



**RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER**

4325 Blackcomb Way TEL 604 932 5535  
Whistler, BC Canada V8E 0X5 TF 1 866 932 5535  
whistler.ca FAX 604 935 8109

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

**PRESENTED:** August, 2 2022 **REPORT:** 22-110  
**FROM:** Planning – Development **FILE:** LLR01378  
**SUBJECT:** GRANFONDO WHISTLER SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT LIQUOR LICENCE

### RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

That the recommendation of the General Manager of Resort Experience be endorsed.

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the GranFondo Whistler Special Event Permit for liquor service at Whistler Olympic Plaza with up to 5,500 patrons from 11 am to 4:30 pm on September 10, 2022 consistent with the event description and mitigation measures and the Whistler Fire Rescue Service Stamped Occupant Load Plan Drawing, attached as Appendices A and B to Administrative Report 22-110, subject to Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch approval.

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide a recommendation for Council's consideration regarding an application from TOIT Events for a Special Event Permit (SEP) with liquor service to be held at Whistler Olympic Plaza (Olympic Plaza) on September 10, 2022, as part of the RBC GranFondo Whistler.

Information Report  Administrative Report (Decision or Direction)

### DISCUSSION

#### Background

The RBC GranFondo Whistler, to be held on September 10, 2022, is a large scale fully supported bicycle ride from Vancouver to Whistler with 6,000 participants and 2,400 friends, family, staff and volunteers expected. Riders finish along Blackcomb Way with post ride celebrations held in Olympic Plaza.

Olympic Plaza will include a stage for awards, entertainment (i.e. DJ & live music, sponsor activations, photo backdrop, various athlete services) a family zone and hospitality areas. Appendix A provides an overview of the event description and a plan drawing showing the event layout.

The event organizer, TOIT Events, contracted *Red Truck Brewery* who will be providing liquor service in the licensed area, as well as *Whistler Cooks* to provide food services. Food and beverages allow participants, friends, family, media, residents and guests to enjoy the festivities and welcome those who biked to Whistler. Liquor services have been approved and implemented for this event for eight years

AUGUST 2, 2022

without any issues reported by Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB), RCMP, Whistler Fire Rescue Services (WFRS) or Municipal event staff.

Due to the potential for noise and disturbances from outdoor events to have negative impacts on the community, Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) Council Policy G-17: *Municipal Liquor Licensing Policy* requires that SEPs for more than 500 people be approved by Council.

### **Analysis**

The liquor service will occur in a fenced space within Olympic Plaza. Appendix A, page nine, includes a plan showing the location of the event and service area. Licenced hours requested are 11:00 am to 4:30 pm with last call at 4:00 pm. The maximum capacity requested for the licensed area is 5,500 patrons. Not all riders will arrive at the same time. The inflow of participants peaks between noon and 3:00pm in Olympic Plaza. Full event details including event management and mitigation measures are provided in Appendix A and are summarized as follows:

- Date and time: Saturday September 10, 2022, 10 am to 5 pm.
- Location: Whistler Olympic Plaza (identical location to previous years). The licensed area will encompass Olympic Plaza and be delineated by fencing.
- Number of patrons: maximum 5,500.
- Event type and access: sporting event finish area, open to the public.
- Liquor service: a bar operated by *Red Truck Brewing*. GranFondo registrants will be provided one token for one free drink, then have the option to purchase additional drinks.
- Minors: minors will be permitted but all patrons entering the licensed area require a wristband to enter. Minors will be identified by orange and green wristband colours.
- Food service: there will be food service provided by *Whistler Cooks*.
- Security: Olympic Plaza will be surrounded by four foot high moduloc fencing. Eleven professional security guards will be provided and one security coordinator. The security coordinator will manage a tally counter to track the occupant load. Nine security guards will be present at the entrances/exits for monitoring and to do identification checks. Two guards will be roving the beer garden and on hand to assist where necessary.
- Toilets: 18 portable toilets will be provided in Olympic Plaza.

