

## **Report to Committee**

To:

General Purposes Committee

Date:

February 15, 2018

From:

Carli Edwards, P.Eng.

File:

12-8275-30-001/2018-

Vol 01

Acting Senior Manager, Community Safety Policy & Programs and Licencing

Chief Licence Inspector

Re:

Application to Amend Liquor- Primary Liquor Licence - The Richmond Inn Hotel Ltd., Doing Business As: Harold's Bistro & Bar - 7551 Westminster Hwy

#### **Staff Recommendation**

- 1) That the application from The Richmond Inn Hotel Ltd., operating as Harold's Bistro & Bar, for an amendment to increase their hours of liquor service under Liquor Primary Liquor Licence No. 164307, **from** (existing hours)
  - 11:00 AM to 1:00 AM, Monday to Thursday;
  - 11:45 AM to 1:45 AM, Friday and Saturday; and
  - 11:00 AM to Midnight, Sunday;

## **To** (proposed hours)

- 9:00 AM to 1:00 AM, Monday to Thursday;
- 9:00 AM to 1:45 AM, Friday and Saturday; and
- 9:00 AM to Midnight, Sunday,

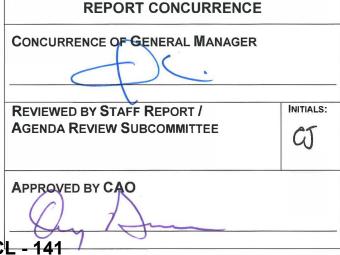
be supported and that a letter be sent to the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch advising that:

- a) Council supports the amendment for an increase in liquor service hours as the increase will not have a significant impact on the community;
- b) The total person capacity at 132 persons indoor and 54 persons patio is unchanged;
- 2) That a letter be sent to Liquor Control and Licensing Branch advising that:
  - a) Council supports the applicant's proposed increase of liquor service hours with conditions as listed above;
  - b) The total person capacity of 132 persons indoor and 54 persons patio is acknowledged;
  - c) Council's comments on the prescribed criteria (Section 71 of the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulations) are as follows:

- i) The potential for additional noise and traffic in the area was considered;
- ii) The impact on the community was assessed through a community consultation process; and
- iii) Given that there has been no history of non-compliance with the operation, the amendment to permit extended hours of liquor service under the Liquor Primary Liquor Licence should not change the establishment such that it is operated contrary to its primary purpose;
- d) As the operation of a licenced establishment may affect nearby residents, businesses and property owners, the impact assessment was conducted through the City's community consultation process as follows:
  - i) Residents, businesses and property owners within a 50 meter radius of the subject property were notified by letter. The letter provided information on the application with instructions on how to submit comments or concerns; and
  - ii) Signage was posted at the subject property and three public notices were published in a local newspaper. The signage and public notice provided information on the application with instructions on how comments or concerns could be submitted.
- e) Council's comments and recommendations respecting the view of the residents, businesses and property owners are as follows:
  - i) The community consultation process was completed within 90 days of the application process; and
  - ii) The community consultation process resulted in no comments or views submitted from residents, businesses and property owners.
- f) Council recommends the approval of the permanent change to hours for the licence for the reasons that the additional proposed hours is acceptable to the majority of the residents, businesses and property owners in the area and the community.

Carli Edwards, P.Eng. Acting Senior Manager, Community Safety Policy & Programs and Licencing Chief Licence Inspector (604-276-4136)

Att. 1



#### **Staff Report**

## Origin

The Provincial Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) issues licences in accordance with the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* (the Act) and the Regulations made pursuant to the Act.

This report deals with an application to the LCLB and the City of Richmond by, The Richmond Inn Hotels Ltd., doing business as Harold's Bistro & Bar, (hereinafter referred to as Harold's), for the following amendment to its Liquor Primary Liquor Licence No. 164307:

- To change the hours of liquor sales **from**, 11:00 AM to 1:00 AM, Monday to Thursday; 11:45 AM to 1:45 AM, Friday and Saturday; 11:00 AM to Midnight on Sunday; **to**, 9:00 AM to 1:00 AM, Monday to Thursday; 9:00 AM to 1:45 AM, Friday and Saturday; 9:00 AM to Midnight on Sunday.
- Maintain the same seating person capacity at 132 persons indoor and 54 persons patio

The City of Richmond is given the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations to the LCLB with respect to liquor licence applications and amendments. For an amendment to a Liquor Primary Licence, the process requires the local government to provide comments with respect to the following criteria:

- the location of the establishment;
- the person capacity and hours of liquor service of the establishment;
- impact of noise on the community in the immediate vicinity of the establishment;
- the general impact on the community.

