# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 19 (REVELSTOKE)

TO:

All Trustees

FROM:

Mike Hooker, Superintendent of Schools

DATE:

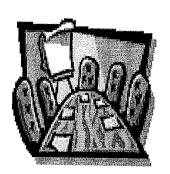
September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013

ACTION:

Use of Alcohol in Revelstoke Performing Arts

INFORMATION: Cer

Centre



Please find attached the Alcohol Use Proposal referenced in the current Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre Committee minutes (meeting minutes appear elsewhere in this agenda).

As trustees are aware, Miriam Manley, Theatre Manager, brought the alcohol use policy to the attention of the Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre Advisory Committee (RPAC) during the 2012/2013 year. On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 the Board asked that the Policy Review Committee engage in a brainstorming session at its November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting to determine potential issues related to a change in the current board policy restricting alcohol use on school district property (Policy 4.15 Property Control Bylaw). On December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the Board reviewed the work of the Policy Review Committee and indicated that the information would be passed on to the RPAC. Subsequently, the RPAC suggested that Miriam track booking patterns to determine the estimated impact of the Board policy on bookings in the theatre.

The attached Alcohol Use Proposal was prepared by Miriam Manley, Theatre Manager, and reviewed at the RPAC meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The Revelstoke Arts Council is recommending that the Revelstoke Board of Education amend its policy on alcohol to allow alcohol to be served at the Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre under certain agreed upon controlled conditions which are set out in the attached Alcohol Use Proposal.

## Alcohol Use Proposal Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre

The Revelstoke Arts Council recommends that Revelstoke Board of Education amend its policy on alcohol to allow alcohol to be served at the Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre under certain agreed upon controlled conditions including:

- No alcohol served during school hours or before 7pm.
- RSS Senior Staff to sign off on any events where alcohol will be served in order to prevent student presence in the foyer at these events.
- Revelstoke Arts Council responsible for licensing, and only allowing certain designated groups to run the bar.
- There will be a designated roped off area for those consuming alcoholic beverages, no alcoholic beverages will be permitted outside the building.
- Audience members must display a ticket to purchase alcohol.
- Alcohol will only be available 30 minutes before a show and during intervals, which will be limited to 20 minutes; no alcohol will be served after events and alcoholic supplies will be supervised at all times.
- All Alcoholic containers, glasses etc will be cleared up and removed from RSS premises after each event by the event managers, this will NOT be the responsibility of the RSS cleaning staff.
- A designated driver program will be implemented.

#### **Performing Arts Tradition**

The Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre facility is set up to host performing arts events and traditionally events such as these serve alcohol, be it a glass of wine during the interval at a theatre show, or a beer at a comedy show. It is seen as a sophisticated and pleasant addition to an evening out. During an interval of 15-20 minutes there is only time to consume one drink and no alcohol is served after a show. This limits drinking to very short sociable periods directly tied to the arts event.

### **Attracting Events**

Revelstoke Arts Council is a non-profit arts organisation. In order to generate enough revenue to cover the cost of leasing the facility, paying our staff and bringing high quality performing arts to town, we need to attract a certain number of events to the Centre.

We are currently in the position of losing some of our most prestigious events to other venues due to our inability to offer our clients the ability to serve alcohol. These

include Banff Mountain Film Festival, which is the perfect fit for our organisation and the facility. The Snowed In Comedy Tour have enquired about the Centre two years in a row and have expressed that we are their preferred venue, but they want to serve alcohol. We have also been contacted by a local freelance producer who very much wants to run events at the Centre but financially cannot make it work due to the alcohol restriction. Most of our other bookings have expressed a strong interest in being able to serve alcohol and are disappointed when they cannot.

#### **Lost Income**

We estimate we are losing roughly one event per month due to the alcohol restrictions, these are all arts events which fit with the Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre's Vision and Mission. Our season runs September-May, so this equates to roughly \$400 a month for nine months, a total of \$3600 in lost income.