



Presidents Briefing Note

ALSA Board Meeting – March 27th

Edmonton Liquor Store Separation Bylaw

On Tuesday, March 6th the items pertaining to Liquor Stores distances in the Edmonton downtown area came up on the agenda for the Urban Planning Committee once again. ALSA was again able to delay the decision on distances until 2022. However the changes specified in 1-3 below are moving forward. Documents in appendix.

1. Combine Major & Minor Alcohol Sales use into one new use called Liquor Stores (approved)
2. Align the on-site parking requirements for liquor stores with the General Retail parking requirements (approved)
3. Introduce new design regulations:
 - requiring no more than 10% of windows covered with advertising,
 - require ample transparency of windows, no tinting or graphics allowed,
 - require outdoor lighting for patrons entering and exiting the stores.(approved)
4. Eliminate the 500m separation distance for liquor stores in parts of the Downtown and Oliver neighbourhoods. **(NOT approved)**.

ALSA stepping down from BCMB Board

The BCMB Board has been working over the past year to reduce the Board size from 15 down to 12. This means that all three groups, the manufacturers, bottle depots and public members would give up a seat at the BCMB table.

Currently, AHLA and ALSA have a total of 12 class D stores (in hotels and standalone) in the province, which is a very small number in the system. Our seat at the BCMB table is considered a Bottle Depot member and represented by the Alberta Beverage Depot Assn. (ABDA). ABDA normally represents ALSA/AHLA on court dealings and handling commission hearings. I normally discuss all issues relating to our Class Ds with ABDA and seek their council on matters related to the BCMB. The rest of the BCMB Depot members are all bottle depot owner and operators so are very much hands on with issues.

The BCMB Meeting schedule is extremely heavy throughout the year, including Board meetings, AGM, Committee meetings, training sessions and plenary sessions. Also the preparation for each meeting is extremely time consuming, including hundreds of pages of reports, updates, bylaws and committee information. In my view, this process is very cumbersome for AHLA/ALSA given our small contribution to the system.



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As such, it has been recommended that the AHLA/ALSA seat be removed in order to bring down the size of the Depo seat at the BCMB Board. We would still be represented by ABDA and would be kept informed on Board proceedings. In other words, we would receive the same consideration and representation for our Class Ds without having to participate in an incredibly cumbersome process. AHLA has agreed with this assessment.

Crawlers

AGLC discussed the issue of crawlers with BCMB after the conference call. As expected, they are open to discussing costs and remittance schedules. So that we are starting such discussions from a place of common understanding, they are putting together a package of what is normally expected of a participant in this process (both fees and remittance schedules). These changes will be circulated for comment before being implemented.

Crystal Liquor Products

ALSA has been working with AGLC and BCMB to find a solution that would allow Alberta Liquor Stores to order crystal liquor products. Currently, crystal bottles are not allowed in Alberta as crystal is not recyclable through the beverage container system.

Some Scotch manufacturers have proposed their own recycling system to AGLC and BCMB and, as such, have been allowed to re-enter the Alberta liquor market. ALSA has suggested to AGLC that all Scotch producers should follow the same process.

As the decision on crystal will likely not be made in the near future, AGLC has agreed to grandfather these items for a year. I will update the Board on when that notification is ready to go.