

HALIFAX

Board of Police Commissioners

Nuisance and Smoking Compliance Program

October 15, 2018

Cannabis Act S.C. 2018, c.16

- The Cannabis Act, (Bill C-45), is a federal law that will, upon coming into effect on October 17, 2018, legalize recreational use of cannabis nationwide in Canada, when combined with Bill C-46, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code.
- Date effective: October 17, 2018
- Date of Royal Assent: June 21, 2018

Cannabis Act – Aspects aimed at youths (under the age of 18)

- Offences:
 - Giving or selling cannabis to youth
 - Using a youth to commit a cannabis-related offence
- Prohibitions
 - Packaging and labelling
 - Vending machines
 - Promotion/advertising where seen by youth

Cannabis Act – Aspects aimed at controlling access

- Possession – up to 30grams
- Share – up to 30 grams
- Purchase – through provincially regulated vendors
- Grow – 4 cannabis plants per residence
- Make – products at home provided that organic solvents are not used

Federal Responsibilities

- Federal areas of control
 - Production (growing and manufacture)
 - Types of cannabis products permitted
 - Packaging and labelling
 - Serving sizes and potency
 - Ingredients (terpenes & TBD)
 - Promotion

Legislative Context in NS

- The Cannabis Act is scheduled to come into effect on October 17th, 2018. Edibles and concentrates will not be authorized by law until 12 months later.
- The Province has passed Cannabis Control Act.
 - NSLC is the designated vendor – 4 locations in HRM (+)
 - Legal Age of 19 for consumption
 - Penalties for impaired driving
 - Adopted the Federal rules for personal cultivation (4 Plants per household)
 - Landlords able to amend leases
 - Public consumption regulated in the Smoke Free Places Act.

Municipal Issues

- Location (Planning and Development) -
 - Where should production facilities, retail sales outlets and businesses offering consumption sites be permitted?
 - Council has amended the Regional Plan and all Land Use By-laws to address these issues
- Public Safety (HRFE) -
 - Production – (organic solvents)
 - Commercial grow ops
- Crime (HRP/RCMP)
 - Black market other illegal activities
 - Driving while intoxicated
- Social Consumption and Nuisances (By-Laws P-600 and N-300)
 - Public consumption in parks and other public spaces regulated
 - Private growing regulated

Enforcement approach

- Engage the public in a positive way to create an understanding of the culture change towards smoking on municipal property
- Compliance through education, fines when necessary

Legislation/ Enforcement leads

- Cannabis Legalization – Federal legislation
- HRP/RCMP

- Smoke Free Places Act- Provincial legislation
- HRP/RCMP

- By-law N-303 Nuisance and Smoking- Municipal legislation
- Compliance Officers, HRP/RCMP

Steps to achieve compliance

- Educate public on new legislation
- Direct smokers to designated sites
- Respond to service requests from the public (growing of plants); scheduled patrols based on 311 calls
 - Transit shelters, schools, parks, sportsfields etc.

Compliance team

Compliance Officers

8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday- Sunday

Halifax Regional Police/RCMP

24 hours/day – Monday-Sunday