inspectors have difficulty determining who is producing the wine as many of the wineries do not follow the labelling requirements. This makes it difficult for them to determine if the liquor is illicit and is not in line with truth in labelling policies that protect consumers.

5. On-site consumption

In March of this year regulations were passed that permit on site consumption at breweries and distilleries to align them with wineries. Prior to this, they were only permitted to serve samples. Applications can now be made for licence endorsements for a lounge, a picnic area, a special event area and a tour area. All manufacturers are also now permitted to have an on-site food primary and/or liquor primary establishment.

These different types of on-site consumption endorsements and licences all have different terms and conditions with regards to what types of liquor can be consumed and where. The complexity of these overlapping terms is confusing for patrons and licensees and is difficult to justify for this traditionally low risk establishment type. Some of the licences/endorsement types have application fees and require extensive local government/ First nation input while others are free and yet involve extensive analysis by the Branch.

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As the number of manufacturer applications increases, streamlining the onsite consumption policies would reduce workload for LCLB staff and confusion for applicants, licensees, local governments/first nations and the public. Automatic on site consumption permissions are issued as part of a manufacturer licence in several other analogous jurisdictions such as California, Washington and the wine producing regions of Australia. Reduction in non-public safety related regulations creates increased flexibility for businesses and is in line with initiatives to modernize BC's liquor laws and create a sustainable manufacturing sector.

Simplification of onsite consumption policies may require local governments/first nations to enact simple, specific zoning policies for on-site consumption at liquor manufacturing sites for their district/town/city. For example, Vancouver recently changed zoning to be inclusive of manufacturer lounges providing they abide by requirements such as seating caps and closing times. Residents of rural regions will also require a mechanism to have input around new large liquor consumption areas at manufacturing sites, particularly in wine regions where tour busses and other holiday traffic can be disruptive to and noisy to rural neighborhoods.

Section 10

Distribution

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Distribution

Background:

The current system of distributing liquor for resale (i.e. to retailers and bars/restaurants) in BC involves a mixture of government (LDB) and private sector services. A summarized schematic of liquor distribution is shown in Attachment 1. A brief description of liquor distribution in the province follows:

LDB Distribution Services

Warehouses: The LDB operates two warehouses, it's main one in Vancouver and a smaller one in Kamloops. The LDB's warehouses receive their liquor supplies from the following sources: domestic spirits – directly from producers; BC wine – directly from producers; imported spirits and imported wine – from private Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses (see below); domestic and imported beer – directly from breweries or Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses (import beer only).

The LDB warehouses distribute certain liquor products to the LDB's BC Liquor Stores (BCLS), including all spirit products, all imported wine products (including wine from other provinces), a portion of BC wine products, and a portion of domestic and imported beer products. The LDB warehouses also distribute products to the majority of private liquor retailers (licensee retail stores, independent wine stores, rural agency stores) and to a minority of bars/restaurants.

BCLSs: BCLSs also provide liquor distribution services to smaller private retailers and bars/restaurants. These customers arrange for their own transportation from the BCLSs to their establishment.

Private Distribution Services

BC Breweries: BC breweries distribute most of their products directly to BCLSs, private retailers and bars/restaurants. The three largest BC breweries, Molson, Labatt and Sleeman, also represent many imported beer brands that they distribute directly, with their domestic products.

BC Wineries: BC wineries may distribute their products directly to private retailers and bars/restaurants. Their products can also be distributed by the LDB or through Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses (see below).

BC Craft Distilleries: Recently government approved a new policy that allows small BC distilleries that qualify as "craft distilleries" to distribute their products directly to private retailers and bars/restaurants. Their products can also be distributed by the LDB.

Liquor Warehouse Program: The Liquor Warehouse Program requires agents of imported products to store the products in private warehouses upon entry to the province. The LDB then orders the products from Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses into its own two warehouses for distribution to BCLSs, private retailer and bars/restaurants. The LDB established the Liquor Warehouse Program in the early 1980s as a means to have a supply of imported products to reduce order lead times and to reduce the

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amount of storage space needed for LDB warehouses. There are seven Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses; however, one company, ContainerWorld, is the dominant service provider.

Other jurisdictions:

Liquor distribution systems in other provinces vary considerably. Alberta has the only fully private system. It owns the warehouse property and leases it to a single contracted distribution company responsible for most products except domestic beer. As in BC, domestic breweries distribute most of their own beer in Alberta and the other provinces.

No other province has a program similar to the LDB's Liquor Warehouse Program that requires imported products to be stored in private warehouses which then supply government warehouses. In other provinces with government operated warehouses, imported products are ordered directly from the foreign supplier.

Current issues:

1. Sale and Relocation of LDB's Vancouver Warehouse

In 2012, government announced that the LDB's warehouse in Vancouver and Kamloops would be sold and that government would contract with a single private sector company to provide liquor distribution services. As part of this change it was also decided that the new company would assume the services provided by the private Liquor Warehouse Program warehouses such as ContainerWorld. Later in 2012, government announced that it was cancelling this initiative.

In early 2013, government announced that it would sell the LDB's Vancouver warehouse and that the LDB would relocate to a more modern and efficient facility somewhere in Metro Vancouver. The LDB is currently in the process of engaging a consultant to assist in the relocation, which is expected to take approximately two years to complete. It has not been determined how, or if, this initiative would affect the private Liquor Warehouse Program.

Industry will be extremely interested in the LDB Vancouver warehouse relocation and how it may affect distribution services.

2. Distribution of Liquor from Private Retailers to Bars/Restaurants

Bars/restaurants and their associations have expressed an interest in being able to order products from private retailers. Private retailers and their associations have also expressed an interest in being able to sell to bars/restaurants. Private retailers receive a discount when they purchase liquor from the LDB, therefore a change policy to allow them to sell to bars/restaurants would have a significant negative impact on LDB revenue.

Appendix 1
Schematic of Liquor Distribution in BC



LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Liquor Distribution Branch Mark-up Overview

Background:

The LDB generates revenue by applying mark-ups to the cost of liquor products purchased from suppliers. These mark-ups, less the LDB's expenses and product discounts that the LDB provides to private retailers, result in the net income transferred to the provincial government (\$930 million in 2012/13).

The LDB's mark-ups vary by product category, and in general, have a linkage to the average alcohol content of a category (e.g. the higher the alcohol content of the category, the higher the mark-ups). With the exception of beer, the LDB's mark-ups are primarily calculated as a percentage of the cost of product purchased from suppliers. For beer, the mark-ups are volume based and are calculated as a dollar amount per litre of product (often referred to by the industry as a "flat tax"). Beer mark-ups also vary by size of brewing company (based on annual production) in order to support medium and small sized breweries. Beer mark-ups were changed from percentage based to volume based in 2003.

