

INSURANCE COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA ("Council")

CORPORATE OR PARTNERSHIP ("Entity") LICENSING

Council's published processing time for a licence application, or application to amend a licence, is 10 business days if all of the information required to process the application has been received by Council and no suitability or non-standard issues exist.

Council is regularly encountering situations where an Entity applies for a licence or licence amendment, with a request that Council's approval be effective on a pre-established date. These types of situations usually arise as a result of a merger or acquisition, and it is not uncommon for non-standard issues to exist which require an Entity to provide additional information to Council. This can result in the new Entity not being able to commence insurance operations when originally planned.

When reviewing an Entity's application, there are a number of issues Council must consider. These include a suitability review of the Entity's officers, directors, major shareholders and partners; the name(s) under which the Entity intends to operate; and any other information that may be material to the application.

Given the complexity of these applications, Council strongly recommends that an Entity submit its application a minimum of 60 days prior to the intended date the Entity wishes to commence insurance operations. Although Council cannot guarantee that a licence will be issued or amended within the desired timeline, by submitting the application 60 days in advance there is a greater possibility that the requested date will be met.

Information on the requirements to obtain an Entity licence is available on Council's website under Licence Qualifications. If, after reviewing this section of the website and downloading and reading the applicable *Form 1- Corporation or Partnership Application* package, you still have questions regarding making an application or purchasing the shares or assets of a licensed Entity, please contact Regulatory Services by calling Council's main number, and at the prompt press 2.

September 18, 2014
ICN #14-001