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### Regulatory Changes

Information and updates on recent legislative amendments and what this means for licence holders and the public.

### Liquor Legislation Review

Information about the multi-year process to make things more streamlined and modern for licence holders and the public.

### Licence Renewals

The Board condition of server training is extended until October 1st, 2021. Please see Page 3 of this newsletter for more information.

### E-Services Project: Special Occasion Permits

Please see Page 3 of this newsletter for more information.



## Transition and Continuing Progress

Sandra Aitken's term as Chairperson of the Liquor Licensing Board ended in December 2020. Ms. Aitken fulfilled her duties with aplomb and respect, and she will be missed by the remaining Members of the Board. We wish her well in her retirement in warmer climates. As Vice-chair of the Board, I stepped into the Acting Chairperson position until the Department appoints Ms. Aitken's replacement.

Over the last 12 months the World has had to accommodate and cope with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Here in the North, while those accommodations have been strict, the restrictions have been successful in protecting us from the worst health effects. However, those same restrictions have also made business life particularly stressful and uncertain. We have seen the resulting licenced establishment closures and changes in ways Licence Holders have provided their services.

The Board appreciates the open communication Licence Holders have provided, keeping the Board informed of changes to business structure, of pandemic-related closures and re-openings, and of intentions going forward. Observations of regulatory limitations and recommendations for change to the *Liquor Regulations* to address pandemic-related issues have been welcomed by both the Board and the Department. Keep those innovative ideas for change coming; your suggestions are always welcome and will be given full and fair consideration.

As reported in our last newsletter, the Department amended the *Liquor Regulations* to provide for changes to the provisions for off-premises licence extensions and for Class A and Class B licenced

establishments to provide home delivery of liquor. Earlier in February the Department again amended the *Liquor Regulations* at the request of the Board to provide for authorization to renew licences when no liquor was sold within the last six months as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Prior to this latest amendment a licence could not be renewed if there had been no sales of liquor within the last six months.

The Board also heard both the Licence Holders and Liquor Enforcement respecting timeliness of server training. Under normal circumstances, the Board requires proof of server training within the previous 24 months of a renewal application being made. Given the consequential pandemic closures and Liquor Enforcement's limited capacity during that time to provide server training, it was agreed to extend the due date for server training certification to October 1, 2021.

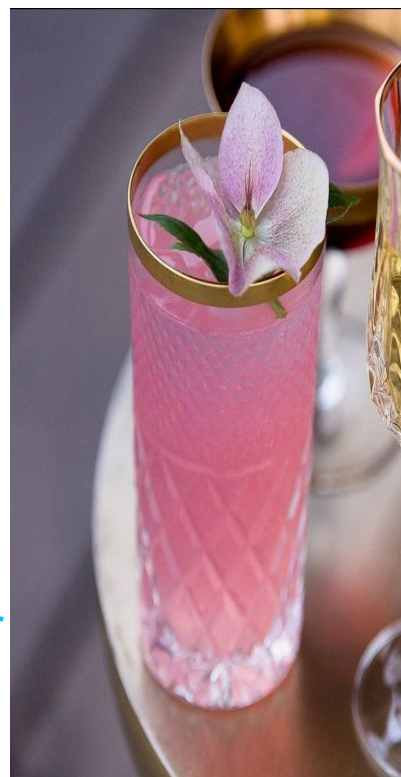
The Board continues to work with the Department on appropriate regulatory amendments to address pandemic-specific issues. We are also involved in the overall legislative and regulatory review that is taking place, which the public and stakeholders will hear more about in the coming weeks and months.

**We want to hear from you!**

**If you have any ideas or suggestions for future newsletters, please email the Board at: [LLBinfo@gov.nt.ca](mailto:LLBinfo@gov.nt.ca)**

The next 12 months appear to have a more optimistic tone to them, with vaccinations well under way and hope for lifting of Chief Public Health Officer Orders on the horizon. With the lifting of those restrictions businesses will be able to return to some sense of normalcy, perhaps including some of the adaptive changes they've implemented in the interim. For now, I encourage you to keep working and adapting to the best of your ability, and the Board will do the same to help smooth things out for everyone involved.

**Adelle Guigon  
A/Chairperson**





In order to renew a Class A or a Class B licence, the licence holder is required to have sold liquor within 6 months prior to the renewal of the licence.

The recent amendment to the *Liquor Regulations* allows that the NWT Liquor Licensing Board may renew a licence to a licence holder who has not sold liquor within the timeframe if the Board is satisfied that the failure was a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## REGULATORY CHANGES

The *Liquor Regulations* are being amended to include a "personal service business."

This means a business that offers to the public hair styling or barber services, nail or skin care services or therapeutic massage services.

To be eligible for a Class D licence for a personal service business, an applicant must own or operate the business at a premises other than a dwelling-house.

Authorized patrons in respect of a personal service business are those persons present at the business premises to receive a personal service offered by the business.

