

## Cannabis Legalization In Canada

In 2018 the federal government intends to legalize cannabis. The proposed Federal Cannabis Act would make the production, distribution, sale, and possession of recreational cannabis legal within Canada. Proposed federal and provincial legalization states:

- Cannabis retailers will be prohibited from operating within a 100-metre radius of schools and public healthcare facilities
- Cannabis retailers will have the same operating hours as liquor stores (from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.)
- Adults will be permitted to grow up to 4 cannabis plants on their property (per property)

Once passed, Canadians, over the age of 18, would be permitted to:

- Purchase cannabis from a provincially- or federally-licensed provider (in person or online)
- Carry up to 30 grams of legal cannabis or the equivalent
- Grow up to 4 cannabis plants per residence

Municipalities will play an important role in enforcing the proposed Cannabis Act once it is passed. Alberta Beach will be responsible for creating and enforcing bylaws related to:

- Land Use Use districting and density regulations
- Retail cannabis locations
- Cultivation of cannabis plants
- Possession of cannabis
- Consumption restrictions
- Public complaints

At this time Alberta Beach Council is reviewing how the legalization of cannabis should impact the Land Use Bylaw. Amendments to the Land Use Bylaw are planned to include rules and regulations for:

- Recreational cannabis retail locations
- Growing recreational cannabis

Below is the anticipated schedule for any proposed Land Use Bylaw amendments. Alberta Beach is only reviewing changes to the Land Use Bylaw. Issues and concerns relating to possession of cannabis, consumption restrictions, and cannabis cafes and restaurants will not be addressed at this time.

Date	Amendment
April 17, 2018	First reading for Land Use Bylaw Amendments
June 19, 2018	Public hearing and second reading for Land Use Bylaw Amendments
July 17, 2018	Third reading for Land Use Bylaw Amendments

### Frequently Asked Questions

***Will there be a 100-metre buffer between cannabis retailers and playgrounds, sports fields, skateboard parks, and outdoor pools or splash parks?***

There is no federal or provincial legislation prohibiting cannabis retailers from operating within a 100-metre radius of these facilities. Municipalities, like Alberta Beach, may set additional restrictions.

***Will there be a limit to the number of retail cannabis licenses issued?***

Yes. The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) will limit the number of licenses issued each year based on the number of licenses issued in the previous year.

***Who will be allowed to own and operate a cannabis retail store?***

Applications will be reviewed and approved through the AGLC. No applicants with previous history of illegal drug trade, organized crime, or drug trafficking or violence convictions will be approved.

For more information on the legalization of cannabis, please contact the Development Officer at [development@albertabeach.com](mailto:development@albertabeach.com) or phone (780) 994-1883.