

 DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY University Alcohol and Cannabis Policy	<i>Policy Sponsor:</i> President	<i>Approval Date:</i> June 22, 2017
	<i>Responsible Unit:</i> Housing & Campus Connections	<i>Revisions:</i> Jan 22, 2020; August 4, 2021; October 31, 2024

A. Background & Purpose

Dalhousie University recognizes the need to create and maintain a safe and secure environment in which the consumption of alcohol on campus does not harm or disrupt the teaching, learning, health and living environment of members of the University community.

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the obligations of University's faculty, staff and students with respect to the marketing, distribution, sale and consumption of alcohol and cannabis on the University Campuses and in the course of University events and activities. Additional rules and guidelines around alcohol and cannabis use in residence are set out in the Residence Community Living Guide.

B. Application

This Policy applies to the marketing, distribution, sale and consumption of alcohol and cannabis that occurs:

- a. on a campus of the University; or
- b. off-campus in the course of activities sponsored by the University (or any of its Faculties, Schools, Departments or administrative units), the Dalhousie Student Union or ratified Dalhousie Student Union societies; or
- c. in off-campus space leased by the University.

This Policy applies to spaces leased by the University to the Dalhousie Student Union, even if any marketing, distribution, sale or consumption of alcohol occurs in those venues under a liquor license issued to the Dalhousie Student Union.

C. Definitions

1. In this Policy:

- a. "Bar Services" means the food services provider on the Halifax Campuses and the food services provider or the Dalhousie Agricultural Students' Association pub staff on the Agricultural Campus.

- b. “License Administrator” means the Assistant Vice-President, Housing & Campus Connections.
- c. “License Designate” means the individuals appointed by the License Administrator for (i) the Halifax Campuses and (ii) the Agricultural Campus.
- d. “Licensed Areas” means those areas which have been approved for the service of alcohol by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee from the list of licensed areas in the University’s Liquor Licenses.
- e. “Licensed Establishments” means the Arts Centre, The Grawood and the T-Room so long as those establishments are operated under the University’s Liquor Licenses, the Barn, or successor establishments that operate under the University’s Liquor Licenses.
- f. “Non-University Licensed Establishments” means any spaces leased by the University to the Dalhousie Student Union that have been approved by the University administration to operate under a liquor license issued to the Dalhousie Student Union.
- g. “Off-Campus Events” means events organized or hosted by the University (or any of its Faculties, Schools, Departments or administrative units), the Dalhousie Student Union or ratified Dalhousie Student Union societies which are not held on a University campus.
- h. “Pub Crawl” means an event which is organized to have, in a single night, a group of people consume alcohol in multiple pubs, bars or other establishments.
- i. “Sponsorship” means the provision of support, including, but not limited to, financial support, hosting services and provision of free products or merchandise, for an event or activity, but does not include the funding of academic or research programs or projects.
- j. “University’s Liquor Licenses” means the Special Premises Licenses issued to the University pursuant to the *Liquor Control Act*.

D. Policy

1. Overarching Principle: The University is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and secure environment in which the consumption of alcohol and cannabis on campus and at Off-Campus Events does not harm or disrupt the teaching, learning, health or living environment of members of the University community.
2. University’s Liquor Licenses: The University’s Liquor Licenses shall be administered in accordance with the *Liquor Control Act*, this Policy and the best practices, rules or guidelines approved by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee.
3. Cannabis Marketing, Distribution, Sale and Consumption: The marketing, distribution, sale, and consumption of cannabis at Dalhousie shall be in accordance with Canada’s *Cannabis Act* (and regulations passed thereunder), Nova Scotia’s *Cannabis Control Act* (and regulations passed

thereunder), this Policy and the best practices, rules, or guidelines approved by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee.

4. Alcohol and Cannabis Harm Reduction Strategy: The Vice-Provost, Student Affairs shall be responsible for the ongoing development and execution of a student-focused alcohol harm reduction strategy which will be reviewed by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee. This strategy shall:
 - a. Strive to shift the culture of the university to address issues of risky or harmful alcohol and cannabis use in the University community;
 - b. Promote and reinforce a safer and low-risk approach to alcohol and cannabis use;
 - c. Promote events which are not focused on alcohol and cannabis consumption; and
 - d. Educate members of the University community on lower risk alcohol and cannabis use and the dangers of high-risk or harmful alcohol and cannabis use.

5. Residence Alcohol and Cannabis Use Policy: The Director, Residence Life shall put in place an alcohol and cannabis use policy which addresses alcohol and cannabis use in residence, including a focus on harm reduction. That policy, and any amendments to it, must be reviewed annually by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee.

6. Alcohol Service at Licensed Establishments: Licensed Establishments may serve alcohol directly to individuals of legal drinking age during regular business hours in accordance with the *Liquor Control Act*, this Policy, and the best practices, rules or guidelines approved by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee.

