

From: Lawson, R. Blain LDB:EX <Blain.Lawson@bclldb.com>
Sent: September 14, 2020 8:37 AM
To: President
Cc: Doal, Kusam
Subject: Letter from the B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union

Stephanie Smith
President
BC Government and Service Employees' Union

Dear Stephanie Smith:

Thank you for your letter of September 8, 2020, regarding pandemic pay for all BC Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) workers. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

I am incredibly grateful for the contribution and sacrifices made by LDB employees to serve British Columbians amidst the challenging COVID-19 situation. LDB employees have kept services available for British Columbians throughout an incredibly difficult time in our province.

The LDB, through its wholesale and retail lines of business, raises over \$1 billion each year to support public services. This funding is going to be vital in supporting families and communities impacted by COVID-19. The LDB does not determine how to spend or distribute this revenue.

The LDB has voiced its support and continues to advocate for LDB front-line workers to be included in the pandemic pay. Government determined that pandemic pay would be provided to frontline workers providing critical public service in health care, social services and corrections. At this point, government decision has not changed on this matter.

The allocation of resources was a difficult decision for government which does not reflect the value of the work LDB employees perform, or government's appreciation for that work. I remain very proud of the significant role that LDB employees continue to play in supporting the provincial government and local communities across British Columbia.

The health and safety of LDB employees, customers and those most vulnerable continues to be the LDB's top priority. Following the direction of the Provincial Health Officer, we implemented a number of operational changes to protect employees and customers at BC Liquor Stores and BC Cannabis Stores including installing protective shields at tills and supporting physical distancing throughout the stores.

Thank you again for writing.

Regards,

R. Blain Lawson
General Manager and Chief Executive Officer,
BC Liquor Distribution Branch

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Service. Relationships. Results.

The LDB is proud to contribute over \$1 billion annually to the Province of British Columbia. Our contribution helps provide financial support for vital public services including health care and education.



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