



**RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER**

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## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

**PRESENTED:** June 20, 2023 **REPORT:** 23-065  
**FROM:** Planning - Development **FILE:** TUA00007  
**SUBJECT:** WHISTLER BLACKCOMB 2023 CRANKWORX – TEMPORARY USE AREA  
LIQUOR LICENSED EVENT

### RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**That** the recommendation of the General Manager of Climate Action, Planning and Development Services be endorsed.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That** Council approve a Temporary Use Area liquor licensed event for a maximum of 2,000 persons to be held at the Whistler Mountain Boneyard, located above Skiers Plaza near the bottom of the Whistler Mountain Bike Park, on Saturday July 29, 2023, or, alternatively, on Friday July 28, 2023 or Sunday July 30, 2023 in the event of inclement weather, consistent with the application materials presented in Appendix A: Event Description and Plan Drawing and Appendix B: Stamped Occupant Load Plan, both attached to this Administrative Report No. 23-065.

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide a recommendation for Council's consideration regarding an application from Whistler Blackcomb for approval of a Temporary Use Area (TUA) liquor licensed event to be held in the Whistler Mountain Boneyard, located above Skiers Plaza near the bottom of the Whistler Mountain Bike Park (Boneyard), during the 2023 Crankworx Whistler Mountain bike festival.

Information Report  Administrative Report (Decision or Direction)

### DISCUSSION

#### Background

Whistler Blackcomb has applied to the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) and the provincial Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) for an urban TUA liquor licensed event for up to 2,000 patrons during the July 21-30, 2023 Crankworx Whistler Mountain bike festival. Similar TUA licensed events were held in 2018, 2019 and 2022 with no issues or concerns that resulted from these events.

In 2014 the provincial LCRB issued a policy directive that allows liquor license holders who operate ski hills or golf courses to apply for a TUA endorsement to extend their existing liquor licensed activities to designated outdoor areas on their property on up to 26 days per calendar year. TUA events must be

outdoors, operate no later than 10:00 p.m. and limitations may be imposed on the type of events, hours of operation, and other conditions.

Following the LCRB policy directive, in 2015 Council approved a TUA endorsement to Dusty's Bar and BBQ liquor primary license to permit TUA events at six locations on Whistler Mountain. The six endorsed locations include two "urban" locations, World Cup Plaza at Whistler Creekside and the Boneyard, which are in proximity to residences, businesses and visitor accommodations. Due to the potential for noise and disturbances from larger events at those locations to have negative impacts on the community, *Council Policy G-17: Municipal Liquor Licensing Policy* requires that urban TUA licensed events for more than 500 people be approved by Council.

## **Analysis**

Whistler Blackcomb's submission letter attached as Appendix A describes the rationale for the proposed urban TUA event, measures to mitigate against negative impacts and illustrates the location and features of the area to be licensed. Event details are:

- Date and time: Saturday July 29, 2023 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (event takes place 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.). In case of inclement weather, contingency dates are Friday July 28, 3:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; and Sunday July 30, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Location: The Boneyard.
- Number of Persons: maximum 2,000 (patrons and staff).
- Event Type and Access: "Urban" TUA event - Joyride, slopestyle signature event of Crankworx. The event is available to ticketed public and VIP Guests.
- Liquor Service: Four portable "satellite bars" located on the raised viewing platform and in the open area at ground level. There will be no servers as it is bar service only. Three event managers will be on site, before, during and after the event to ensure all terms and conditions of the license are met. The managers will be stationed inside the service area and will manage the business operations as required effectively.
- Transportation: Not applicable, located within walking distance above Skiers Plaza in Whistler Village.
- Security: The service area perimeter will be bounded by six-foot-high interlocking steel fence covered with four-foot-high event fencing scrim. Sixteen licensed professional security personnel will manage capacity, check for ID, and monitor intoxication. Three of the security personnel will be at each of the three exit points, four will be roaming, and three will be along the perimeter of the TUA service area.
- Exits: There will be one main entry and exit point as well as two exit-only points managed by licensed professional security personnel.
- Food service: Food service will be provided within the TUA area located on the second floor of the raised viewing platform. This has been where food service has been located for over five years for this event.
- Toilets: 24 portable toilets. This is an increase from the 16 portable toilets provided during the 2022 TUA event to better meet demand.
- Minors: Minors will be allowed inside the TUA provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.

- Entertainment: None.

Large TUA liquor licensed events have the potential to have negative impacts on the community. Some of the key issues and proposed mitigation measures are discussed below:

#### Noise during the event and at dispersal

- The TUA event will be held during the Crankworx Joyride event. Joyride is a sporting event where the only amplified sound is announcers and some background music. There is no entertainment music associated with the TUA event, as there would be with a concert.
- Similar TUA licensed events were held in 2018, 2019 and 2022 with no noise issues reported.
- Patrons dispersing from the TUA licensed area will only represent a portion of the total number of spectators dispersing from viewing the very popular Joyride event.
- The Joyride event ends at 7:30 p.m., so late noise is not expected to be an issue as patrons will be expected to disperse shortly following the event. The alternate Friday event would end at 8:30 p.m. and the Sunday event would end at 6:30 p.m.