## **Analysis**

Harold's has operated the Lounge, with Liquor Primary Licence since 1983, approximately 35 years. The person capacity has not changed at 132 persons inside, and 54 persons on the patio. The applicant's proposed change for a permanent extension of hours of liquor service to the Liquor Primary Licence, initiates a process to seek local government approval.

#### Location of Establishment

The property where Harold's is operating, is zoned Downtown Commercial (CDT1) and the use of a Lounge is consistent with the permitted uses in this zoning district. The applicant's business is located in the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel and operated by the same ownership group at 7551 Westmister Hwy.

#### Person Capacity and hours of liquor service

The applicant's request for an increase in earlier liquor service hours is in order for the hotel to provide greater flexibility for service to their guests. The Liquor Primary Lounge has the potential to hold and service overflow from the Food Primary Licenced restaurant area and the operator would like the two areas to have the same opening service hours. Further, this will provide flexibility needed during occasional international sporting events, such as the Olympics games or FIFA World Cup, when broadcasts are scheduled during earlier hours of the day. There is no change proposed to the later service hours and the proposed change is consistent with the

City Policy 9400. The total person capacity will remain the same at 132 persons inside and 54 persons patio.

## Impact of Noise on the Community

It is not expected that the increase in earlier liquor service hours for the Liquor Primary Licence will cause any additional noise in the area.

### Impact on the Community

The community consultation process for reviewing applications for liquor related licences is prescribed by the Development Application Fees Bylaw 8951 which under Section 1.8.1 calls for:

- 1.8.1 Every **applicant** seeking approval from the **City** in connection with:
  - (a) a licence to serve liquor under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and *Regulations*; must proceed in accordance with subsection 1.8.2.
- 1.8.2 Pursuant to an application under subsection 1.8.1, every **applicant** must:
  - (b) post and maintain on the subject property a clearly visible sign which indicates:
    - (i) type of licence or amendment application;
    - (ii) proposed person capacity;
    - (iii)type of entertainment (if application is for patron participation entertainment); and
    - (iv)proposed hours of liquor service; and
    - (c) publish a notice in at least three consecutive editions of a newspaper that is distributed at least weekly in the area affected by the application, providing the same information required in subsection 1.8.2(b) above.

The required signage was posted on January 12, 2018 and three advertisements were published in the local newspaper on January 11, 2018, January 18, 2018 and January 25, 2018.

In addition to the advertised signage and public notice requirements, staff sent letters to businesses, residents and property owners within a 50 meter radius of the establishment. On January 11, 2018, 1741 letters were sent to residents, businesses and property owners. The letter provided information on the proposed liquor licence application and contained instructions to comment on the application. The period for commenting for all public notifications ended February 14, 2018.

As a result of the community consultative process described, the City has not received any responses opposed to this application.

## **Other Agency Comments**

As part of the review process, staff requested comments from other agencies and departments such as Vancouver Coastal Health, Richmond R.C.M.P., Richmond Fire-Rescue, Building Approvals and the Business Licence Department. These agencies and departments generally provide comments on the compliance history of the applicant's operations and premises. No concerns were raised by these agencies about the change to liquor service hours.

## **Financial Impact**

None.

#### Conclusion

The results of the community consultation process of Harold's Liquor Primary Licence amendment application was reviewed based on the LCLB criteria. The analysis concluded there would be no noticeable potential impact from noise, no significant impact to the community and no significant concerns raised by City departments or other agencies. Harold's has operated the lounge for approximately 35 years with no noted negative community impact. Staff recommend approval of the application to extend early liquor service hours.

Victor M. Duarte

Supervisor, Business Licences

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VMD:vmd

Att. 1: Ariel Map with 50 meter buffer area

# City of Richmond Interactive Map

