

Request for Decision



To: Regular Meeting

From: **Planning and Development**

Date: November 5, 2018

Subject: Grand Forks Curling Club – Liquor Primary Licence Application

Recommendation: **THAT Council endorse the application by the Grand Forks Curling Club for a transition from a “Liquor Primary Club Licence” to a “Liquor Primary Licence” at its current premise of 7230 21st Street; and further authorize staff to forward the detailed resolution in Appendix “A” to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch.**

Background

Purpose

The Grand Forks Curling Club has applied to the Province for an amended liquor license to enable the club to host events for the public rather than just for club members, and to increase its person capacity from 150 to 180.

Before issuing a new licence, the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch requires a resolution of Council that addresses the following criteria related to the change in licence:

- Input received from the community in the immediate vicinity of the establishment;
- Suitability of the location, the person capacity and hours of liquor service at the establishment;
- Impact of noise on nearby residents; and,
- General impact on the community.

The Curling Club is one of the few gathering facilities in Grand Forks that was not affected by the flood, that has a commercial kitchen, is physically accessible to all and can accommodate larger gatherings and events. Accordingly, the Club has expressed urgency in securing this license so that it may host upcoming community and seasonal events as soon as possible.

Rationale

The reasons for the proposed change to the liquor licence are outlined in the letter of intent submitted by the Curling Club (see Appendix “B”). In summary, they are as follows:

- There are a limited number of liquor licensed rental facilities in Grand Forks with capacity for 75 guests or more;

- Some of the public rental facilities have been closed due to the flood, and this space is therefore needed in the community;
- As a multi-use facility, the club is an important venue for large business and community meetings and events; and,
- The club space is in great demand in the community evidenced by the many bookings throughout the year.

Community Engagement

Residents in the immediate vicinity of the Curling Club were notified in writing about the application and invited to submit comments or concerns. To date no responses from the neighbours have been received.

Community Impact

Impact on the community as a result of this proposal is considered to be nil or minimal for the following reasons:

- The Curling Club has operated at this location complaint-free for many years and is considered to be an integral part of the main recreational hub in the City, which includes the arena, swimming pool, skateboard park, sports fields, etc.;
- The Club is currently licensed for 150 people. The occupant load of the Club, as determined by the BC Fire Code and the BC Building Code, is 235 patrons. A licence for a maximum of 180 patrons is therefore reasonable and an additional 30 patrons is not expected to negatively impact the neighbourhood;
- Additional noise impacts are not expected, and the Club is located among institutional/recreational facilities with only a few residential properties nearby;
- The Fire and Building Departments have no concerns with the proposal; and,
- No changes are proposed to the hours or operation of the Club, which comply with the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch requirements.

Benefits or Impacts

General

Expediting Council's support for this application will enable the Curling Club to host upcoming large seasonal events and to increase and maintain its clientele bringing economic advantages and opportunities to the City.

Strategic Impact



Community Engagement

- Property owners in the vicinity of the proposal were invited to comment and express any concerns. The Club has been a community gathering place for many years.



Community Livability

- Due diligence has been conducted to ensure the neighbourhood is aware of the proposal. The change in license will ensure that a larger event venue is available in Grand Forks.



Economic Growth

- As an event and meeting venue, the Club hosts business and Chamber of Commerce meetings on a regular basis which is an asset to the business community in general.



Fiscal Responsibility

- n/a

Policy/Legislation

The Liquor Control and Licensing Act and Regulations, the BC Building and Fire Codes.

Attachments

Appendix “A”: Detailed Council Resolution to be forwarded to the Province

Appendix “B”: Letter of Intent submitted by the Grand Forks Curling Club

Recommendation

THAT Council endorse the application by the Grand Forks Curling Club for a transition from a “Liquor Primary Club Licence” to a “Liquor Primary Licence” at its current premise of 7230 21st Street; and further authorize staff to forward the detailed resolution in Appendix “A” to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch.

Options

1. RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the report.
2. RESOLVED THAT Council does not accept the report.
3. RESOLVED THAT Council refers the matter back to staff for further information.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2018-11-05 Curling Club Liquor Licence.docx
Attachments:	- Appendix A to RFD Curling Club 2018-11-05.docx - Appendix B to RFD Curling Club 2018-11-05.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Oct 30, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Dolores Sheets - Oct 30, 2018 - 1:53 PM

Diane Heinrich - Oct 30, 2018 - 2:07 PM