

General Manager,
Liquor Cannabis and Regulation Branch

RE: Application for a new liquor primary licence to be issued to Forged Axe Throwing Ltd., located at 1-1208 Alpha Lake Road in Whistler.

At the Council meeting held on August 18, 2020 the Council passed the following resolution with respect to the application for the above named new liquor primary licence:

“Be it resolved that:

1. The Council recommends the issuance of the liquor primary licence for the following reasons:
The proposed licensing will provide for improved customer service for both visitors and residents and will not have any significant negative impacts on the resort community. The applicant has entered into a Good Neighbour Agreement with the Municipality.
2. The Council’s comments on the prescribed considerations are as follows:

(a) The location of the establishment:

Forged Axe Throwing Ltd. is located on the ground floor of a 12-unit building, and is zoned IS1 (Industrial Service One) the intent of the IS1 Zone is to provide for light industrial uses, commercial services and certain office uses having similar space requirements or close business ties with industrial activities. The IS1 Zone permits “establishments licensed for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises including neighbourhood public house”. The IS1 Zone also permits auxiliary residential dwellings units (ARDUs) and indoor recreation.

The subject site is located in Function Junction, approximately 8 km from Whistler Village (see Appendix A). The nearest licensed venues include a lounge endorsement for Whistler Brewing Company (a brewery manufacturer license) and a tasting room endorsement for Coast Mountain Brewery and Montis Distilling. The next closest establishment is Roland’s Creekside Pub which is 3.2 km from the subject site.

Originally developed as Whistler’s industrial area, Function Junction has evolved over time into a general business district and is the community’s primary location for light industrial, service commercial and retail sales of hardware, household goods and building supplies. The municipality’s new Official Community Plan (OCP) supports indoor recreation uses in Function Junction that are “compatible” and “that primarily serve the needs of Whistler’s residents and businesses and do not duplicate uses that are principally located in Whistler’s core commercial areas”.

The proposed licensing is a permitted use under existing zoning and is not expected to conflict with adjacent land uses.

(b) The person capacity and hours of liquor service of the establishment:

The proposed capacity for this new liquor primary application is 61 persons (interior). The person capacity and area of service within the establishment is restricted and delineated, and considered appropriate. The supported hours of operation for the establishment are: 11 am to 11 pm Sunday through Thursday and 11 am to midnight Friday and Saturday. These hours conform to the municipal hours of liquor service guidelines in Council Policy G-17 and recognize that this establishment is located outside of Whistler Village the municipality’s core commercial area for visitor activities and associated services. The proposed licensing is a permitted use and considered compatible with adjacent land uses.

(c) The impact of noise on nearby residents:

Late night noise and disturbances can be a concern, especially in a quiet residential neighbourhood. The applicant is requesting for this to be considered a 'Neighbourhood House' with a minors endorsement to permit minors to be present accompanied by a parent or guardian until 10:00 p.m. Noise is not expected to be an issue because of the closing time, and that this application has no proposed exterior licensed areas. The subject site is not adjacent to or within close proximity to primary residential uses, however, several auxiliary residential dwelling units are located in the Function Junction neighbourhood. The applicant has applied for and held SEPs for specified events at the establishment without any problems or challenges noted by the Municipality. Forged Axe Throwing Ltd. is also subject to the provisions of the Municipality's "Noise Control Bylaw No. 1660, 2004".

(d) The impact on the community if the application is approved:

If the application is approved the impact on the community will likely, on balance, be positive. Indoor recreation uses in Function Junction are compatible with the adjacent land uses that primarily serve the needs of Whistler's residents and businesses. Axe throwing has become a popular activity recently, and provides an alternative form of recreation for the Whistler community.

3. The Council's comments on the views of residents are as follows:

Council believes that residents are in favour of the application and that residents are not opposed to the application. The method used to gather the views of residents was placement of an information sign at the front of Forged Axed Throwing Ltd. for 30 days commencing February 4, 2020 and advertisements in the February 6 and 13, 2020 editions of Pique Newsmagazine. The Municipality received 153 letters of support for this liquor primary proposal. No comments of opposition were received.

The municipal Liquor Licence Advisory Committee, a committee of municipal Council comprising various community representatives, voted to support the application."

The undersigned hereby certifies the above resolution to be a true copy of the resolution passed by the Council of the Resort Municipality of Whistler on August 18, 2020.

Sincerely,

Alba Banman
MUNICIPAL CLERK
Resort Municipality of Whistler