Government policy exempts certain sales of British Columbia produced products from LDB mark-ups. This includes direct sales of 100% British Columbia content wine by British Columbia wineries and direct sales of 100% British Columbia content distilled spirits by qualifying British Columbia craft distilleries.

Appendix 1 shows the LDB's major mark-up categories and rates.

Other jurisdictions:

The LDB's liquor mark-ups are similar in nature to those in other provinces, however, differences in operational structures and government revenue expectations result in variations. As in British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan have percentage based mark-ups for non-beer products and volume based mark-ups for beer products. Manitoba has percentage based mark-ups for all products and Alberta has volume based mark-ups for all products.

With the exception of British Columbia, provinces with volume based mark-up rates periodically increase the rates to adjust for inflation (it is not necessary to adjust percentage based mark-up rates for inflation because they automatically increase as supplier price increases). The LDB's beer volume mark-ups have never been increased for inflation since they were implemented in 2003.

Most other provinces also have reduced mark-up levels for smaller breweries although policies vary significantly.

Other provinces also provide mark-up reductions or mark-up exemptions for direct sales of local winery products, and in some provinces for direct sales of craft distillery products.

Current issues:

s.13, s.17

2. Mark-up Policy for Smaller Breweries

Once a brewery exceeds the production threshold that puts it into a higher mark-up category (see Appendix 1), all of its sales immediately become subject to the higher mark-ups. In recent years this has resulted in pressure to increase in the mid-sized brewery threshold to prevent financial hardship for a specific fast growing British Columbia brewery. The LDB has been directed to develop options to gradually phase out the mark-up benefits for smaller breweries to prevent this situation from reoccurring.

The major Canadian breweries (Labatt, Molson, Sleeman) are critical of the LDB's brewery mark-up policy and believe that it provides too much mark-up relief for mid-sized breweries that primarily sell lower priced beer which competes directly with the major breweries products.

**Appendix 1
Major LDB Mark-up Rates**

Category	Mark-up Rates
Distilled Spirits (e.g. Vodka)	163%
Table Wine	117%
Cider and Coolers	98%
Beer (Packaged) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large Brewery (production: > 160,000 hectolitres* per year)• Mid-Sized Brewery (production: 15,000 – 160,000 hectolitres per year)• Small Brewery (production: < 15,000 thousand hectolitres per year)	<p>\$1.63 per litre</p> <p>\$1.08 per litre</p> <p>\$0.97 per litre</p>

* A hectolitre is 100 litres.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: LDB Discounts for Private Outlets

Background:

Private liquor retailers purchase liquor from the LDB at a discount from the BC Liquor Store (government liquor store) price. The purpose of these LDB administered discounts, which vary by type of private retail model, is to compensate them for providing a retail service and to enable them enough margin to make a profit and offer reasonable prices.

A brief description of these discounts by liquor outlet type follows. A summary of the discount rates is shown in Appendix 1.

Licensee Retail Stores (LRS) – LRSs receive a 16% discount from the LDB. When the LRS model was originally created in the mid-1980s the discount rate was 10%, but was increased to the current level on three occasions between 2003 and 2007. At current sales volumes the LDB's annual cost of providing discounts to LRSs is approximately \$165 million (\$10.3 million for each 1% of discount). Some LRSs have consumer prices similar to BC Liquor Stores, but most are believed to charge an average of approximately 15% higher.

Rural Agency Stores (RAS) – RASs receive a 12% discount from the LDB. When the RAS model was originally created in the mid-1970s, the discount rate was 10%, but was increased to 12% in 2013. At current volumes the LDB's annual cost of providing discounts to RASs is \$12 million (\$1.0 million for each 1% of discount). RASs were originally required to charge consumers BC Liquor Store prices, but in 2010 were given the ability to price up to 10% higher or lower. RASs sell liquor in conjunction with grocery items and as a result have lower costs than standalone retail liquor models such as LRSs.

Independent Wine Stores (IWS) – IWSs receive a 30% discount from the LDB, the same discount rate that was established when this retail model was created in the late 1980's. The justification for the high discount rate compared to the other retail models was that IWSs were restricted in product selection to wine. At current volumes the LDB's annual cost of providing discounts to IWSs is \$13 million (\$0.4 million for each 1% of discount).

BC Wine Stores – There is a variety of wine stores operated by the BC wine industry including VQA stores operated by the BC Wine Institute, off-site stores operated by specific wineries and on-site stores operated by most wineries). Sales of 100% BC content wines from these stores are exempt from LDB mark-ups and therefore LDB discounts do not apply. Wine produced by BC wineries from imported bulk wine is subject to LDB mark-ups and the LDB provides a discount of 30% for wine store sales.

Duty Free Stores (DFS) – DFSs are restricted to selling liquor to travellers leaving Canada. The LDB does not apply discounts to DFS purchases, it sells liquor to DFSs at a low rate of LDB mark-up (e.g. 20% mark-up on distilled spirits as compared to the LDB's normal spirit mark-up of 163%).

Bars/Restaurants – Bars/restaurants purchase liquor from the LDB in the same manner as private retail stores but do not receive a discount on liquor purchases. The rationale is that they are not direct competitors with private and government retail stores as they sell liquor for on-premise consumption.

Other jurisdictions:

Most other Canadian jurisdictions have some form of private retailing, however retail models vary considerably. For some of these retail models the liquor authority applies purchase discounts similar to the LDB's system, and for some the liquor authority applies lower rates of mark-up.

With respect to bars/restaurants, other provinces have no discounts or limited discounts for licensees.

Current issues:

1. Requests for Increases to LDB Discounts

Government regularly receives requests from private outlets to increase the LDB's liquor purchase discounts. The most frequent requests have come from RAS operators, although the recent increase in the discount rate from 10% to 12% will likely reduce these requests. Bars/and restaurants, who receive no discount will likely continue to ask government to apply one.

2. Wholesale Pricing Model

Certain sectors of industry have asked government to eliminate the LDB's different discount rates for private outlets and move to a common wholesale pricing system applicable to all private models. Such a change would have significant impacts on LDB pricing policy, government revenue and the price competitiveness between private retail models and BC Liquor Stores.

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Alberta which has a fully privatized retail system is the only province with a common wholesale pricing system.

**Appendix 1
Private Outlet Discount Rates**

Category	Discount Rates*
Licensee Retail Stores	16%
Rural Agency Stores	12%
Independent Wine Stores	30%
BC Wine Stores (for sales of products made from bulk imported wine only)	30%
Duty Free Stores	n/a**
Bars/Restaurants	no discount

* Discount rates are based on the BC Liquor Store retail price excluding sale taxes.

