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Changing liquor store hours, not the answer to curb city violence.

Early this morning the Alberta Liquor Store Association (ALSA) became aware that Edmonton City Police are suggesting that a way to curb violence in Edmonton may be to impose controls over alcohol sales in distressed communities, and furthermore suggest that Liquor Stores should be closed earlier.

Allison Byrne Chairperson of the Alberta Liquor Store Association said today, "Those who abuse alcohol and commit crimes, will continue to do so even if the liquor store hours change. The key is education and prevention. ALSA does not see that changing the hours of liquor stores will solve the issues at hand".

Alberta Liquor Stores currently comply with all rules and regulation with respect to not serving intoxicated individuals; furthermore Alberta liquor stores continue to focus on education of staff to recognize such situations.

ALSA will approach AGLC to ensure that the rights of its members are protected and that the responsibility of policing and prevention of crime does not lie within the Alberta Liquor Stores.

For further information on this issue please contact Allison Byrne, Chairperson, Alberta Liquor Store Association.

Allison Byrne, Chairperson ALSA

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