

25 September 2018

Richard Coates
Chairperson
Northern Territory Liquor Commission
GPO Box 1154
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Mr. Coates

Re: REVIEW OF TAKE-AWAY LIQUOR LICENCE CONDITIONS IN ALICE SPRINGS

Lasseters strongly advocates for the responsible service of alcohol both within our venue and all of the NT and is also supportive of the steps the Government is taking to address the social harms caused by unacceptable consumption of alcohol. However, Lasseters also wishes to express our opposition to any potential variations to take-away licence conditions to align them with changes recently made in the Barkly region.

There have been numerous measures previously put in place and at times it seems that in the haste to introduce new measures not enough examination has been conducted as to the effectiveness of these previous measures.

Whilst acknowledging there are some encouraging statistics that have been provided from the Barkly region variations we feel that the displacement affect is being downplayed and that there are other solutions expressed in the *Riley Report* that could serve the Alice Springs region better rather than a duplicate of the variations made in the Barkly region.

We are supportive of an addition to the Takeaway Code that licencees would report any transaction that they deem suspicious.

Changes to the Banned Drinkers Register (BDR) such as Territory wide limits could provide similar improvements in key statistical areas if they were implemented without the need for licence variations.

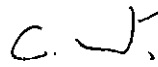
Other recommendation include:

- No more knee jerk reactions until an independent assessment is undertaken on the effectiveness of the measures already introduced;
- Best endeavours for suspicious reporting be considered for implementation as a condition of licence with genuine engagement with licensees to occur prior to its introduction;
- The NT Government and supporting NGO sector analyse the current effectiveness or otherwise of the substantial amount of programs and services already in place to tackle demand reduction and harm reduction;
- The Liquor Commission publicly acknowledge that supply side measures are only one piece of the puzzle in reducing demand and harm; and
- Government to liaise with indigenous communities about piloting territory wide transaction limits set by that community for its members utilising the BDR technology.

The unintended consequences of similar variations to the Barkly region could have a shattering effect on the tourism industry and as such the very economy of Alice Springs. Simple events such as parties or weddings receptions would take on a whole new level of red tape. Lasseters accepts that some changes are required however Alice Springs is a unique destination and as such should not be given a set of variations in a 'one size fits all' manner.

Lasseters appreciates your consideration of this request and should you require any further information please call me on 8950 7721.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. J.', is written over a large, light-colored scribble or mark.

Craig Jervis
Chief Operating Officer