** Duty Free Stores receive a lower rate of LDB mark-up rather than a discount.

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: LDB Minimum Retail Prices

Background:

LDB Minimum Price Policy

The LDB has a minimum price policy that specifies the lowest prices at which products can be sold based on BC Liquor Store (BCLS) display prices (i.e. retail including sales tax). The original purpose of the policy, which was implemented in 1989, was to: 1) prevent supplier revenue from being eroded by low priced products; 2) prevent LDB revenue from being eroded by the sale of low priced products; and 3) prevent over-consumption of low priced products (social responsibility).

Minimum retail prices are established as an amount per litre within specified product categories and prorated based on product size (i.e. a 750 ml bottle of spirits has a minimum price twice as high as a 375 ml bottle of spirits). Since 1989, changes to minimum prices have not been consistently applied to all categories. The minimum price for spirits has been increased a number of times, most recently in 2010. The minimum prices for beer (draught and packaged) have been increased less frequently, most recently in 2008. The minimum price for wine has not been increased since 1998, and the minimum prices for liqueurs and cider/coolers have not been increased since 1993. See Appendix 1 for current minimum prices.

Changes in minimum prices, when made, are usually justified on the basis of increasing revenue. Minimum price increases for all products except for beer result in increased revenue to both suppliers and the LDB. However, the LDB does not receive increased revenue from increases to beer minimum prices because the LDB's mark-up on beer is volume based rather than percentage based.

Due to the frequent increases in the minimum price for spirits, there are a number of spirits currently sold at the minimum price. There are a relatively small number of beer products sold at the minimum price. Very few liqueur, wine or cider/cooler products are sold at minimum prices because it has been so long since the minimum prices of those categories have been increased.

Ability of Private Liquor Stores to Discount

Although the minimum price policy establishes the lowest prices at which products can be sold in BCLSs, private stores may sell for less. LCLB policy allows Licensee Retail Stores (LRS) to sell up to 16% below BCLS retail prices and LDB policy allows Rural Agency Stores (RAS) to sell up to 10% below BCLS retail prices. In general, private stores only sell below BCLSs retail prices when they are having a short term promotion or discontinuing products.

Minimum Pricing and Social Responsibility

The Center for Addictions Research of BC (CARBC) is a University of Victoria based research and advocacy organization that supports the development of policies to reduce harms from substance abuse. CARBC has published a number of research papers in recent years recommending that the LDB's minimum prices should be adjusted for inflation annually and should be set at a consistent level across all categories based on alcohol content. CARBC also recommends that all retail stores, government and private, should have to adhere to the same policy. BC's Provincial Health Officer has supported CARBC's recommendations.

Other Jurisdictions

There are significant differences in provincial policies on minimum prices. Alberta does not have a minimum price policy. Manitoba only has a minimum price policy for specific large format beer bottles. Ontario has minimum prices for all categories, but they are not directly linked to alcohol content, and prices are increased annually for inflation. Saskatchewan has a minimum price policy that establishes rates consistently across all categories based on alcohol content but does not have a mechanism to increase prices for inflation.

Current issue: Increases to Minimum Prices

In the last few years, the large brewers and the large BC wineries have both made requests for minimum price increases. Both are believed to be concerned about competition from low priced competitors.

CARBC has recently issued a report recommending that all minimum prices be increased and that BC adopt Saskatchewan's system.

Appendix 1
Minimum Retail Prices by Category

Category	Minimum Price Per Litre (L)	Minimum Price Per Representative Product Size	Date of Last Increase
Spirits	\$31.66 per L	\$23.75 per 750 ml	2010
Liqueurs	\$16.15 per L	\$12.10 per 750 ml	1993
Wine (package sizes <10 Litres)	\$7.20 per L	\$5.40 per 750 ml	1998
Wine (package sizes >= 10 Litres)	\$6.45 per L	\$103.20 per 16 L Keg	1998
Packaged Beer	\$3.54 per L	\$7.55 per 6 X 355 ml	2008
Draft Beer	\$2.22 per L	\$130.30 per 58.7 L Keg	2008
Packaged Cider/Coolers	\$3.00 per L	\$6.40 per 6 X 355 ml	1993
Draft Cider/Coolers	\$2.45 per L	\$122.50 per 50 L Keg	1993

LIQUOR REVIEW POLICY NOTE

TITLE: Private Store Sales to Licensees

Background:

The Liquor Control and Licensing Act requires bars/restaurants (licensees) to purchase liquor from the LDB or entities acting as agents of the LDB such as BC manufacturers (i.e. wineries and breweries). Licensees are not permitted to purchase liquor from most private liquor stores types such as Licensee Retail Stores (LRS) or independent wine stores (IWS). The LDB does, however, permit licensees in some rural communities to purchase liquor from Rural Agency Stores when it is demonstrated that it would be a hardship on the licensees to travel long distances to the nearest BC Liquor Store. The volume of these sales is small.

Licensees and their associations, such as the BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association, have expressed an interest in purchasing liquor directly from private retailers. One of the reasons for their interest is that LRSs and IWSs carry products (mainly imported wine) that are not available in BC Liquor Stores. Currently, if licensees purchase products from the LDB that are not sold in BC Liquor Stores, they are required to purchase in full case quantities (products carried in BC Liquor Stores can be purchased in less than case quantities). It would therefore be convenient for licensees to access these products in small quantities from private stores.

Private stores, particularly LRSs, have also expressed an interest in selling to licensees because it would significantly increase their customer base. Licensees account for approximately \$470 million in annual liquor purchases.

In many cases, licensees and private liquor stores like to carry a selection of products that are not carried in BC Liquor Stores. Carrying such products offers an opportunity to increase their margins because customers cannot price compare.

Other jurisdictions:

With the exception of Alberta, other Canadian liquor jurisdictions do not generally permit private stores to sell to licensees. In Alberta, which has a fully privatized retail system, most licensees purchase their products from private stores because most do not have sufficient volumes to justify purchasing directly from the government contracted distributor which only supplies full case quantities.

Current issue: Revenue Impact of Private Store Sales to Licensees

There would be a significant impact on government revenue if all private stores could sell to licensees. LRSs receive a 16% discount on their liquor purchases from the LDB and IWS receive a 30% discount. Licensees receive no discount from the LDB.

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There are no government revenue issues in Alberta from private stores selling to licensees. Government receives all of its liquor revenue on sales to the private stores and any subsequent sales have no impact.

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

The liquor industry is divided into a number of sectors including retail stores, establishments for on-premise consumption, liquor manufacturers and liquor importers.

Liquor purchased in British Columbia is typically obtained from either a liquor store (private or public) for home consumption or is purchased in a licensed establishment for consumption at that site. In addition, the legislation permits individuals to make their own beer, wine or cider either in their own home or at a licensed facility known as a Ubrew or Uvin.

