

# STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

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**DATE:** November 29, 2019

**TO:** **MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**NAME AND TITLE:** Deanna Wasnik, Acting General Manager of Planning and Development

**SUBJECT:** Liquor License Application No. LL100167

Applicant: Amber Cross for Mundi North Enterprises Ltd., Inc. No. BC1151993  
Location: 1552 Victoria Street

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- Location and Existing Zoning Map
- Appendix "A" Resolution for LL100167

## RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council APPROVES the resolution attached as Appendix "A" to the report dated November 29, 2019 from the Acting General Manager of Planning and Development titled "Liquor License Application No. LL100167."

## PURPOSE:

The applicant has applied to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) to allow patron participation entertainment at Buskers Rock Merch and Venue Ltd. located at 1552 Victoria Street (subject property). This application will facilitate the addition of a patron participation endorsement (i.e. dancing and karaoke) to a Food Primary License.

The LCRB is the authority for liquor licensing, and must therefore approve liquor licenses. The LCRB requires that the local government review the application, gather the views of residents that will be affected by the proposal and pass a resolution on the application. Once Council reviews this application, the resolution will be forwarded to the LCRB.

## Site Characteristics

Location	1552 Victoria Street
Legal Description	C5: Visitor Commercial
Current Use	Buskers Rock Merch and Venue Ltd. (Restaurant)
Site Area	6444 m <sup>2</sup>

## Liquor License Information

Type of Licence	Food Primary Liquor License
Hours of Service	Monday to Sunday: 9 am to Midnight
Occupant Load	210

## POLICY/REGULATORY ANALYSIS:

### **Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch**

The LCRB is the authority for liquor licensing, and must therefore approve all liquor license applications. The LCRB regulates restaurants, bars, pubs, liquor retailers, manufacturers and special events. The proposed patron participation entertainment requires approval from the LCRB.

### **City of Prince George Liquor and Cannabis Licensing Policy**

The City of Prince George Liquor and Cannabis Licence Policy (LCLP) establishes guidelines for the operation of licensed establishments within City boundaries. The LCLP provides guidelines on hours of liquor service, occupant load, and location of liquor primary establishments. Staff have evaluated the criteria outlined in the policy and have considered their relevance to this application. Please see below:

#### Patron Participation Entertainment

The LCLP guidelines state that the following types of patron participation entertainment may be permitted in food primary establishments: karaoke, comedy club, music club, dinner theatre. This application will permit special events (i.e. weddings, conferences, banquets) and live music at Buskers Rock Merch and Venue Ltd., which is consistent with the Official Community Plan and the LCLP.

#### Hours of Service

The LCLP guidelines recommend that Food Primary Licenses outside of the Downtown have hours of liquor service between 9 am and midnight. The applicant has applied for set liquor service hours between 9 am and midnight, Monday to Sunday, which is consistent with the LCLP, and typical of restaurants' standard hours of operation.

#### Occupant Load

The applicant's occupancy of 210 persons was determined by a qualified professional. The occupant load calculations are based on LCRB's Liquor Licensing Policy Manual and Building Code. The occupant load is not changing as a result of this proposal.

#### Location of Establishment

The subject property is located at 1552 Victoria Street, which is identified as a Neighbourhood Corridor in the Official Community Plan (OCP). The OCP supports small-scale entertainment, including restaurants and small pubs with regular music or cultural performances along major corridors such as Victoria Street.

The uses on the subject property include, a restaurant (Buskers Rock Merch and Venue Ltd.) and a motel (North Star Inn and Suites). The proposed location for the patron participation endorsement is within Buskers Rack Merch and Venue Ltd.

#### Surrounding Land Uses

The subject property is surrounded by the following uses:

North	Patricia Boulevard; Office; Parkwood Place Mall
South	Vacant Lot; Commercial Land; Residential
East	North Star Inn; Connaught Hill Park
West	Victoria Street; Commercial

As identified above, there are currently no restaurants with patron participation within close proximity to the subject property.

Administration supports this application to facilitate a patron participation endorsement for Buskers Rock Merch and Venue Ltd. This application is consistent with the Official Community Plan's direction, and is compatible with other uses occurring within the area. Please see Community Impacts section below for more details.

#### Community Impacts

The proposed patron participation endorsement is not expected to have significant impacts on the surrounding properties. Administration has considered the following potential impacts:

*Proliferation of uses in the Downtown*

As previously stated, there are no similar uses within close proximity to subject property.

*Noise*

The subject property is bound by Patricia Boulevard, Victoria Street, the North Star Inn and Connaught Hill Park, which buffer the property from nearby residential and commercial uses. In addition, the applicant has proposed to operate within standard hours of 9 am to midnight, Monday to Sunday.

*Parking and Traffic*

Parking and traffic is not expected to be an issue as there is sufficient surface parking available on the subject property. Additionally, the property is within close proximity to public transit.

Administration believes that the proposed patron participation endorsement will not impact adjacent uses, noise, or parking and traffic in the surrounding area, and is consistent with the intent of the LCLP, and Official Community Plan.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

**Referrals**

This application was referred to internal City divisions and external agencies with no outstanding concerns.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the resolution;
2. Approve the resolution as amended;
3. Refuse the resolution; or
4. Defer or otherwise deal with the resolution.

Administration recommends that Council approve the resolution attached as Appendix "A".

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:**

The applicant has requested to add patron participation to their Food Primary License at Buskers Rock Merch and Venue Ltd. Administration recommends that Council approve the resolution attached as Appendix "A", and forward that resolution to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch as the application is consistent with the City of Prince George Liquor and Cannabis Licensing Policy and Official Community Plan.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

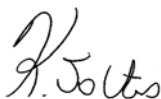


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Deanna Wasnik, Acting General Manager of Planning and Development

**PREPARED BY:** Nicole Fraser, Planner

**APPROVED:**



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Kathleen Soltis, City Manager  
Meeting date: December 16, 2019