

## BEER INDUSTRY BULLETIN

### **British Columbia Permits Local Breweries to Manufacture Malt-Based and Sugar-Based Hard Seltzers in Their Facilities**

**BURNABY, BC. – July 20, 2021** – BC Liquor Cannabis Regulation Branch (BC LCRB) has amended the Province’s Manufacturer Handbook Terms & Conditions to authorize breweries to use their facilities to manufacture malt-based and/or sugar-based hard seltzer.

“In discussions with the BC LDB on their treatment and classification of new, innovative malt-based beverages including “hard seltzers”, we became aware that the current BC breweries manufacturer’s licence did not authorize the production of hard seltzers in their facilities” said Jeremy Chorney, Beer Canada, Vice-President Western Canada.

“These amendments ensure that our brewers can continue to make hard seltzers to serve the market without any disruption”, added Chorney.

All hard seltzers continue to be classified as refreshment beverages by the BC LDB and remain subject to refreshment beverage product mark-up and direct delivery restrictions.

There is no change to the manufacturer of spirits-based hard seltzers, and these still require a distillery licence.

A copy of the new BC LCRB Policy Directive may be found here, [BC LCRB Policy Directive 21-17](#).

Beer Canada continues to advocate for brewers and beer consumers on both the provincial and federal levels, and will monitor any developments on this issue closely.