1. Retail Stores

There are a number of different types of liquor stores and these models have been introduced at different times for varying historical reasons. Government liquor stores were the original stores and had a monopoly on retailing until the 1970s.

Government Liquor Stores

- Operated by the Liquor Distribution Branch.
- They may sell all types of liquor.
- Most stores are not open on Sundays and do not have refrigerated product.
- Also wholesale liquor to licensed establishments
- Issue Special Occasion Licences
- 195 stores and they hold a 40.5% share of the entire market (based on dollar sales)

Licensee Retail Stores

- These stores were first introduced in 1985 to sell beer and wine. Spirits were added as an approved product in 2002
- Stores originally were tied physically and legally to an adjoining pub or hotel but this is no longer required
- Most if not all stores offer refrigerated product
- LRS's purchase liquor from the LDB at a 16% discount from the LDB retail price and may sell it at any price above their purchase price
- 670 stores and they hold a 34.8% share of the entire market
- Licensed and regulated by the LCLB
- The regulations prohibit the issuance of new licences

Rural Agency Stores

- Introduced in the 1970s to grocery stores and general stores in small communities or resort areas where it is not economically viable to operate a standalone store
- Most stores offer refrigerated product
- RAS purchase liquor from the LDB at a 12% discount (raised earlier this year from 10%) and may sell up to 10% higher than LDB store prices.

- Appointed and regulated by the LDB, but with plans to transition to licensee status under the LCLB
- There are 221 stores and they hold a 3.4% share of the entire market
- New stores may be approved only if they meet specified criteria including a minimum distance from other liquor stores

Duty Free Stores

- There are 11 stores located at border crossing and airports
- May sell all types of liquor to patrons leaving the country
- Licensed by the federal government and appointed by LDB (there are plans to transition these stores to licensee status under the LCLB)
- LDB sells liquor to the stores at a reduced mark-up that varies by liquor type
- Stores may sell liquor at any price

Wine Stores

- There are 61 wine stores, consisting of a number of different store types including 21 VQA stores selling VQA wine, 12 independent wine stores selling all types of wine, sacramental wine stores and stores issued to wineries to sell the winery's products
- Licensed and regulated by the LCLB
- The regulations prohibit the issuance of new licences

2. Establishments for On-Premise Consumption

Licences are issued to establishments where liquor can be consumed. Sales to these establishments represent 15.9% of the entire market. Licensees purchase liquor at the same price as the public (minus sales tax) and may sell the liquor for any price above their purchase price.

Food Primary

- Issued to restaurants. The primary focus of the establishment must be on the service of food at all times
- May sell all types of liquor
- Minors are permitted
- Establishments are also eligible for a small on-site lounge with a liquor focus
- There are limits on entertainment and liquor service hours to help ensure the primary focus does not stray from food service
- There are 5687 food primary establishments

Liquor Primary

- Issued to facilities such as bars, pubs and nightclubs where the primary focus is liquor service. The licence is also issued for liquor service at stadiums, airports, universities, and many other types of facilities
- May sell all types of liquor
- With some limited exceptions, minors are not permitted

- Some establishments are authorized to sell off-sales of beer, wine, cider and coolers
- The application process is quite rigorous with a thorough analysis of community impact and citizen views by local government
- There are 1950 liquor primary establishments

Liquor Primary Club

- Similar conditions as liquor primary licences, however service is limited to members and guests
- There are 367 liquor primary club establishments

Caterers

- Issued to businesses primarily in the business of catering food to provide food and liquor service at locations which are otherwise not licensed
- Food Primary and Liquor Primary licensees may also apply for a catering endorsement on their licence to cater off-site in the same manner as caterers
- May sell all types of liquor
- Minors may be permitted at catered events
- The licensing model was introduced in February 2013. There are currently 18 catering licences and 51 establishments with catering endorsements

3. Liquor Manufacturers and Import Agents

There has been significant growth in the number of liquor manufacturers in recent years. This is likely due to changing consumer tastes and preferential LDB markups for certain types of liquor products

Wineries

- Licensed to manufacture and sell wine
- Wineries are eligible to apply for an on-site store and on-site premises where patrons may consume wine, e.g. a lounge
- Subject to approval by the LDB they may make direct sales to licensed establishments including private liquor stores
- LDB has two categories of wineries: Land based which have a minimum of two producing acres and produce all wine from 100% BC grapes, fruit or honey, and Commercial wineries which can make wine from BC or imported products
- All products from Land based wineries are eligible for LDB markup exemption. In terms of Commercial wineries markup relief only applies to their VQA wines
- There are 247 wineries, 25 of which are commercial

Breweries

- Licensed to manufacture and sell beer
- Breweries are eligible to apply for an on-site store and on-site premises where patrons may consume beer, e.g. a lounge

- Subject to approval by the LDB they may make direct sales to licensed establishments including private liquor stores
- LDB has a preferential mark-up system based on annual production volume with a lower per litre markup for smaller producers
- There are 63 breweries

Distilleries

- Licensed to manufacture and sell spirits
- Distilleries are eligible to apply for an on-site store and on-site premises where patrons may consume spirits, e.g a lounge
- Subject to approval by the LDB craft distillers (see below) may make direct sales to licensed establishments including private liquor stores
- There are 19 distilleries

The LDB introduced a new craft distillery policy that came into effect April 1, 2013. The new policy added some additional qualifying criteria, while dramatically increasing the benefit for those that qualify.

Distilleries that meet the following criteria may qualify as a craft distillery and be eligible for mark-up exemption on their products sold to licensed establishment and the public.

- 1) All products produced by the distillery must be fermented and distilled at the licensed distillery site using 100 per cent BC agricultural inputs.
- 2) All products must be produced utilizing traditional spirit making techniques. The production of spirit cooler products or other highly processed products are not permitted, nor is the use of neutral grain spirits in the production of any products.
- 3) The distillery has an annual production of finished products below 50,000 litres

The direct-sales mark-up benefit will be phased out between 50,000 litres and 100,000 litres.

A craft distillery that exceeds the first threshold of 50,000 litres will continue to have the ability to make direct sales to restaurants, bars, and private retail liquor stores, and the public. However those sales will become subject to an increasing LDB mark-up as the distillery's production level increases.

Distilleries not categorized as craft may not sell direct to licensees and their products are subject to LDB markup.