Authorized patrons do not include those persons present only to purchase goods offered for sale by the business.

Regulatory Amendments are also being made to allow for the NWT Liquor Licensing Board the ability to waive the annual licence fees for a renewal of a Class D (Liquor Incidental - Remote Lodge) licence for this year.

## LIQUOR LEGISLATION REVIEW

The GNWT Wants to Hear from You

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) will be holding virtual meetings to hear from licence holders about how to improve NWT liquor legislation:

- Class A licence holders: May 2021
- Class B licence holders: May 2021
- Class C licence holders: June 2021
- Class D licence holders: June 2021
- Manufacturers (and those considering manufacturing): June 2021

Details will be sent by email in the coming weeks.

Visit <https://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/services/liquor-legislation-review> to learn more about the Liquor Legislation Review.



**For services in French, please call 1-866-561-1664**

**Pour obtenir des services en français, composez le 1-866-561-1664.**

## **LICENCE RENEWAL:**

### **Board Condition of NWT server training**

It is a licence holder's own responsibility to renew the liquor licence.

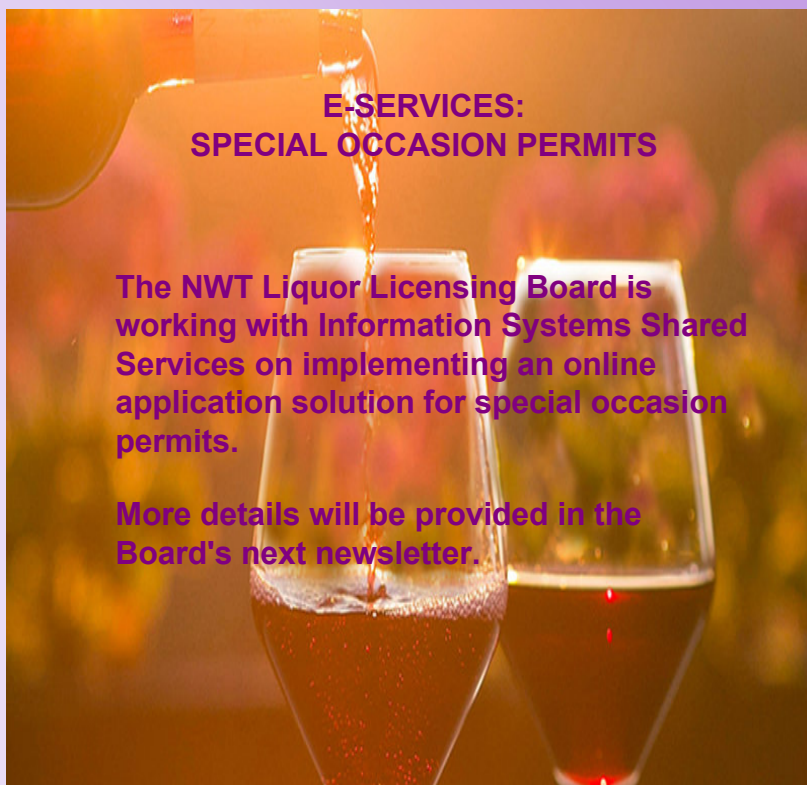
The Liquor Licensing Board extended the deadline for completion of server training to October 1st, 2021. Licence Holders who have already renewed their licence last year for a two year term, but subject to a March 31st, 2021 deadline - also have been extended to October 1st, 2021.

To register for an alcohol server training session, please contact liquor enforcement directly at (867)874-8719 or [liquorenforcement@gov.nt.ca](mailto:liquorenforcement@gov.nt.ca)

The Liquor Licensing Board does not manage or control the server training program.

Please see Page 4 of the renewal application at the following link for more information:

<https://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/sites/fin/files/resources/nwtllb-renewal-application-fillable.pdf>



## **E-SERVICES: SPECIAL OCCASION PERMITS**

The NWT Liquor Licensing Board is working with Information Systems Shared Services on implementing an online application solution for special occasion permits.

More details will be provided in the Board's next newsletter.

### **Board Condition**

In order to renew a licence, proof must be provided that the on-site manager and servers have taken the NWT alcohol server training within the last 24 months.

Have the on-site manager and all servers (including bartenders) taken the NWT Server Training within the last 24 months?

☐ Yes, attached are the NWT Server Training Certificates for the employees who have taken the training.

☐ No, attached is a list of employees who have not taken the training.



**Board updates on recent and past application decisions can be viewed by the public on the LLB database at the following link:**

[www.fin.gov.nt.ca/en/services/nwt-liquor-licensing-board/database/type/application](http://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/en/services/nwt-liquor-licensing-board/database/type/application)

**The online LLB database also includes up-to-date information that the Board maintains to assist licence and permit holders, stakeholders, and the public.**

**To view the Board's online database, please see the following link:**

[www.fin.gov.nt.ca/en/services/nwt-liquor-licensing-board/database](http://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/en/services/nwt-liquor-licensing-board/database)