EXTENSION OF PATIOS

Restaurants and Bars will be allowed to extend an existing licensed patio, or add a new one, once they are permitted to open, provided that the patio extension is adjacent to their licensed premises. This will provide an opportunity for the public to safely enjoy service that meets physical distancing requirements and other public health guidelines.

These opportunities will be available to all licensed establishments, whether or not they currently have a patio, and will be subject to any additional requirements set out by the AGCO and municipality (such as by-laws or other restrictions).

This announcements builds on other changes brought forth by the Attorney General in order to to support the hospitality sector, including allowing licensed restaurants and bars to offer takeout and delivery of alcohol with food orders, extending all liquor licenses for three months at no extra cost to licensees and reducing the minimum price restaurants and bars are required to sell spirits at by 33 per cent.

Once restaurants and bars are again permitted to welcome patrons on-site and until January 1, 2021 at 3:00 a.m., liquor sales licensees who wish to temporarily extend the physical size of their existing licensed patio or to temporarily add a new licensed patio within the approved period, are authorized to do so, if the following criteria are met:

1. The physical extension of the premises is adjacent to the premises to which the licence to sell liquor applies;
2. The municipality in which the premises is situated has indicated it does not object to an extension;
3. The licensee is able to demonstrate sufficient control over the physical extension of the premises;
4. There is no condition on the liquor sales licence prohibiting a patio; and,
5. The capacity of any new patio, or extended patio space where the licensee has an existing licensed patio, does not exceed 1.11 square metres per person.

For more information on the extension of outdoor patios, visit the following AGCO pages:

AGCO NEWS RELEASE ON PATIO EXTENSIONS

AGCO INFO BULLETIN ON PATIO EXTENSIONS

AGCO INFO BULLETIN ON TIED HOUSE CHANGES