Agents

- They are licensed to represent products manufactured outside BC but sold in the Province
- Agents may market product but may not sell products they represent to the public or licensees
- There are 255 licensed agents

4. Other Categories

Ubrews and Uvins

- Facilities where the public make their own beer, wine, cider or coolers
- The customer must be involved in specified steps of the production process but the licensee also has a key role in the production
- The product is not subject to LDB markup
- There are 264 licensed UBrew/UVins

Special Occasion Licences

- Issued to family, private and public non-profit events
- Also issued to manufacturers to acquaint the public with their products
- Licences are issued by government liquor stores, generally with input from local police
- Approximately 25,000 licences are issued per year

KEY THEMES FOR THE REVIEW

The review should consider all aspects of liquor policy including licensing, compliance and enforcement, education and social responsibility, Liquor Distribution Branch mark-up, and distribution efficiencies. Governance of the Liquor Distribution Branch is out of scope of the review.

Reflect Current Marketplace, Lifestyles and Societal Values

Societal values change over time; it is important that liquor regulations reflect current values. There continues to be a range of views within communities, however there appears to be a trend towards more relaxed attitude about liquor consumption.

Provide Flexibility for Businesses and Remove Operational Barriers

The current licensing categories were created for 'traditional' establishments – restaurants and bars. Other business models are hard pressed to fit into these categories (e.g. video-game restaurant; gastro-pub; banquet halls, spas). The current categories also do not provide much flexibility for a change in use over the day.

Additionally, the application process is much simpler for restaurants because there is usually no local government consultation. This has led to some businesses applying for a food primary (restaurant) license when they intend to operate as bar. A number of terms and conditions that create operational barriers are in place primarily to prevent licensees from operating outside their licence class.

Fair and Effective Compliance Strategies

Monetary and suspension penalties for contraventions are specified in a schedule in the Regulations. The schedule was implemented in 2001 and is need of review to determine if the penalties are appropriate.

Education & Social Responsibility

Government regulates liquor to prevent harms from overconsumption and misuse. This is done in part through educating licensees and the public.

The Stanley Cup Riot Review Report of 2011 called for more public education on the dangers of alcohol abuse, binge drinking, underage drinking and public intoxication. It also called for more initiatives to promote moderate and responsible drinking.

Ensure a Sustainable Liquor Manufacturing Sector

In order to support government's goal to grow the economy and provide jobs, it is important that BC has a vibrant and sustainable liquor manufacturing sector. To achieve this goal, it is important that there are more opportunities for marketing and promotion of BC manufacturers and their products both within and outside BC.

The existing licensing options for manufacturers provide for a host of different types of on-premise facilities for patron consumption. These have evolved in a less than cohesive manner over the years resulting in a very complex mix of options for manufacturers.

Many BC liquor manufacturers receive LDB markup advantages not available to imported product. In exchange for this there is an expectation that manufacturers should make the necessary investment to actually manufacture most of the product they sell instead of purchasing it from other manufacturers and operating little more than a store and lounge on-site. However, an increasing number of manufacturers are not meeting the spirit and intent of the legislation.

Efficient and Effective Liquor Distribution System

The current liquor distribution system permits BC breweries, wineries and craft distilleries to make direct sales to licensed establishments. Imported products, however, are stored by the import agent in a bonded warehouse prior to being ordered by the LDB. Once ordered, it is shipped to the LDB warehouse for distribution to the government liquor stores and then sold to licensed establishments and the public. There may be efficiencies to be found in the distribution system.

LDB Mark-up Schedule & Liquor Taxation

The mark-up schedule varies significantly across product categories, e.g. beer vs. spirits, and within product categories. Additional differences involve whether the product is made from BC agricultural products. In regard to minimum pricing, it has been increased for spirits on a fairly regular basis over the years while remaining largely unchanged for beer and wine.

In addition, Ubrew and Uvin product is exempt from LDB markup or any consumer tax except on bottles and labels purchased by the customer.

Government has publicly committed to reviewing the small brewery mark-up schedule

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KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE REVIEW

There are a number of considerations that must be kept in mind while carrying out the review and making recommendations.

These include:

- Ensure that government revenue is maintained or increased
 - Net income from LDB in 2012/2013 was \$1.02 billion. Government needs to maximize revenue to meet budget targets.
- Minimize health and social harms caused by liquor (see Tab 8 for further information on this topic)
- Ensure that the public safety and the public interest of British Columbians and their communities is protected and safeguards are maintained or increased
 - Changes to liquor regulation affect communities, and impact resources for local government and police
- Be evidence-based and transparent
 - In order to minimize harms and ensure public safety and public interest, recommendations should be evidence-based
 - In order to get buy-in from stakeholders, the review should ensure there is transparency in the consultation process
- Respect obligations under collective agreements and international and inter-provincial trade agreements
 - The federal government is negotiating a free-trade agreement with the European Union
 - The BCGEU collective agreement requires government to maintain a certain number of government liquor stores, and not to privatize the distribution system
- Balance economic and social interests with the need to ensure public safety and the public interest
 - Responsible liquor consumption has a positive economic impact for local businesses, benefits tourism, generates revenue for social programs and in moderation may have positive health effects.
 - Misuse can lead to poor health outcomes, traffic accidents, community disturbances, physical altercations and domestic violence, and negative outcomes for children and youth.
- Industry is often divided, and there is competition within and across licence classes. Providing a benefit to one sector typically leads to further requests from other sectors.

- e.g. when government introduced 'bring-your-own-wine', allowing patrons to bring wine to a restaurant, government received requests from craft breweries to allow 'bring-your-own-beer', and requests from pubs to extend the permission to their establishments as well.

CONSULTATION STRATEGY FOR THE REVIEW

The consultation approach should:

- Canvas the opinions of a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from:
 - licensed establishments (food primary, liquor primary, liquor primary club, catering licences)
 - retail stores
 - manufacturers and importers
 - UBrew/UVin
 - local government
 - police
 - health and social policy associations
 - lobby groups
- Provide mechanisms for licensees that do not belong to associations to participate;
- Include an opportunity for the public to provide input; and,
- Incorporate methods to build transparency into the process.

The following are examples of consultation strategies that have been used in other reviews. A combination of these approaches could be used as part of the liquor review.