The proposal addresses measures to mitigate potential negative impacts as follows:

#### **Noise during the event and at dispersal:**

- Event will end by the early evening at 5 pm, limiting any potential impacts on nearby accommodation units. Any large crowd will be dispersed by dinner hours.
- A DJ will begin at 10 am, followed by two sets of a live band from 1 pm to 3:30 pm, followed by background music by a DJ until 4:30 pm. Entertainment will end at 4:30 pm, limiting community disturbance.

#### **Access to Liquor by Minors and over-service:**

- Minors will be identified in the service area by an orange or green coloured wristband indicating they are a minor.
- All personnel serving alcohol work in the food and beverage industry and hold their "Serving it Right" licence.

### Event Security

- Eleven professional security guards will be present in the licensed area to check for identification and monitor for signs of intoxication.
- Security team will be instructed to keep patrons inside the licensed area and control capacity.
- Olympic plaza will be entirely fenced with four foot high fencing and six foot high fencing in locations where required.

WFRS has stamped the plan drawing for maximum occupant load as required as part of municipal review for a special event application. The stamped occupant load plan drawing is attached as Appendix B.

---

## **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Relevant Council Authority/Previous Decisions**

Council Policy G-17: *Municipal Liquor Licensing Policy* requires that a SEP for more than 500 people, be approved by Council.

### **Corporate Plan**

The RMOW Corporate Plan is updated annually and articulates strategic direction for the organization. This section identifies how this report links to the plan.

### **Council Focus Areas**

Community Balance

*Effectively **balance resort and community needs** through deliberate planning, partnerships and investment*

Climate Action

*Provide leadership to **accelerate climate action and environmental performance** across the community*

Housing

*Advance strategic and innovative initiatives to enable and **deliver additional employee housing***

Pandemic Recovery

*Leadership and support for **community and tourism recovery and sustainability** – priority focuses are where recovery needs intersect with other Council focus areas*

Not Applicable

### **Community Vision and Official Community Plan**

The Official Community Plan (OCP) is the RMOW's most important guiding document that sets the community vision and long-term community direction. This section identifies how this report applies to the OCP.

The recommended resolution included within this report is consistent with the goals, objectives and policies included within "OCP Bylaw No. 2199, 2018".

---

### **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

There are no budget considerations. The municipal application fee for a large SEP urban event is structured to cover staff costs for processing the application.

---

### **LIL'WAT NATION & SQUAMISH NATION CONSIDERATIONS**

The RMOW is committed to working with the Lil'wat People, known in their language as *L'il'wat7úl* and the Squamish People, known in their language as the *Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw* to: create an enduring relationship; establish collaborative processes for Crown land planning; achieve mutual objectives; and enable participation in Whistler's resort economy.

There are no specific considerations to include in this report.

---

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Level of community engagement commitment for this project:

Inform     Consult     Involve     Collaborate     Empower

Comment(s):

The details of the proposed special event were referred to the Liquor Licence Advisory Committee members for comment. No concerns were expressed.

The Whistler detachment of the RCMP, WFRS, Building and Bylaw Departments were consulted during the review of this application. No concerns were expressed.

---

### **REFERENCES**

Appendix A – Event Description and Plan Drawing  
Appendix B – WFRS Stamped Occupant Load Plan Drawing

---

## **SUMMARY**

This report presents a proposed SEP liquor license for GranFondo Whistler for Council's consideration of approval. The proposal is for a maximum 5,500 patron event at Olympic Plaza on Saturday September 10, 2022 from 10 am to 5:00 pm. Liquor service is restricted to 11 am to 4:30 pm. This report recommends that Council approve the outdoor Special Event Permit application.

---

## **SIGN-OFFS**

### **Written by:**

Brook McCrady,  
Planning Analyst

### **Reviewed by:**

Mike Kirkegaard,  
Director of Planning

Jessie Gresley-Jones,  
General Manager Resort Experience

Virginia Cullen,  
Chief Administrative Officer