



## BRITISH COLUMBIA

VIA EMAIL

Ref. 628961

April 28, 2022

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg  
President, Union of BC Municipalities  
60 -10551 Shellbridge Way  
Richmond BC V6X 2W9  
Email: [bsihota@ubcm.ca](mailto:bsihota@ubcm.ca)

Dear Councillor Roodenburg:

Thank you for your letter of February 25, 2022, requesting an extension to the expiry date of Temporary Expanded Service Area (TESA) authorizations.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Province implemented TESAs as an interim measure to help hospitality businesses serve more patrons while complying with public health orders. All TESA authorizations were originally due to expire on October 31, 2020, before being extended to June 1, 2022.

As you may now be aware, the Province has further extended the expiry date of existing TESA authorizations to **March 31, 2023**, to ensure local governments and First Nations have additional time to implement new patio policies and process applications. Licensees are not required to apply for this temporary extension, and there are no associated costs for licensees.

Please note that local governments and First Nations have until **April 22, 2022**, to raise concerns with the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) about TESAs in their jurisdiction. All licensees with TESA authorizations whose local government or First Nation have not raised concerns will be issued an authorization letter from the LCRB extending their TESA authorization through to March 31, 2023.

Liquor Primary and Food Primary licensees who would like to make their current expanded service area permanent, must apply for new outdoor patio (if their TESA is located outdoors) or a permanent structural change (if their TESA is located indoors). Instructions for Manufacturers vary depending on their licence endorsements. More information is available on the LCRB website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=9380BD07C9C945099151F527D1075F06>

.../2

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg  
Page 2

It is important to note that the approval process for a permanent structural change can take **up to 10 months**. Although the LCRB has amended its policies and processes to help improve application timelines, we encourage licensees to apply for a permanent structural change as soon as possible to help reduce the risk of business disruption.

I am aware of the significant impact the pandemic has had on the hospitality industry, and we will continue to do what we can to support businesses as they work towards recovery.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mike Farnworth  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
and Deputy Premier