- In person meetings with associations
 - BC Justice Reform Initiative (Cowper report) – met with the judiciary, lawyers, police and corrections on a public and confidential basis to understand issues
 - Coastal Ferries Consultation – met individually with local government, tourist associations, trucking groups, etc.
 - A liquor review could meet each group individually or hold sessions for specific areas – retail, by-the-glass, manufacturers (wineries, breweries and distilleries), agents/importers, social policy/public health
- Roundtable sessions with a broad range of stakeholders
 - BC Policing Plan – held sessions that brought a broad range of stakeholders together to discussion specific issues
 - BC Justice Reform – used consultation tables to generate and discuss proposals for change
 - Liquor related associations have conflicting interests and may not wish to be at the same table (e.g. interests of restaurants and bars differ; interests of licensees and social policy groups)

- Open meetings or small group sessions which allow individuals to attend in person
 - Coastal Ferries Consultation – people sign-up in advance; presentation given about issues with Q and A session afterwards
 - This would accommodate licensees that are not members of liquor industry associations, such as smaller licensees and those in rural areas
- Public open houses
 - BC Ferries Consultation – no sign-up necessary, had poster boards explaining issues and staff available to answer questions; also had webinar for people that could not attend a session in person
 - A liquor review should include an opportunity for public input, but would not likely need in-person public consultations
- Surveys
 - BC Ferries – used survey to assess public's opinion on the best ways to connect coastal communities, and to fund the coastal ferry service to ensure its financial viability in the future
 - BC Policing Plan – used survey to get baseline information about the public's perception about policing
- Website, blogs and social media
 - BC Education Plan
 - Website explains plan, has progress reports, links to studies and documents
 - Has on-line surveys on topics
 - Has blogs about specific issues with comment sections; people must register and indicate what group they are part of - parent, teacher, student etc. in order to post comments
 - Has over 3000 followers on Twitter, and holds twitter town halls to discuss specific issues
 - Facebook page (over 1000 likes) – used for announcements of initiatives, links to resources, updates on the plan and reminders of opportunities to participate
 - BC Policing Plan
 - website has information on action items and links to reports and resources
 - blog had difficulties getting participation

- BC Justice Reform
 - Website/ Blog – discussions on specific topics, updates on progress, sharing information gathered and comments from participants
 - Facebook page (81 likes) – posts consists mainly of links to blog posts
- Consultation document / written submissions
 - BC Justice Reform – the province released a green paper outlining current challenges and proposals for where improvements could be made to B.C.'s justice system, then appointed Geoffrey Cowper, QC, to consult with the judiciary, Crown counsel, the legal profession, police and others to look at challenges set out in the Province's green paper
 - BC Ferries – had a discussion guide with focused questions for public to comment on; available on-line or hard-copy
 - BC Education Plan and BC Policing Plan have dedicated email accounts for comments that are not related to blog posts or as an alternate way to provide comments

STAKEHOLDER PROFILES AND REQUESTS

Licensees vie to compete with other licensed businesses and those seeking to enter the market. Changes to the regulatory framework are likely to produce winners and losers and/or the perception of winners and losers. Some licensees form loose alliances to promote their common interests. However, these may change when the market changes.

LCLB and LDB deal with a number of stakeholders including the following:

Alliance of Beverage Licensees (ABLE BC)

Ian Baillie, Executive Director; Ron Orr, President

ABLE represents a number of the Province's liquor primary and licensee retail store establishments.

Requests include:

- Oppose LDB becoming a crown corporation due to concerns about loss of marketshare if LDB becomes more competitive
- Increase enforcement against restaurants that operate like bars
- Allow private stores to sell to other licensees and special occasion licence holders
- Review/reduce penalties for non-compliance
- Reduce barriers to business/regulation
- Maintain moratorium on new liquor stores

Restaurant Food Services Association of BC (BCRFA)

Ian Tostenson, President and CEO

This is an association of restaurants, caterers, restaurant suppliers and food service retailers. BCRFA represents over 3,000 restaurant and food service businesses across British Columbia.

Requests include:

- Provide wholesale discount on liquor purchases to restaurants and bars
- Introduce a more collaborative approach to increase compliance with laws, and review penalty schedule
- Reduce government regulation and red tape

Canadian Restaurant and Food Services Association (CRFA)

Mark von Schellwitz, Vice President, Western Canada

CRFA represents restaurants, bars, cafeterias and social and caterers, as well as accommodation, entertainment and institutional foodservice.

Requests similar to those of BCRFA (see above).

BC/Yukon Command Royal Canadian Legion

Inga Kruse, Executive Director

Represents the Legion branches in B.C.

Requests include:

- More flexibility to allow minors to accompany their family members
- Permit legions to subletting either their food or liquor service
- Reduce fees for changes of directors
- Ability to serve food and liquor at non-member events held at their establishment

Rural Agency Store Advisory Society

Trent Leggett, President.

Represents many of the province's rural agency stores, i.e. liquor stores located in grocery or general stores in smaller communities

Requests include:

- Fifteen per cent discount on direct purchases from BC wineries.
- Incremental increase in RAS discount from 10 per cent to 16 per cent over three years.

Note: The RAS discount was increased to 12 per cent in March 2013.

BC Wine Institute (BCWI)

Josie Tyabji, Chair; Miles Prodan, Executive Director

The BCWI represents approximately 50% of the province's wineries including most of the larger and medium sized wineries. The institute also holds the appointments for the 21 VQA wine stores located throughout the province. Historically, the BCWI has been responsible for wine standards but this has been transferred to the BC Wine Authority.

Requests include:

- Continue efforts to facilitate interprovincial wine shipments
- Increase the minimum prices established for products sold for in government liquor stores
- Maintain the ad valorem mark-up structure on wine
- Support plans for a British Columbia Wine & Culinary Centre and add additional off-site store appointments for use in visitor information centres or airport locations

Canada's National Brewers

Bryan Cox, Vice-President Western Division

Primarily represents the interests of the larger breweries (Molson, Labatt, Sleeman).

Requests include:

- Review/change small brewery markup schedule
- Implement an effective social responsibility/minimum pricing schedule, indexed for inflation

Craft Brewers Association of BC

Todd Melynyk, Chair

Collection of smaller breweries, cooperative trade organization.

Requests include:

- Provide better support to the craft brewery sector, including more listings with the LDB, more flexibility as to how/where product can be sold and tastings can occur including at farmers markets and community festivals
- Reduce mark-up on growlers (refillable beer containers)

Association of Canadian Distillers

Jan Westcott, President and CEO

A national lobby group representing distillers in Canada

Requests include:

- Ban/discourage sale of alcohol and energy drinks in licensed establishments
- Expand minimum pricing to all retail outlets and set minimum by-the-glass prices; minimum price should be based on litres of absolute alcohol
- Make LDB's wholesale distribution system more efficient
- Equalize mark-up rates for spirits, wine and beer (currently spirits shoulder a disproportionate amount due to the flat mark-up rate on beer and mark-up relief given to BC wine producers)

Artisan Distillers Guild of BC

Tyler Dyck

Represents some of the smaller distillers in B.C.

Requests include:

- Expand craft distillery policy to permit the use of non-BC agricultural product

Import Vintners and Spirits Association (IVSA)

Tim Crowhurst, Executive Director

This association represents many liquor importers.