#### Transportation following the events

- The TUA licensed area is 200 metres away from the Gondola Transit Exchange and 250 metres from Skier's Plaza. TUA patrons will find their way home or to services in Whistler Village in the same manner as other spectators at the popular Joyride event.

#### Access to liquor by minors and over-service

- Minors will only be admitted to the TUA licensed venue if accompanied by a parent or legal guardian (i.e., a 21-year-old could not accompany an 18-year-old).
- Wrist bands required to purchase or possess liquor will be issued only to those of legal drinking age who can present appropriate identification. Wrist bands will be put on by staff and not by the person who is receiving them.
- All 14 bartenders will have Serving It Right certification.
- The TUA event will operate under Dusty's liquor primary licence, which would be put at risk if there are contraventions of provincial liquor regulations.

#### Event security

- The TUA event will have security fencing and 16 professional security personnel (see details above).
- As part of the LCRB approval process for any TUA event for more than 500 people, the licensee must submit a security plan, which will be shared with the RCMP and the RMOW.

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

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

*Council Policy G-17: Municipal Liquor Licensing Policy* includes a requirement that Council approve urban TUA events for more than 500 people and is referred to individual members of the Municipal Liquor License Advisory Committee (LLAC) for their individual comments:

[Administrative Report No. 22-102: Whistler Blackcomb 2022 Crankworx - Temporary Use Area Liquor Licensed Event.](#)

[Administrative Report No. 19-088: LLR1336 – Whistler Blackcomb Temporary Use Area Events – 2019 Crankworx.](#)

[Administrative Report No. 18-090: Whistler Blackcomb Temporary Use Area Events During 2018 Crankworx.](#)

### **Zoning Analysis**

The lands where the TUA event will be located are zoned RR1 (Rural Resource One). Outdoor recreation and auxiliary uses are permitted by the RR1 zoning. The proposal is compliant with all other zoning regulations.

### **2023-2026 Strategic Plan**

The 2023-2026 Strategic Plan outlines the high-level direction of the RMOW to help shape community progress during this term of Council. The Strategic Plan contains four priority areas with various associated initiatives that support them. This section identifies how this report links to the Strategic Plan.

### **Strategic Priorities**

Housing

*Expedite the delivery of and longer-term planning for employee housing*

Climate Action

*Mobilize municipal resources toward the implementation of the Big Moves Climate Action Plan*

Community Engagement

*Strive to connect locals to each other and to the RMOW*

Smart Tourism

*Preserve and protect Whistler's unique culture, natural assets and infrastructure*

Not Applicable

*Aligns with core municipal work that falls outside the strategic priorities but improves, maintains, updates and/or protects existing and essential community infrastructure or programs*

### **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 "Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2199, 2018" specifically:

### Economic Development

**Policy 6.5.1.1.** Support increased cultural, education and learning, arts, entertainment, events, sports tourism, and health and wellness opportunities that diversify our tourism-based economy using existing infrastructure.”

### Commercial and Industrial Land Use

**Policy 5.6.3.11** Facilitate use of the Village’s network of squares, plazas and other public spaces for festivals, events and other programming consistent with the characteristics of each location.

**Policy 5.6.3.18.** Manage liquor licensing to support a wide variety of food and beverage offerings and maintain a safe and friendly atmosphere. Work with relevant agencies and stakeholders to reduce negative impacts of liquor-related issues associated with late-night entertainment uses.

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## **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

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

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## **LÍLWAT NATION & SQUAMISH NATION CONSIDERATIONS**

The RMOW is committed to working with the Líl’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.

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## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Level of community engagement commitment for this project:

Inform     Consult     Involve     Collaborate     Empower

Comment(s):

The TUA application was referred to LLAC members for comment. No concerns were raised.

The Whistler detachment of the RCMP, Whistler Fire Rescue Service (WFRS), and RMOW Building and Bylaw Departments were consulted during the review of this application. WFRS has approved occupant loads for the event and is working with the applicant to finalize requirements for the spectator viewing platform including engineer assurances, attached as Appendix B.

## REFERENCES

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

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## SUMMARY

This report presents the details of a proposed urban TUA liquor licensed event to be held at the Boneyard during Crankworx 2023. Similar TUA licensed events were held in 2018, 2019 and 2022 with no issues or concerns that resulted from these events.

Whistler Blackcomb has measures in place to manage the potential negative impacts for the 2023 event. Staff recommend that Council approve the urban TUA event for a maximum of 2,000 patrons.

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## SIGN-OFFS

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