



March 20, 2017

**TO:** Park Board Chair and Commissioners  
**FROM:** General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** Kitsilano Yacht Club - Liquor Licence Application

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## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve an application by the Kitsilano Yacht Club to the Liquor Control Board to obtain a Liquor Primary Club Licence.

## POLICY

The Board approves use of all lands under its jurisdiction.

## BACKGROUND

The Kitsilano Yacht Club was established in 1934 and incorporated under the Societies Act in 1936. The group constructed the existing facility located at 2401 Point Grey Road and maintains and operates the facility at no cost to the Park Board. The affected properties are designated as public park land and consist of two parcels; one between Balsam Street and Trafalgar Street, north of Point Grey Road, and the other being land covered by water to the north of the adjacent property, from the high water mark in English Bay. The facility consists of a main pier with crane, a concrete float, clubhouse building, storage locker, and racks.

The Club serves to develop amateur yachting and boat handling skills and to cultivate an appreciation of the waters of BC. It offers opportunities for recreational and competitive sailing and other non-motorized boating activities for its members including; junior lifeguarding, seamanship, navigation, boat safety training and instruction. Boat storage for members is also available. The Club has 262 active members who pay membership fees on an annual basis. Membership is open to the public.

On April 30, 2012 the board approved the renewal of the operating agreement with the Kitsilano Yacht Club for a further five years from May 17, 2012 - May 16, 2017, with three (3) five (5) year renewal options to be executed by mutual agreement. If all options are executed the current operating agreement will end on May 16, 2032.

## DISCUSSION

The Kitsilano Yacht Club is seeking the approval of the Park Board to continue to pursue its application to the Liquor Control Board for a Liquor Primary Club Licence.

Historically, under their licence agreement with the Park Board the Kitsilano Yacht Club has been authorized to serve alcohol provided the club does not breach any of the policies of the Park Board, the City of Vancouver, or the Liquor Control and Licensing Act. Currently, to host an event where alcohol is served the club has to apply for a Special Event Permit (SEP) through the Liquor Control Board. Each time the club applies for a SEP there is a cost for

licensing fees. In addition, under the current provincial regulations, an organization is only allowed to apply for two (2) SEPs per month. During summer the club hosts Thursday night racing dinners and weekend regattas. The current licensing format does not permit alcohol at the majority of the clubs functions from May - September. In addition, at the end of each event all alcohol must be removed from the premises.

In their history as a tenant at the Kitsilano Yacht Club there have been no noise complaints or incidents resulting in the attendance of the Vancouver Police Department or a Liquor Inspector representing the Liquor Control Board.

The club commenced their liquor licence application on February 1, 2016. At that time, the practice of the Park Board was to approve a liquor licence at the end of the process. As such, the Club has already held two public open houses regarding the application and has addressed any concerns expressed by surrounding neighbours.

If approved by the Liquor Control Board a Liquor Primary Club Licence will allow the club to be licensed on an annual basis. It will also allow them to retain alcohol on the premise between events. A Club Licence allows them to serve alcohol to their private members or their invitees only and not to the general public. Their hours of operation will be from 11:00am - 11:00pm 7 days a week. Any variance to these operating hours will require the prior written approval of the Park Board. The Vancouver Rowing Club and the Brockton Pavilion Society are other organizations who operate with a Liquor Primary Club Licence.

## **SUMMARY**

An annual licence will allow the Kitsilano Yacht Club to operate with less cost, easier administration and provide more entertainment to their members without any impact to the public or Park Board. Staff recommend that the Board approve the Kitsilano Yacht Club's request to continue the application process for a Liquor Primary Club Licence.

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