Requests include:

- Make LDB's wholesale distribution system for imported product more efficient, by allowing private delivery, creating a warehouse depot store for agents, and improving the ordering system to allow products to be tracked
- Consider alternative mark-up structures, such as a "flat tax" structure or a wholesale pricing model
- A moratorium on new agents licenses
- Extended hours of opening for retailers

BC Fermenters Guild

Haely Lindau, Executive Director.

Represents many of the province's UBrews and UVins, locations where customers make their own beer or wine for home consumption.

Local Governments/UBCM

Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, UBCM

The Branch has ongoing dialogue with a UBCM working group representing approximately a dozen local governments and UBCM staff.

Requests include:

- Simplify the liquor primary licensing process
- Broaden eligibility for groups wanting to hold cultural or arts events using a special occasion licence
- Allow whole-site licensing for festivals with a special occasion licence (don't require segregated beer gardens)
- Allow more flexibility for licensees (e.g. allow licensees to operate as a restaurant by day and a bar at night; allow business models that don't fit within the existing license classes)

Ministry of Health

Denise De Pape, Director of Alcohol Harm Reduction

Focuses on health promotion and disease prevention

Centre for Addictions Research BC (CARBC), Center for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

Requests made in *Strategies to Reduce Alcohol Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A comparison of provincial policies*, March 2013:

- Alcohol pricing: establish minimum prices for on-premises and off-premises establishments, with prices substantially higher than non-alcoholic beverages
- Alcohol control system:
 - Moratorium on private outlets.
 - Increased oversight of delivery services, on-line shopping and UBrew/UVin establishments.
 - LDB should report to health ministry to prevent liquor retailing to overshadow liquor control
- Availability:
 - Set maximum thresholds for density of establishments to reduce points of access to liquor.
 - Regulate hours of operation and limit the availability of liquor in early hours of the morning or very late at night.
- Marketing and Advertising:
 - Strengthen controls over advertising, marketing and sponsorship, particularly for those that appeal to youth or persons drinking in a high-risk manner.

- Discontinue advertising discount prices, and limit the quantity of alcohol advertising permitted. Enforce violations.
- LDB's website should include strong and detailed responsibility messages in a central place.
- Mandatory server training for all licensed events and venues.
- Establish a provincial alcohol strategy
- Include warning labels and signs in both on-premises and off-premises establishments

Public

- Allow drinking in parks so people could have wine with their picnic
- Allow people to buy liquor in grocery stores
- Don't require beer gardens at festivals
- Allow Ubrew at special occasion licensed events (modernize events generally)
- Less restrictions for all-ages special occasion licensed events
- Allow cross-border, on-line wine purchases
- Allow Sunday sales at public liquor stores
- Allow parents to bring kids to the pub to eat

Modernize Wine (a small group recently formed to advocate for wine law changes)

- Allow educational wine tastings
- Allow wine orders at tasting events
- Allow secondary tasting rooms
- Allow off-site storage for restaurants and retail stores
- Allow restaurants to purchase from private stores
- Allow wineries having booths at farmer's markets, to sample and sell

Free the Wine (a small group advocating for wine law changes)

- LDB's discount rate should be consistent between retailers
- Provide wholesale discounts to food primary and liquor primary licensees
- Reduce mark-up on liquor
- Continue efforts to facilitate inter-provincial shipment of wine
- Change term "Cellared in Canada" as it is not really a domestic product
- Improve the efficiency of ordering/delivery of imported wine
- Reduce restrictions on stores
- Abolish centralized purchasing by LDB
- Tax UBrews/UVins

Campaign for Culture (a small group recently formed to advocate for liquor law changes)

- Allow happy hours
- Special Occasion Licensing:
 - Allow more events
 - Indoor and outdoor events same treatment (longer hours, no beer gardens)
 - Allow spirits at public events
 - Drink prices shouldn't be regulated (eliminate maximum and minimum prices)
- Allow business models that don't fit within the existing license classes
- Strengthen local production (allow local liquor at Farmer's Markets; allow off-site tasting rooms)

RATIONALE FOR LIQUOR REGULATION

Alcohol is the most commonly used drug in Canada, and is associated with both costs and social benefits, unlike tobacco and illegal drugs. However, moderate alcohol consumption has been proven to be compatible with a healthy lifestyle.

PATTERNS OF CONSUMPTION

Average liquor consumption in British Columbia is about 8.5L/capita. A healthy level of consumption is about 8.2L/capita, according to Canada's recently adopted low risk drinking guidelines. While overall consumption in BC is not much higher than the recommended amounts, trends show it is increasing at a faster rate than the rest of Canada.

Risky patterns of consumption, such as binge drinking and underage drinking, also incur high social costs. The top 10% of heaviest drinkers account for about 53% of total consumption. The top 20% of heaviest drinkers account for almost 72% of total consumption. Binge drinking on a monthly or more frequent basis is the strongest predictor of alcohol-related harm. These drinkers are almost twice as likely to experience harm as those who never engage in heavy drinking.

Alcohol use by minors and youth is also a major concern. Forty percent of those aged 12 and older in British Columbia reported binge drinking at least occasionally, and many of those in the age category 15-24 are among the heaviest binge drinkers. The age of onset of drinking is also key: the earlier young people begin drinking, the greater the likelihood that they will experience alcohol-related harms.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS AND COSTS

Direct revenue from the sale of packaged liquor brings in over \$900M in provincial revenue annually. This is augmented by revenue from taxes paid by businesses and employees in the hospitality industry.

The biggest single direct cost associated with alcohol abuse is health care, followed by law enforcement costs. Indirect costs include things such as loss of productivity, family problems, and premature death and disability. The Provincial Health Officer estimates the annual health and enforcement costs associated with alcohol misuse directly borne by government in British Columbia were \$62 million higher than government revenue from alcohol sales in 2002. (Unfortunately, it is not possible to update this analysis for later years because, unlike revenue, costs are not tracked on an annual basis.)

There is considerable overlap in the research between alcohol abuse and other at-risk behaviours. Long-term excessive (chronic) use of alcohol is directly linked to cirrhosis of the liver and an increased risk of some types of cancers. According to the World Health Organization, alcohol consumption is estimated to cause from 20% to 50% of cirrhosis of the liver, epilepsy, poisonings, road traffic accidents, violence and several types of cancer. Alcohol-related liver disease deaths rose 71% in BC between 2002 and 2010.

HARM REDUCTION STRATEGIES

Liquor regulation, including controlling availability, pricing, and controlling access to liquor by minors, is an evidence-based public policy approach to mitigate the risk of harms associated with alcohol abuse. The LCLB currently has the following evidence-based strategies in place:

- Availability restrictions due to the moratorium on new private liquor retail outlets;
- Effective enforcement of the prohibition on selling liquor to minors through the Minors as Agents Program;
- Requiring Serving It Right training for licensees and employees of licensed establishments; and
- Participating in cross-governmental initiatives to ensure public safety at large public events (in response to the Stanley Cup Riot Review), to encourage the development of municipal alcohol policies, and to develop tools and resources for binge drinkers, high school dry grads and the parents of minors.

