

Memorandum to the Council of Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Subject: Preliminary Inquiry into Licensing Municipal Facilities for Alcohol Sales

Memo No: 2025-M-188

Date: August 14, 2025

Prepared By: Omar De la Serna, Recreation Coordinator

Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT That Council receives report 2025-M-188

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to investigate the feasibility, requirements, and implications of obtaining Liquor Sales Licences for eligible municipal facilities;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to report back with a comprehensive analysis, including regulatory, insurance, operational, and financial considerations, prior to any final decision.

Background

Staff have received inquiries regarding the potential for the Municipality to obtain Liquor Sales Licences for eligible municipal facilities, in accordance with the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) requirements under the Liquor Licence and Control Act, 2019 (LLCA).

Several Ontario municipalities have successfully integrated controlled alcohol service into their community facilities during events such as hockey tournaments, concerts, fundraisers, and community celebrations. Potential benefits include:

- Enhanced visitor experience and event attendance
- Increased community engagement
- Additional revenue to support recreation programming and facility improvements

- Creation of safe, supervised social settings within municipally controlled venues

Before Council considers whether to proceed, staff recommend undertaking a comprehensive review of the requirements, implications, and feasibility of licensing municipal facilities for alcohol sales.

If directed, staff will investigate and report back on:

- AGCO licensing requirements, application process, fees, and timelines
- LCBO purchasing procedures and supply considerations
- Insurance coverage and liability implications
- Operational needs, including staffing and Smart Serve certification
- Financial projections for revenues and expenses
- Zoning compliance for eligible facilities
- Risk management and safe service protocols
- Comparable municipal practices and policy examples

Conclusion

By authorizing staff to conduct this preliminary research, Council will be provided with a complete and informed overview of the regulatory, operational, financial, and risk considerations related to licensing municipal facilities for alcohol sales.

This approach will ensure that any future decision on the matter is supported by thorough analysis, community context, and best practices.