



Private Sale of Liquor During COVID-19 Pandemic

Approved By:	Director, Wholesale Finance
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Contact:	Manager, Wholesale Finance, Regulatory

1.0 Purpose

To provide support to BC's hospitality industry during the COVID-19 pandemic by allowing hospitality Licensees who have temporarily closed to sell their liquor stock to other hospitality Licensees who remain operational and/or Licensee Retail Store (LRS), under the framework established by LDB's *Private Sale of Liquor* policy, until July 15, 2020, or as otherwise directed by government. This policy is to provide a process for the legal sale of liquor by a hospitality Licensee to another hospitality Licensee and/or LRS.

2.0 Scope

This policy applies to all private sales of liquor from one hospitality Licensee to another hospitality Licensee and/or to LRS. It does not apply to sales of beverage alcohol made at home or in a U-brew/U-vin, as these sales are not permitted under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*.

3.0 Definitions

Licensee For the purposes of this policy, Licensee refers to hospitality customers only.

4.0 Policy

- Pursuant to section 2(2) of the *Liquor Distribution Act*, which states that the LDB has the sole statutory authority to purchase liquor for resale in BC, in a private sale of liquor the LDB must be listed as the purchaser and subsequently the re-seller (ie. the LDB buys the liquor from the seller and then sells it to the final purchaser).
- The LDB must review and approve all private liquor sales that take place in the province.
- All private liquor sales must abide by the applicable minimum wholesale price.
- The liquor offered for sale in a private sale must have been:
 - Legally purchased in British Columbia or legally brought into the province; and
 - Held by the Licensee, or in exceptional cases, as authorized to be sold by the LDB under this policy.
- The seller is responsible for locating a buyer. The LDB bears no responsibility for the sale of all or part of the liquor.
- The seller indemnifies the LDB from liability of any kind which may be incurred as a result of the sale.



- Any costs incurred in the selling process are the responsibility of the seller.
- The LDB has the right to require that one of its employees be present at the time of the transfer of product.
- The LDB will not accept any returns of liquor sold under this policy.

5.0 References

[Liquor Distribution Act Section 2\(2\)](#)

[Liquor Control and Licensing Act](#)

[Private Sale of Liquor Policy](#)