Effective liquor regulation is an essential part of a multi-faceted approach to harm reduction, along with public health interventions, drinking driving counter-measures, and targeted education and communications.

In recent years, Canadian governments and other stakeholders have developed a National Alcohol Strategy with 41 recommendations that are in varying stages of implementation. A summary of Strategy is on the page following.

NATIONAL ALCOHOL STRATEGY: REDUCING ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM IN CANADA, APRIL 2007

BACKGROUND:

The National Alcohol Strategy Working Group was composed of a wide range of stakeholders and included representatives from federal, provincial and territorial governments, addictions agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations, and the alcohol beverage and hospitality industries. Following considerable work, the group reached general consensus on a comprehensive strategy that recognizes the respective roles of all players in addressing alcohol-related harm, and identifies a total of 41 recommendations in four broad areas for action:

- **Health promotion, prevention and education** – which aims to raise public awareness about responsible alcohol use;
- **Health impacts and treatment** – which aims to reduce the negative health impacts of alcohol consumption and address its contribution to injury and chronic disease;
- **Availability of alcohol** – which aims to implement and enforce effective measures that control alcohol availability; and,
- **Safer communities** – which aims to create safer communities and minimize harms related to intoxication.

The National Alcohol Strategy Advisory Committee (NASAC) was formed in 2008 to:

- lead the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Alcohol Strategy;
- increase awareness of Canadians on matters relating to alcohol abuse; and
- encourage participation in the reduction of harm associated with such abuse

NASAC members include participants with expertise in alcohol-related issues from all levels of government, non-governmental organizations, First Nations, Inuit and Métis service providers, and the alcohol industry.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

NASAC partners are actively involved in activities to implement the recommendations of the National Alcohol Strategy. Initiatives to address 38 of the 41 recommendations are underway, including:

- developing and introducing Canada's Low Risk Drinking Guidelines;
- publishing three reports promoting the use of alcohol pricing policies to reduce alcohol related harm;
- partnering with the College of Family Physicians of Canada to develop a screening, brief intervention and referral web resource for physicians and health professionals;

- promoting the education of students about the dangers of binge drinking;
- encouraging provinces to adopt zero-tolerance alcohol policies for all drivers under 21 years of age;
- implementing server training programs;
- pursuing approaches that focus on high-risk alcohol-dependent drivers;
- encouraging the development and implementation of municipal and campus alcohol policies; and
- pursuing standard drink labelling of alcoholic beverages.

BC RESPONSE:

- promotion and dissemination of Canada's Low Risk Drinking Guidelines;
- development of a resource for high school Dry Grads;
- providing funding and assistance for the development of Municipal Alcohol Policies;
- development of an anti-binge drinking social marketing campaign;
- promotion of the screening and brief intervention tool for family physicians; and
- development of a web-based resource for parents of minors is underway.

RECENT AND CURRENT INITIATIVES

Recent Changes - LCLB

During the past year a number of significant changes were made to the LCLB regulatory scheme. These include:

Caterers

Regulations were implemented to licence caterers to provide full food and liquor service at events in locations not otherwise licensed. Food primary and liquor primary licensees are also eligible to apply for an endorsement on their licence to similarly cater off-site.

Tied House

Rules respecting ownership ties between liquor manufacturers and licensed establishments were relaxed to permit small and medium sized manufacturers to own or operate up to three establishments located away from the manufacturing site. The rules were also relaxed to permit all manufacturers to have licensed establishments at the manufacturing site. Previously, distillers were not eligible.

Brewery and Distillery Licensing Privileges

Brewers and distillers are now eligible for endorsements on their licence for patron on-premise consumption, e.g. a lounge or picnic area. These privileges had been available to wineries only for many years.

Wine Store Licensing

Private wine stores are no longer appointees under the Liquor Distribution Act but are now wine store licensees under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act. This ensures all retailers are subject to the same regulatory and enforcement regime. Plans are underway to similarly transition rural agency stores and duty free stores to licensee status.

Bring Your Own Wine

Subject to approval by the licensee, patrons may now bring their own bottle of commercially produced wine to a restaurant for consumption on the premise.

Sponsorships

Licensees may now sponsor events, activities and organizations, in the same way that liquor manufacturers can. Sponsoring events aimed at minors is still generally prohibited, although establishments in which unaccompanied minors are permitted (such as restaurants) may sponsor minors' activities, events and organizations without having to apply.

Recent Changes - LDB

Interprovincial Wine Shipping

In July 2012, the Province made it possible for British Columbians to buy 100 per cent Canadian wine directly from a recognized winery in another province for personal consumption and have it shipped to their residence.

Craft Distillers

In March 2013 the Province introduced a new craft distillery policy. B.C. distilleries that ferment and distill all of their products on-site using 100 per cent British Columbian agricultural raw materials, using traditional distilling techniques and have an annual production level of less than 50,000 litres are eligible for mark-up exempt direct sales to bars, restaurants, private retail liquor stores and the public.

Current Initiatives - LCLB

Special Occasion Licensing

To improve public safety a liquor inspector notification program has been introduced where the inspector is notified and given details in advance of every SOL event occurring in their area allowing them to intervene where necessary. An enforceable terms and conditions guide for major events has been developed and put into use clearly describing the licensee's obligations ensuring public safety is maximized. To increase compliance with statutory requirements an easy-to-use policy and procedures guide to assist government liquor store managers in issuing special occasion licences has been developed and is in test at five stores. Proposals are being developed for streamlining the licence application process including those to position the SOL program for moving online.

Auctioning Liquor

The Act was amended earlier this year to provide for the auctioning of liquor by charitable or non-profit groups raising funds for a charitable purpose. The amendments provide the authority to implement a permitting scheme for the auctions and to allow liquor auctions without a permit if the volume of liquor auctioned is below a prescribed amount. The Branch is working on the regulatory scheme that would be placed in the Regulations.

Manufacturing Requirements

The number of BC liquor manufacturers has risen sharply in recent years and shows no sign of levelling. Through LDB markup strategies, many manufacturers receive considerable markup relief compared to imported products. In exchange for this benefit the government expects manufacturers to invest in a manufacturing facility and actually manufacture the product. However, we are increasingly finding manufacturers who primarily purchase product from other suppliers with little in-house production. These

companies are eligible for an on-site store and other endorsements for on-premise consumption, e.g. a lounge.

The Branch is reviewing the minimum requirements for manufacturer licensing.

Pages 329 through 335 redacted for the following reasons:

Not Responsive.