7. Alcohol Service at Non-University Licensed Establishments: Non-University Licensed Establishments may serve alcohol directly to individuals of legal drinking age in accordance with the *Liquor Control Act* and on the following basis:
 - a. The event must be held in an area licensed under the liquor license issued to the Dalhousie Student Union;
 - b. The event must be approved in advance by the Dalhousie Student Union;
 - c. All alcohol must be purchased through the Dalhousie Student Union;
 - d. The organizers of the event must:
 - i. comply with all requirements of the license holder in relation to training and risk assessment;
 - ii. ensure that the service of alcohol is only done by a trained server hired through the license holder;
 - iii. comply with any posted space-specific rules for the service of alcohol in that space;
 - iv. comply with any best practices, rules or guidelines established by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee; and
 - v. ensure advertising of the event complies with Section D.8 of this Policy.

8. Alcohol Service for On-Campus Events: Other than at Licensed Establishments and at Non-University Licensed Establishments, alcohol may only be served at events on campus on the following basis:
 - a. The event must be held in a Licensed Area;

- b. The event must be approved in advance by the appropriate License Designate;
 - c. The event must be approved by the applicable Dean or Unit Head;
 - d. All alcohol must be purchased through Bar Services;
 - e. The organizers of an event must:
 - i. comply with all requirements of the License Designate in relation to training and risk assessment;
 - ii. comply with all requirements of the License Designate in relation to service of alcohol, including but not limited to that alcohol be served by an individual hired through Bar Services to serve;
 - iii. comply with any posted space-specific rules for the service of alcohol in that space;
 - iv. comply with any best practices, rules or guidelines established by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee; and
 - v. ensure advertising of the event complies with Section D.8 of this Policy.
9. Alcohol Service for Off-Campus Events: Alcohol may only be served at Off-Campus Events on the following basis:
- a. For events organized by ratified Dalhousie Student Union societies, the event must be approved in advance by the Dalhousie Student Union;
 - b. For events organized by all groups or individuals other than Dalhousie Student Union societies, such as staff and faculty, the event must be approved by the applicable Dean or Unit Head.
 - c. The organizers of an event must:
 - i. comply with any event or location specific rules imposed by the license holder (in the case of Dalhousie Student Union societies) or the License Designate (in the case of other events) and the location hosting the event;
 - ii. make best efforts to follow any best practices, rules or guidelines established by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee; and
 - iii. ensure advertising of the event complies with Section D.8 of this Policy.
10. No Cannabis Service: Cannabis shall not be served at Licensed Establishments, at Non-University Licensed Establishments, at On-Campus Events, or at Off-Campus Events.
11. Advertising of Alcohol: Advertising of alcohol may only be done on the following basis:
- a. Advertising alcohol, which includes advertisements using logos of any company that produces or distributes alcohol products, in any medium is permitted only in Licensed Areas and in Non-University Licensed Establishments, or in accordance with protocols approved by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee;
 - b. Advertisements for an event must not do any of the following:
 - i. encourage people to drink alcohol irresponsibly;
 - ii. depict people drinking alcohol;
 - iii. depict a person who is intoxicated;
 - iv. depict a person behaving irresponsibly or illegally;

- v. imply that driving while consuming or having consumed alcohol is acceptable conduct;
 - vi. directly targets minors or is used in locations used or visited mostly by minors;
 - vii. depict alcohol as one of life's necessities;
 - viii. depict alcohol as a key to social acceptance or personal success;
 - ix. depict alcohol as central to the enjoyment of any activity;
 - x. depict alcohol as a status symbol;
 - xi. use pictures or descriptions of minors or of personalities, images or activities that may appeal to minors;
 - xii. use pictures or descriptions which may be interpreted as sexist, racist, misogynist or discriminating in any way or form;
- c. Advertisements which refer to the price of alcohol are permitted only in the physical space defined as Licensed Areas and in Non-University Licensed Establishments.
12. Pub Crawls and Substance Use Games: The organization or promotion of Pub Crawls is not permitted. The organization of games that encourage excessive drinking or risky or harmful alcohol or cannabis use is not permitted.
13. Donated Alcohol or Cannabis Products: Alcohol and cannabis products shall not be donated for consumption. For clarity, where alcohol has been purchased by the event organizers it is permissible for that alcohol to be distributed free of charge. Event organizers are not permitted to purchase cannabis.
14. Sponsorship by Companies Which Produce or Distribute Alcohol or Cannabis: Any Sponsorship by a company that produces or distributes alcohol or cannabis must or be in accordance with Sponsorship protocols approved by the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee or otherwise approved by the Committee.
15. Harmful Behaviour and Non-Compliance:
- a. Where an event organizer, Bar Services, Security Services, or the License Designate has reason to believe that harmful or risk-taking behaviour resulting from alcohol or cannabis use, by an individual or group of individuals, poses a risk to the safety and wellbeing of the individual or others, they will report the behaviour to the Assistant Vice-President, Housing & Campus Connections (or delegate) for consideration of appropriate intervention and support.
 - b. Failure to comply with this Policy in relation to an on-campus event or Off-Campus Event can result in the following immediate consequences, depending on the severity of the issue:
 - i. A requirement by Bar Services or Security Services to immediately cease the activity in question;
 - ii. A requirement by Bar Services or Security Services to immediately cease service of alcohol; and/or
 - iii. A requirement by Bar Services or Security Services to close the event down.

