

Alcohol and Gaming
Commission of Ontario

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Notice of Extension of Hours for 2018 FIFA World Cup

The Registrar of Alcohol, Gaming and Racing (Registrar) has approved the start of liquor service in the province at 9:00 a.m. for liquor sales licensees during the 2018 FIFA World Cup tournament. This approval is temporary and only for the duration of tournament play, which starts on June 14, 2018 and ends on July 15, 2018. The extension of hours for this period is intended to allow service to coincide with the beginning of some games, which because of the time difference involved, will be televised in Ontario early in the morning. The closing service time of 2:00 a.m. will remain unchanged.

Temporary extensions of service hours are permitted under the *Liquor Licence Act* for liquor sales licensees for events of municipal, provincial, national or international significance. While temporary extensions are not normally provided for events taking place outside of the province, the Registrar recognizes that the 2018 FIFA World Cup is an event of international significance for many communities in Ontario and is one of the most watched sporting events in the world. In Ontario specifically, the tournament attracts a large and enthusiastic following within the province's broad multicultural communities.

The extension of hours will apply to licensed establishments province-wide. If a municipality objects to the extension of hours in their jurisdiction then they may notify the Registrar in writing of their objection and local wishes will be respected.

Whether or not an establishment decides to begin serving at 9:00 a.m. is an individual business decision for each liquor sales licensee. Please note however that while individual establishments need not apply to the AGCO for approval to begin alcohol service at 9:00 a.m. during the 2018 FIFA World Cup, they are responsible for ensuring that the municipality in which they are located is one that has not objected to this extension of hours.

Further information on this policy, including a list of municipalities where the extension of hours is not permitted, can be obtained by calling AGCO Customer Service at 1-800-522-2876 or by visiting the AGCO webpage on the [Extension of Hours for 2018 FIFA World Cup](#).