

Jurisdiction Comparison

The following table is a jurisdictional scan of liquor store specific land use policies for Alberta municipalities with populations greater than 50,000, as well as those within the greater Edmonton area.

Municipality	Population	Land Use	Liquor Store Specific Land Use Policies
Airdrie	64,922	Retail Store, Liquor	Eliminated the 100 m separation distance from schools in 2016
Beaumont	18,320	Alcohol Sales - Major	Must be at least 500 metres from any other Major or Minor Alcohol Sales Use
		Alcohol Sales - Minor	
Calgary	1,246,337	Liquor Store	<p>In the C-N1 and C-N2 Districts, must only be located on a parcel with a front property line on a major street or a primary collector street;</p> <p>In all Districts, not including the C-R2, C-R3 and CR20-C20/R20 Districts, must not be located within 300.0 metres of any other Liquor Store, when measured from the closest point of a Liquor Store to the closest point of another Liquor Store;</p> <p>In all commercial, industrial and mixed use districts not including C-R2 and C-R3 and CR20-C20/R20 Districts, must not be located within 150.0 metres of a parcel that contains a School – Private or a School Authority – School, when measured from the closest point of a Liquor Store to the closest point of a parcel that contains a School Authority – School or a School – Private;</p> <p>In all Centre City East Village Districts, Liquor Stores must not be located:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● within 150.0 metres of a parcel that contains an Emergency Shelter, when measured from the closest point of a Liquor Store to the closest point of a parcel that contains an Emergency Shelter; and ● on parcels north of 5 Avenue SE and west of 4 Street SE; <p>In all Districts, not including the C-R2, C-R3 and CR20-C20/R20 Districts, must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● abut a Cannabis Store; ● if not for one or more intervening actual side setback areas, abut a Cannabis Store;

			and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when located on the same parcel, if not for a vacant space between buildings, not including an internal road, abut a Cannabis Store.
Grande Prairie	63,166	Liquor Store	None
Leduc	31,130	Retail Store (Liquor)	<p>At the discretion of the Development Authority require lighting, Signage or Screening measures that make the proposed Development compatible with Adjacent or nearby residential, mixed use or commercial Development; and</p> <p>Retail Store (Liquor) shall not be located closer than 100.0 m to any Site being actively used for public parks, or public or private education at the time of the application for a Development Permit for the Retail Store (Liquor) use. Sites that are greater than 2.0 ha in size and that are zoned CSC or DC, are exempted from this restriction. For the purposes of this subsection only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the 100.0 m separation distance shall be measured from the closet point of the subject Site boundary to the closest point of another Site boundary, and shall not be measured from the District boundaries or from the edges of Structures; the term “public or private education facilities” is limited to elementary through to high schools inclusive only, and does not include dance schools, driving schools or other Commercial Schools; and the term “public parks” is limited to Park Sites zoned as Park.
Lethbridge	98,198	Retail Store	None
Medicine Hat	63,260	Retail and Consumer Services	None
Red Deer	100,418	Liquor, Beer or Wine Sales / Liquor Store	None
Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo	114,673	Liquor Store	None
Spruce Grove	34,881	Alcohol Sales, Major	Alcohol Sales shall not be located closer than 100.0 m from the Site boundary of any Site that includes community or public recreational activities, a public park or a School.
		Alcohol Sales, Minor	
Stony Plain	17,189	Not Clearly Specified	None

		(likely Retail Store)	
St. Albert	65,589	Liquor Store	None
Strathcona County	98,044	Retail, Alcohol	A retail alcohol use should not be located in close proximity to any site being used for community recreation, parks, public or private education, or religious assembly.
Sturgeon County	20,495	Retail sale, liquor	None

The following table is a jurisdictional scan of liquor store regulations in other provinces and major cities within Canada:

Municipality	Land Use	Separation Distance		Separated From	Floor Area Restrictions	Liquor Store Specific Requirements
		Zoning	Other			
BRITISH COLUMBIA						
Provincial (Public/Private)	-	-	1 km	Another liquor store, BC liquor store or proposed liquor store	In Grocery Store: 10, 000 sq.ft. retail floor space that offers for sale a variety of food products.	Provincial regulations allow liquor stores within grocery stores. Liquor stores within grocery stores must be separated from the rest of the grocery store with controlled access and separate tills. Currently the province has a government-imposed moratorium on new licensee retail stores until July 1, 2022.
Vancouver	Liquor Store (based on floor area and products sold)	-	150 m	Churches, Parks, Schools, Community Centres and Neighbourhood Houses	-	Moratoria on stores in the Downtown Eastside and the Granville Entertainment District. Only one store allowed in neighbourhoods of Southeast False Creek and the East Fraserlands (locations not considered until planning has proceeded to the point where commercial areas are identified/approved. Decision is decided by the Director of Planning, if controversial - decision goes to City Council. Notification to affected neighbours is part of process, (size of notification is determined for each application)
	Type 1:beer and/or wine	-	500 m	Other Liquor Stores	280 m2	Maximum of one per Local Shopping Area; in Downtown and Central Broadway areas with no identified Local

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						Shopping Areas; Existing stores can relocate within its Local Shopping Area or General Commercial Area
	Type 2: beer, wine or spirits				280 m2	Existing stores may remain in their current location, or relocate close by, provide the new location meets the guidelines as well or better than the previous location
	Type 3: beer, wine or spirits				2300 m2	Existing stores may remain in current location, or relocate close by (within same Local Shopping Area or general commercial area), provided that the new location meets the guidelines as well or better than the previous location.
Victoria	Liquor Retail Store	200 m	-	Elementary or Secondary School and other liquor stores	275 m ² (larger stores considered on case by case basis)	Requires a zoning amendment to permit the use and a letter of preliminary approval from the Province of BC; located in an established or planned retail location to minimize nuisance to nearby neighbours.
ALBERTA						
Provincial (Private)	-		5 m	Other Liquor Stores	Edmonton/Calgary - min 92.9 m2 (1,000 sq ft)	Must be physically separate and detached from other businesses.
Calgary	Liquor Store	300 m	-	Other Liquor Stores, excludes downtown and regional commercial parcels	-	-
		150 m	-	Liquor Stores and parcels containing schools	-	-
		150 m	-	Emergency Shelters (in Centre City East Village Districts)	-	-
		-	Cannot Abut	Cannabis Store	-	-
Edmonton	Major / Minor Alcohol Sales	500 m	-	Another Liquor Store, exceptions for suburban sites	275 m2 for Minor Alcohol Sales	CPTED related design requirements

		100 m	-	Schools, Parks, Community Service/Recreation Buildings		
SASKATCHEWAN						
Provincial (Public/Private)	-	-	-	-	-	RFP's for non-government operated liquor stores. Liquor Stores must be in a standalone building in communities with more than 5000 people. Single operators cannot be awarded more than one retail store permit.
Saskatoon	Not explicit (possibly Retail Store)	-	-	-	-	Permits for retail stores selling liquor are issued by SLGA.
MANITOBA						
Provincial (Public/Private)	-	-	-	-	-	In order to obtain a beer vendor licence, the vendor must operate a hotel with at least 40 guest rooms. Liquor Marts, duty free stores and specialty wine store licences are established by the government and no applications are currently available for these licence types. Operated by Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation.
Winnipeg	Not Listed	-	-	-	-	-
ONTARIO						
Provincial (Public/Private)	-	-	10 km	From a LCBO Agency Store	In Grocery Store: 10, 000 sq.ft. retail floor space that offers for sale a variety of food products.	The Board shall issue authorizations for the sale of beer and cider in grocery stores in the GTA Region in accordance with the following rules: 1. Beer and cider authorizations are allocated for a maximum of 42 grocery stores in the region. 2. No more than 13 of the authorizations that are allocated by paragraph 1 may be issued to a single group of related grocery stores. 3. The maximum number of authorizations in paragraph 1 shall be increased by the number of authorizations

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						reserved for Category B stores that are issued in the GTA Region under paragraph 5 of section 40, if any.
Toronto	Not Listed	-	-	-	-	-
QUEBEC						
Provincial						Grocer permit; Cider Seller's Permit;
		-	-			0m (no separations) for beer, wine, cider sellers
			5km	Agency Store (agent operated)		
Montreal (Ville Marie)	vins, spiritueux (wines and spirits)	-	-	-		N/A Permitted use in 9 Mixed Use Zones.
NOVA SCOTIA						
Provincial (Public/Private)	-	-	10 km	Agency Store (agent operated)	-	Stores cannot be located in "Dry" areas (determined by plebiscite). Private operators submit RFP to operate an Agency Store.
	-	-	13 km	NSLC store (government operated)	-	-
Halifax Region	Not Listed	-	-	-	-	-