- c. Where action has been taken under section 15 b with respect to an on-campus event in a Licensed Establishment or Licensed Area, the License Administrator, or designate will provide the responsible individuals seven calendar days to provide a full written explanation of the circumstances of the situation. Following consideration of any explanation and any other relevant information, the License Administrator, or designate may proceed with a restorative or educational process, or impose a penalty, consisting of any or all the following: (i) a fine; (ii) a period of suspension of the right to conduct a licensed event on campus; or (iii) loss of the use of space. A first suspension will typically be for 30 days, a second in the same year for 60 days or more. Groups which violate this Policy or the terms of one of the University's Liquor Licenses may also lose the right to use University facilities for their events.
- d. Where action has been taken under section 15 b with respect to a Non-University Licensed Establishment, the Non-University Licensed Establishment will be given seven calendar days to provide a full written explanation of the circumstances of the situation to the License Administrator, or designate. Following consideration of any explanation and any other relevant information, the License Administrator, or designate will make provide a recommendation to the University Administration on how to proceed. Such recommendation could include engaging in a restorative or educational process, or imposing a penalty, consisting of any or all the following: (i) the imposition of one or more conditions or restrictions upon the Non-University Licensed Establishment in order for continued approval to operate under a separate license; (ii) a period of suspension of the Committee's approval to operate the Non-University Licensed Establishment under a separate license; or (ii) a permanent revocation of the University Administration's approval to operate the Non-University Licensed Establishment under a separate license.

E. Administrative Structure

- 1. Authority: This Policy falls under the authority of the Assistant Vice-President, Housing & Campus Connections.
- 2. License Administrators: The administration of the University's Liquor Licenses is the responsibility of the Assistant Vice-President, Housing & Campus Connections.
- 3. License Designate and Dalhousie Student Union:

With respect to their respective licenses, the License Designates and the Dalhousie Student Union are responsible for:

- a. in the case of the License Designates, the overall administration and operational oversight of the University's obligations under the University's Liquor Licenses, including oversight over Bar Services activities;
- b. in the case of the Dalhousie Student Union, if one or more liquor licenses are held, the overall administration and operational oversight of any liquor licenses issued to it,
- c. subject to the requirements in this Policy, putting in place rules and procedures with respect to (i) training persons who serve alcohol; ii) standard of service in relation to serving alcohol; and (iii) risk assessment and management of events where alcohol is served, and

- submitting the rules and procedures to the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee for approval on an annual basis;
- d. submitting a licence compliance plan to the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee for approval on an annual basis; and
- e. submitting an annual report to the University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee summarizing the implementation of the license compliance plan, issues of non-compliance and how they were addressed, as well as any trends or observations concerning alcohol and cannabis use.

4. University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee:

- a. There shall be a University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee comprised of the following:
 - i. Assistant Vice-President, Housing & Campus Connections or designate (the chair);
 - ii. Faculty member or Associate or Assistant Dean appointed by the Provost and Vice-President Academic;
 - iii. 2 representatives from Student Affairs;
 - iv. Assistant Vice-President, Athletics and Ancillary Services
 - v. 1 representative from the Human Rights and Equity Services;
 - vi. Director, Security Services or designate;
 - vii. General Counsel or designate;
 - viii. License Designates;
 - ix. Dalhousie Student Union, President;
 - x. Dalhousie Student Union, Director of Operations;
 - xi. Dalhousie Agricultural Students Association President, or designate;
 - xii. 1 representative from the Nova Scotia Health Authority, or designate, which designate may be from the IWK Health Care Centre; and
 - xiii. Manager, Organizational Health.
- b. The University Alcohol and Cannabis Advisory Committee shall:
 - i. review and approve terms and conditions for the service of alcohol by Licensed Establishments;
 - ii. review and recommend for approval requests to establish a Non-University Licensed Establishment where alcohol will be served on campus under a liquor license issued to the Dalhousie Student Union;
 - iii. review and approve the best practices, rules or guidelines for service of alcohol on campus;
 - iv. review and approve protocols for the approval of on and Off-Campus Events, advertising, sponsorship and the identification and approval of new Licensed Areas;
 - v. review and recommend the alcohol and cannabis harm reduction strategy;
 - vi. review and recommend the residence alcohol and cannabis use policy;
 - vii. review and approve the rules and procedures with respect to (i) training persons who serve alcohol; standard of service in relation to serving alcohol; and (iii) risk assessment and management of events where alcohol is served;
 - viii. review and approve the licensed areas compliance plans and receive annual reports in respect to those plans;

- ix. designate space on campus as Licensed Areas;
- x. monitor the implementation of this Policy, recommending changes when appropriate;
and
- xi. provide advice to the University administration on the handling of specific alcohol and cannabis use issues, including lack of compliance with this Policy, and the responsible management of alcohol and cannabis use on campus.

5. Policy Review: This Policy will be reviewed every three years.