



# Community Cannabis Advisory Committee **RECOMMENDATIONS**

*Our Community Cannabis Advisory Committee (CCAC) was formed by Blackfalds Town Council in June 2018 which included three subcommittees.*

*The Policing & Enforcement, Social & Human Services, and Land Use Subcommittees have made recommendations that are within the authority of the Municipality to enact or under provincial control.*

*The CCAC Subcommittees met regularly throughout July and August and have formulated their recommendations to Council on Blackfalds' approach to retail cannabis sales, cannabis production/distribution, public consumption of recreational cannabis and community support.*

*The Committees' recommendations are summarized below:*

## POLICING & ENFORCEMENT

### **Recommendation #1:** Bylaw Enforcement Education

There will be an Educational Transition period (Discretionary) relating to the enforcement of new bylaws (Land Use & Smoking bylaws).

#### **What this means:**

- ▶ Enforcement Officers will not actively pursue charges for breach of the bylaws in the initial stages, discretion will be used, allowing the public a period of transition.
- ▶ This will be reflected in the Standard Operating Procedures for the Blackfalds Peace Officers.

## POLICING & ENFORCEMENT

### **Recommendation #2:** Home Cultivation Regulations

The community adopt the regulations relating to Home Cultivation that the Federal and Provincial governments put in place.

#### **What this means:**

- ▶ The new act will allow four cannabis plants to be cultivated at home, this will fall under the Federal Acts. It is not necessary to create further bylaws to regulate other than the update to the LUB under recommendation #8.
- ▶ If Bylaws specific to Cannabis were created they would be difficult to enforce and costly.





# Community Cannabis Advisory Committee **RECOMMENDATIONS**

## SOCIAL & HUMAN SERVICES

### **Recommendation #3:** Smoking and Vaping Bylaw

The Town will develop a Smoking and Vaping Bylaw.

#### **What this means:**

- ▶ No person may smoke or vape recreational cannabis in a public place.
- ▶ Smoking and vaping in public parks and playgrounds will be prohibited regardless of the substance.
- ▶ Individuals must be ten (10) metres from a park and playground to smoke or vape tobacco.
- ▶ Individuals must be five (5) metres from all public premises to smoke or vape tobacco.

## SOCIAL & HUMAN SERVICES

### **Recommendation #4:** Community Awareness Campaign

Improve community awareness around existing substance abuse social support programs in Blackfalds.

#### **What this means:**

- ▶ The Town will develop a communications strategy to increase awareness of existing substance abuse social programs and made available to the citizens of Blackfalds. This could include use of social media, paid media, the Town's website, and partnerships with community organizations and other levels of government.





# Community Cannabis Advisory Committee **RECOMMENDATIONS**

## LAND USE

### **Recommendation #5:** Redefine Land Use Bylaws

To add numerous land use definitions to the current Land Use Bylaw (LUB) including (but not limited to): Alberta Gaming Liquor Cannabis (AGLC), Accessory Buildings and Uses (redefining of accessory buildings and accessory Use), Cannabis Retail Sales (redefine Retail), Cannabis Retail Sales Accessory Use, Cannabis Growing, Production, and/or Distribution Facility, Cannabis Act, Cannabis Related Use, Cannabis License, Distribute, Product and/or Growing and cultivation of Cannabis, Schools.

Schools will be defined as:

*From Queen's Bench - School Act*

*"school" means a structured learning environment through which an education program is offered to a student by:*

*(i) a board,*

*(ii) an operator of a private school,*

*(iii) an early childhood services program private operator,*

*(iv) a parent giving a home education program, or*

*(v) the Minister;*

From the Order in Council 027/2018 amending the Gaming and Liquor regulation, it stipulates that for the purposes of sections 640(7), 642(5) and 687(3) of the Municipal Government Act (MGA), a premises described in a cannabis license may not have any part of an exterior wall that is located within 100 metres of:

1. A provincial health care facility or a boundary of the parcel of land on which the facility is located;
2. A building containing a school or a boundary of a parcel of land on which the building is located, or;
3. A boundary of a parcel of land that is designated as school reserve or municipal and school reserve under the MGA.

## **What this means:**

- ▶ The Land Use Bylaw (LUB) defines the types of uses that may occur in the Town. Land Use Zoning specifies the locations and rules that apply to each land use.
- ▶ These new definitions allow the Town to control commercial and retail cannabis land uses.
- ▶ The commercial production, processing and retail sales will be prohibited from all residential zones. But any production or processing facility will be allowed under Industrial Light and Industrial Heavy Districts if they meet AGLC requirements (which include this 100 metre setback from schools and health care facilities under the provincial requirements).
- ▶ Cannabis Retail Stores will be allowed as a discretionary use within the Commercial Central District (Downtown) and the Commercial Highway District (along Highway 2A) if approved by the Municipal Development Committee providing there is no land or building defined as a school, health care facility or another Cannabis retail store within this setback.





# Community Cannabis Advisory Committee **RECOMMENDATIONS**

## LAND USE

### **Recommendation #6:** Cannabis Retail Store Setbacks

The Land Use Subcommittee carefully examined the Retail Cannabis store setbacks of 100 metres from daycare use or another retail Cannabis Store. With the limited land use areas available in our town, the addition of this type of setback would be restrictive in nature between Day home and Cannabis uses. For example, if a retail cannabis store was in place along Highway 2A, a day home would not be able to occupy within the setback unless the restrictive business is relocated.

Further, the subcommittee noted that the Town does not restrict liquor retail store setbacks from day care uses and the Cannabis stores will not allow children or consumption of cannabis on the premise.

#### **What this means:**

- ▶ Cannabis retail stores may be allowed to locate anywhere within these districts subject to meeting the AGLC requirements, minimum setback requirements of 100m from schools or another cannabis retail store when presented and approved by MPC and upon receiving a development permit from the Town.
- ▶ The setbacks and proposed land use locations in place will spread out these stores across our Town while ensuring these stores are in high traffic areas to limit potential enforcement issues.
- ▶ Notifications to adjacent landowners will be made, but no neighborhood consultation required.
- ▶ Hours of operation will be 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

## LAND USE

### **Recommendation #7:** Cannabis Signage

Signage, as it relates to the cannabis retail stores or production sites will be allowed under the LUB with content of the signs regulated by the Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Regulation and the AGLC.

#### **What this means:**

- ▶ Cannabis businesses will be allowed to have a sign on the building but must follow Federal and Provincial assigned regulation.



# Community Cannabis Advisory Committee

## CANNABIS READINESS TIMELINE



**OCTOBER 17**

Recreational smoking/vaping of cannabis is legal across Canada.

**OCTOBER 15 - NOVEMBER 8**

Administrative and Legal Updating and review period for Cannabis Amendments Only.



**NOVEMBER 13**

First Reading of Updated Land Use Bylaw (LUB) for Cannabis Sections Only

**NOVEMBER 13 - 27**

Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) Review Period (for Cannabis Amendments Only).



**NOVEMBER 14**

Public Hearing notification is sent out for December 11 date.



**DECEMBER 11**

- Public Hearing date.
- Second and Third Reading of Amended LUB for Cannabis Sections.



**BLACKFALDS**  
ALBERTA