

Squamish Community Alcohol Policy (SCAP)-Draft

A step toward a safer, healthier community

SCAP is a policy to help manage the use of alcohol in facilities and to help reduce the occurrence of alcohol related problems. The policy builds on provincial, territorial liquor licensing regulations.

Potential problems include:

- impaired driving
- injury and death
- underage drinking
- fights
- vandalism
- public intoxication.

Alcohol-related problems lead to:

- costly lawsuits
- financial liability for injuries and deaths
- convictions and fines
- loss of liquor licence privileges
- a bad reputation for your community.

Protect your customers and your businesses assets with a SCAP.

How would a SCAP help?

A SCAP would:

- provide clear guidelines for alcohol use in facility areas
- reduce the risk of alcohol-related problems and, therefore, lawsuits
- allow adults to have fun, raise money and still consume alcohol
- inform rental/user groups about how to run safe, problem-free events
- ensure that event workers are adequately trained
- enhance your business's reputation as a great place to live and visit.

What does an effective community Alcohol Policy contain?

A SCAP outlines:

1. **A list of locations eligible for alcohol use**
2. **Management Practices such as:**
 - event controls (e.g., rules for ticket sales and the number of staff required)
 - server training requirements

- regulations for underage participants
- insurance required by rental groups (recommended minimum of \$1 million)

3. **Prevention such as:**

- safe transportation strategies, food such as sandwiches or a light meal
- avoidance of over-serving
- provision of low-and non-alcohol beverages
- non-alcoholic drinks available at a low cost for designated drivers
- elimination of alcohol products and brands in areas where children and youth are allowed entry.

4. **Enforcement Procedures and Penalties for non-compliance with your policy.**

5. **Signs**

6. **Ongoing support carrying out the policy and plan would include:**

- staff orientation and training,
- developing promotional materials,
- policy monitoring and annual review.

Create a Blue Ribbon Policy for your business.

A policy that achieves 70 or more points out of 100 and includes each of the six components described is an effective policy.

How can I develop a SCAP?

Contact *Communities That Care* at (604) 892-5796 x 425 or obtain a copy of the MAP Guide from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

- Invite community members to serve on an alcohol policy development team.
- Schedule team meetings at intervals of about three to four weeks.
- Draft your policy and implement the SCAP.

Who should be on the SCAP development team?

- facility users (e.g., service clubs,
- sports teams)
- interested community members
- staff
- health agency professionals
- local police, as consultants

How will customers react to the development of a SCAP?

Involve your community in the process and communicate openly as you develop your policy. If people understand why the policy is important, they'll be more likely to accept it and make it work. Inviting facility users to participate helps them see how the policy will benefit them.

Generally, municipalities with a MAP report that, overall, facility rentals remained unchanged or increased.

Once we have a SCAP, how do we implement it?

- Hold information sessions for staff and rental/user groups.
- Organize a publicity campaign.
- Arrange for staff training and include duties in job descriptions.
- Sponsor regular server training sessions.
- Post signs as described in the policy.

[Insert District of Squamish logo here.]



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